



2019-20

CALVERT HOMESCHOOL™ CURRICULUM CATALOG

Language Arts 400



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Language Arts 400 Course Overview

Language Arts 400 focuses on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will continue to build fluency and independent reading skills by further developing comprehension strategies via a wide variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Students will write for a variety of genres, include fictional stories, poetry, and informational text, using a more complex paragraph structure and integrated application of their speaking skills.

This course specifically focuses on deepening and furthering students' understanding in the following ways:

- **Unit 1:** Use a variety of comprehension strategies as they read poetry, prose, and fictional texts to create outlines and plan and deliver oral instructions
- **Unit 2:** Use various comprehension strategies to think about reading and study the elements of poetry in order to analyze and write poems
- **Unit 3:** Apply knowledge of word parts to make meaning and use comprehension strategies to read poetry, and identify elements of word play
- **Unit 4:** Read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry as well as identify and create sentences with correct form and grammar
- **Unit 5:** Write grammatically correct sentences and paragraphs including an opinion paragraph, a persuasive text, and a descriptive story
- **Unit 6:** Apply comprehension strategies, especially as they relate to distinguishing fact from opinion to write an opinion paragraph, a letter, and a summary and learn effective ways of public speaking
- **Unit 7:** Analyze and replicate different forms of literature, including biographies, fables, parables, and tall tales
- **Unit 8:** Identify complex parts of speech in sentences and use inferencing skills and textual evidence in media, literary characters, and cause and effect
- **Unit 9:** Apply strategies to monitor and adjust comprehension in fictional stories and works of historical fiction and research and write an informational report

Unit 1: Reading and Writing	
Assignments	
1. Course Overview	13. Project: Sequencing with Transition Words
2. Reading Independently	14. Quiz: Transition Words and Study Skills
3. Understanding Language in Context	15. Writing a Report
4. Sources of Words in the English Language	16. Project: Personal Narrative
5. Quiz: Sources and Context for Words	17. Using Procedural Texts
6. Interpreting Language in Short Stories	18. Project: Teach the Teacher
7. Reading and Understanding Long Words	19. Quiz: Report Writing and Procedural Texts
8. Reading Fluency	20. Unit Review
9. Project: Reading Poetry and Prose Aloud	21. Special Project*
10. Quiz: Reading Independently and Aloud	22. Test
11. Study Skills	23. Alternate Test*
12. Transition Words	24. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: Reading for Meaning**Assignments**

Language Arts 400

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| 1. Thinking About What You Read | 12. Project: Four-Line Poem |
| 2. Sound Study | 13. Quiz: Reading and Writing Poetry |
| 3. Dictionary Skills | 14. Haiku Poems |
| 4. Using Dictionaries to Understand Words in a Story | 15. Haiku Poetry Composition |
| 5. Correlative Conjunctions | 16. Quiz: Haiku Poetry |
| 6. Influence of Character on Meaning in a Poem | 17. Unit Review |
| 7. Project: Envy Story | 18. Special Project* |
| 8. Quiz: Meaning in a Story, Poem, and Dictionary | 19. Test |
| 9. Principles of Poetry | 20. Alternate Test* |
| 10. Rhyme and Rhythm | 21. Glossary and Credits |
| 11. Writing Poetry | |

Unit 3: Word Play**Assignments**

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| 1. Short Story: How Willie Was Rescued | 11. Poetic Expressions |
| 2. Root Words and Prefixes | 12. Synonyms and Antonyms |
| 3. Reflexive Pronouns | 13. More About Poetry |
| 4. Root Words and Suffixes | 14. Project: Poem Review |
| 5. Quiz: Pronouns, Prefixes, and Suffixes | 15. Quiz: Poetry, Synonyms, and Antonyms |
| 6. Reading and Outlining to Summarize | 16. Unit Review |
| 7. Homonyms | 17. Special Project* |
| 8. Determining Word Meanings with Analogies | 18. Test |
| 9. Using Context Clues | 19. Alternate Test* |
| 10. Quiz: Homonyms, Analogies, and Context Clues | 20. Glossary and Credits |

Unit 4: Comprehension and Precise Language**Assignments**

Language Arts 400

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| 1. Reading for Comprehension | 15. Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases |
| 2. Nouns and Verbs | 16. Adverbs |
| 3. Adjectives | 17. Quiz: Instructions, Invitations, and Parts of Speech |
| 4. Adjectives That Compare | 18. Preparing for a Discussion |
| 5. Possessive Words | 19. Project: Preparing for a Discussion |
| 6. Project: Using Precise Language | 20. Writing Study Notes |
| 7. Quiz: Reading Comprehension and Parts of Speech | 21. Using Reliable Sources Correctly |
| 8. Comparing Fiction to Nonfiction | 22. Agreement and Verb Tense |
| 9. Literature Comprehension Strategies | 23. Quiz: Agreement, Tense, and Discussion |
| 10. Analyzing and Drawing Conclusions in a Passage | 24. Unit Review |
| 11. Project: Fiction Book Review | 25. Special Project* |
| 12. Kinds of Sentences | 26. Test |
| 13. Quiz: Types of Stories and Sentences | 27. Alternate Test* |
| 14. Instructions and Invitations | 28. Glossary and Credits |

Unit 5: Reading and Writing Stories		
Assignments		
Language Arts 400	1. Understanding Story Details and Sequence	13. Writing Compound Sentences
	2. Paragraphs	14. Project: Persuasive Writing
	3. Project: Practicing Paragraph Writing	15. Quiz: Reading and Writing Details
	4. Quiz: Reading and Writing Paragraphs	16. Writing Stories
	5. Understanding Author's Purpose and Figures of Speech	17. Punctuating Correctly
	6. Capital Letters	18. Project: Collaborative Revising
	7. Category Linking Words	19. Project: Writing and Presenting a Story
	8. Opinion and Reason Linking Words	20. Quiz: Writing, Revising, and Presenting a Story
	9. Project: Creating Concluding Statements	21. Unit Review
	10. Quiz: Reading and Writing Using Precise Language	22. Special Project*
	11. Reading for Details	23. Test
	12. Punctuation Marks	24. Alternate Test*
	25. Glossary and Credits	

Unit 6: Rhymes and Reports		
Assignments		
Language Arts 400	1. Fact and Opinion	11. Project: Oral Communication
	2. Project: Writing an Opinion Piece	12. Writing in Cursive
	3. Book Reports	13. Project: Printing and Cursive Writing
	4. Formal and Informal Language	14. Quiz: Listening and Writing About Stories
	5. Project: Writing a Summary	15. Unit Review
	6. Project: Nonfiction Book Review*	16. Special Project*
	7. Quiz: Book Reports, Facts, and Opinions	17. Test
	8. Understanding Storytelling Elements	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Project: Listening in Different Environments	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Study Skills and Note Taking	

Unit 7: Forms of Literature		
Assignments		
Language Arts 400	1. Biography	12. Project: Tall Tale
	2. Project: Biography Summary*	13. Project: Presenting a Story
	3. Noun Identification and Placement	14. Helping Verbs and Contractions
	4. Singular, Plural, and Possessive Nouns	15. Project: Folk Tale Review*
	5. Quiz: Biography and Nouns	16. Quiz: Tall Tales and Verbs
	6. Fables	17. Unit Review
	7. Following Directions in Parables and Fables	18. Special Project*
	8. Project: Writing a Fable	19. Test
	9. Action Verbs and Tense	20. Alternate Test*
	10. Quiz: Fables and Verbs	21. Glossary and Credits
	11. Tall Tales	

Unit 8: Language in Literature		
Assignments		
Language Arts 400	1. Reading Biography for Cause and Effect	11. Figurative Language
	2. Adjectives	12. Paragraph Writing
	3. Comparing Characters in Literature	13. Project: Narrative Writing
	4. Alternate Quiz: Biography, Character Comparison, and Adjectives	14. Quiz: Point of View, Figurative Language, and Paragraphs
	5. Adjectives That Compare	15. Unit Review
	6. Adverbs	16. Special Project*
	7. Digital Communication and Advertising Techniques	17. Test
	8. Project: Descriptive Paragraph*	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Quiz: Adjectives, Adverbs, and Digital Communication	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Third Person Point of View in a Story	

Unit 9: Reading and Researching		
Assignments		
Language Arts 400	1. Reasons for Reading	15. Project: Report Part 1
	2. Making Inferences and Conclusions	16. Project: Paraphrasing Practice
	3. Connecting Literature and Informational Texts	17. Quiz: Planning a Report
	4. Finding Main Idea, Details, and Sequence	18. Writing a Report
	5. Project: Researching Native American Culture*	19. Project: Report Part 2
	6. Quiz: Reading Skills	20. Using Reason and Evidence to Support
	7. Reading Comprehension in Nonfiction	21. Using Technology for Writing
	8. Understanding Author's Purpose	22. Project: Report Part 3
	9. Project: Historical Fiction Report*	23. Quiz: Writing a Research Report
	10. Quiz: Comprehension and Author's Purpose	24. Unit Review
	11. Planning a Report	25. Special Project*
	12. Finding Information	26. Test
	13. Project: Surveys and Interviews	27. Alternate Test*
	14. Taking Notes and Making an Outline	28. Glossary and Credits

(*) Indicates alternative assignment