

Language Study

Grammar/Comp
Dictation
Composition
Commonplace

SAMPLE





About the Course

This course includes the following topic(s): Grammar/Comp: Grade 9, Dictation: Grade 9, Composition: Grade 9, Commonplace: Grades 9-12

About Grammar/Comp: Grade 9

This course works alongside Michael Clay Thompson's *Essay Voyage* lessons. It invites students to explore writing concepts such as tone, style, point of view, and more. Students also experiment with multiple written forms and gain familiarity with key habits of academic writing.

About Dictation: Grade 9

Students use passages from their books to practice dictation skills.

About Commonplace: Grades 9-12

Building on the habit of copywork in younger grades, high school students copy passages of any length that strike them from their readings into their commonplace book. For some students this becomes a lifelong keepsake and continuing habit.



Placement & Combining Tips

Grammar/Comp: Grade 9

New students entering Grade 9 without much former Grammar instruction should complete MCT's *Grammar and Practice Voyage* scheduled in Grade 8. Composition prompts often reference Alveary lessons in Literature, History, Geography, Bible, etc., so it is ideal if students are using Alveary subjects across the curriculum. However, lessons include the lesson topic and target skill/form, along with ideas for substitution when possible to make the lessons flexible for teachers and students.

Dictation: Grade 9

Depending on the student, dictation may or may not be necessary at this level.

Commonplace: Grades 9-12

Students new to copywork or keeping a commonplace book may want to schedule this during morning lessons to build the habit.



Scheduling

GRADE	SCHEDULE INFO.	BOOKS
9	Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 2 times/week 20 min 2 times/week 30 min	<i>Essay Voyage</i> <i>Essay Voyage Teacher Manual</i> (select pages)
9	Dictation: Grade 9 1+ time/week 20 min	
9-12	Commonplace: Grades 9-12 1+ time/week 10 min	

Sample Weekly View

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Language Study: Grade 9				
Grammar/Comp: Grade 9	Grammar/Comp: Grade 9	Dictation: Grade 9 Commonplace: Grades 9-12	Grammar/Comp: Grade 9	Grammar/Comp: Grade 9



Planning & Prep

Permission to print for non-commercial use. See Alveary group use policy to use lessons in a group context.

LINKS: Click text or scan the QR code in the top corner of the lesson plan pages to view online resources associated with the lessons.

Responsibility for previewing all links rests with the teacher. All links were checked at the time of publication; however, websites change frequently and may contain objectionable content. Please report broken links by contacting us through our website.

Grammar/Comp: Grade 9

Bookmark or print the documents listed in Quick Links below for use throughout the term.



Books & Resources

For book rationales and purchase options, click the Book List link or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Book List Details](#)

Language Study: Grade 9

Grammar/Comp: Grade 9



Essay Voyage



Essay Voyage Teacher Manual (select pages)



Supplies

For supply list details and basic supplies helpful to have on hand, click the links or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Basic Supplies](#)

(No Subject Supplies Assigned)



Quick Links

Language Study: Grade 9

- ∞ [Extra Helpings](#)
- ∞ [Foundations \(See Sections 3 & 8: Narration & English\)](#)

Grammar/Comp: Grade 9

- ∞ [Essay Voyage Answer Key](#)
- ∞ [Narration Ideas Document](#)

Click THIS text
or scan the QR
code for links.



Language Study: Grade 9

How To Approach



Read

Read your books for the week in your various subjects, including Essay Voyage.



Narrate

Narrate after you read and copy down any interesting quotes into your commonplace book!



Practice

You will practice many forms of composition over the year. Your books will often serve as the foundation for your assignments.



Prepare

DICTATION: For one lesson a week, you will prepare to write from dictation a paragraph or more from your readings by visualizing new words and paying close attention to punctuation.



Teacher Note

- As you review your students' composition assignments, be sure to read the instructions in the lesson and give feedback and support accordingly.
- Some students naturally integrate and incorporate ideas from grammar and composition lessons into their narrations and composition assignments, but most assignments ask students to focus on one skill or idea.
- For editing or revision lessons, hold the student accountable to work through the process and instructions given for editing, but refrain from suggesting too many ideas about how they could expand the essay or add another idea.
- For assignments that ask a student to focus on a particular concept, ignore spelling or grammar edits, and support your student by noticing what they've done well and drawing out ideas on how to dig deeper.



Term 1

WEEK 1 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 1

Correctness

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ INTRO

This book will help you grow your writing skills in all areas. It is especially aimed at helping you learn how to write formal academic essays.

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

Essay Voyage p.1-4

→ PRACTICE

1. Why is the grammar of vocabulary words important to think about?
2. Write a short sentence using superfluous as an adjective and another using superfluity as a noun.
3. Write a short sentence using adhere or adhered as a verb and another using adherent as a noun or adhering as an adjective.
4. Write two sentences that use at least one form of each word. For example, I have never been an adherent of expending superfluous energy.

★ STUDENT NOTE

In this book, the word essay refers to a formal academic essay.

In your other composition lessons, we use the term essay to refer to a short piece of writing on a particular topic. This is the primary dictionary definition of the word. Different types of essays in different settings require different ways of writing.

Hopefully, this will prevent any confusion about the use of the word essay in your lessons.

WEEK 1 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 2

Correctness

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

Essay Voyage p.5

→ PRACTICE

Complete the four-level analysis on p.6. Remember to come up with some interesting points about the sentence in the comment section. The comments in the Answer Key are only a guide or possibilities of what you might have noticed.

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

Essay Voyage p.7

→ PRACTICE

What do the comma rules do for a sentence? Complete the exercise on p.8 and check your answers.

★ STUDENT NOTE

∞ PDF Link: Essay Voyage Answer Key

WEEK 1 20m Dictation: Grade 9 - Lesson 1

→ NOTE

Rotate through different books from your weekly readings to use for dictation.

→ PREPARE

Study 2-3 pages of a passage from the week's reading. There should only be around 5-7 unfamiliar words to you in the passage you are studying. For some books, you might need to study more than 2-3 pages to find that many words you don't know. For other books, you will need to study much less. Maybe even less than a page might contain 6 words that are unfamiliar to you. Adjust the amount accordingly.

Then, write the words on a whiteboard or a piece of paper. Work to see each word with your eyes shut. You might need to say the letters aloud, write them in the air, and practice writing them until you have the words memorized.

Notice if the word has familiar parts that can help you remember it. For example, con-junc-tion. Or words with similar patterns that you do know,



Term 1

such as Marian and librarian.

Take about 10-15 minutes. Also, notice the punctuation in the passage. Tell your teacher when you are ready to have a paragraph dictated to you.

→ DICTATE

The teacher dictates one paragraph, phrase by phrase, from the passage. Afterward, go over what you wrote and correct any mistakes.

If you have been doing this for several years, you will have built up a habit of paying attention to words when you read. This will help you remember lots of words and how to spell them. If you are new to dictation, you will begin to notice that you are paying more attention to words when you take 15-20 minutes to practice dictation each week.

WEEK 1 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 3 *Asking Questions*

→ INTRO

As in nature study, where we ask ourselves questions to help us observe, so too when we read, we want to ask questions of ourselves to help us observe what is in the text. As we practice noticing and wondering about our books, we will see more to ponder and enjoy.

→ WRITE

Ask yourself questions about one of your readings and write your answers. Here are a few questions to get you started:

- What am I noticing?
- What am I wondering about?
- What does this remind me of?
- What are my initial reactions?
- Why does the author say this?
- How does this relate to other things I have read?
- Why do I think the author wrote in this way?

★ STUDENT/TEACHER NOTE

In addition to these more formal composition lessons, be sure to keep up the habit of written and oral narrations throughout the week. Aim for 8-10 written narrations per week, and use different ways of narrating to keep it interesting!

You may write or type your narrations and compositions initially. But for these composition lessons, be sure to type the final draft that you turn in to your teacher.

WEEK 1 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 4 *Tech/Visual*

→ DESIGN

Over the year, you'll create your own reference book for the various poetic forms you study in Poetry Study: Grades 9-12. The purpose is for you to have a quick guide that makes sense to you and is easy to pull up or keep on hand as you read individual poems. Start by creating your own "At a Glance" for the Villanelle. Here are a few of the possibilities:

- Copy the "Villanelle At a Glance" into a designated space in a notebook or a document on a device where you can easily find and reference it in the future. Add any additional notes for yourself that you'd like.
- Draw an illustration or create an infographic in Canva (or similar design software) showing the form more visually.
- Make a PowerPoint and create your own Villanelle at a glance for the first slide (using text and/or visuals).
- Something else! Get creative!

• REFERENCE

Poetry Study: Grades 9-12 (Lesson 1)

Book: Making of a Poem

Language Study: Grade 9

[Click THIS text or scan the QR code for links.](#)



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WEEK 2 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 5

Correctness

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ **PRACTICE**

Complete the exercise on p.9 and check your answers.

→ **READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS**

Essay Voyage p.10-11 slowly and thoughtfully

→ **PRACTICE**

Complete the exercise on p.12 and check your answer. How are the two bad paragraphs disorganized?

WEEK 2 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 6

Correctness

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ **READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS**

Essay Voyage p.14-17

WEEK 2 20m Dictation: Grade 9 - Lesson 2

→ **DICTATE**

Rotate through different books from your weekly readings to use for dictation.

WEEK 2 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 7

Poetry

→ **WRITE**

Start writing your own villanelle. Refer to your at-a-glance guide and villanelles you have read as needed.

• **REFERENCE**

Poetry Study: Grades 9-12 (Lesson 3)

Book: Making of a Poem

WEEK 2 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 8

Point of View

→ **READ & NARRATE**

∞ Article Link: What is Point of View in Writing?

→ **EVALUATE**

Gather the books you are reading in History, and any others you want to evaluate. What point of view are they written from? If you have extra time today, try rewriting one paragraph from a different point of view.

• **STUDENT TIP**

Consider getting a free Grammarly account, as it will be helpful as you begin to edit and revise your writing over the next several years. (Try to understand why they suggest a certain edit and avoid blindly accepting suggestions. Even grammar software can be wrong sometimes.)

WEEK 3 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 9

Correctness

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ **READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS**

Essay Voyage p.18-20

→ **DISCUSS**

Does the essay on p.19 follow the model on p.15?

→ **PRACTICE**

Choose one of the options 1-4 on p.21 to complete. If you choose #3, you

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[Click THIS text or scan the QR code for links.](#)



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may need to complete it in the afternoon or if you have extra time left after your next Grammar lesson. If you finish your paragraph and there is still time left, complete #5.

WEEK 3 20m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 10

Structure

Materials: Essay Voyage

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

Essay Voyage p.23-25

→ PRACTICE

Complete the exercise on p.25.

WEEK 3 20m Dictation: Grade 9 - Lesson 3

→ DICTATE

Rotate through different books from your weekly readings to use for dictation.

WEEK 3 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 11

Point of View

→ WRITE

Frankenstein begins with a series of letters written by Robert Walton to his sister. Choose one interesting passage from the letters and rewrite it from a 3rd person point of view (POV).

• REFERENCE

General Lit (Lesson 1-2)

Book: Frankenstein

WEEK 3 30m Grammar/Comp: Grade 9 - Lesson 12

Point of View

→ WRITE

Compose a journal entry or a letter home about a building you've studied in Architecture as if you had visited in person. (Remember, this is called a 1st person POV.)

OR

Write a letter that is at least two paragraphs to persuade your peers to be thoughtful and considerate, avoiding injuring the bodies and souls of others. (Remember, this is called a 1st person POV.)

• REFERENCE

Architecture: Grades 9-12

OR

Ethics: Part 3 (Lesson 3)

Book: Ourselves