

# DRAFT AUGUST 2025

## Course Name

English Language Arts

## Grade Level

Grade 4

## Course Code

0001

## Course Credit

0.0

## Discipline Overview

The study of English language arts enables learners to explore, understand and appreciate language and its use in multidimensional ways-critical thinking, communicating, creating, collaborating, reflecting to empower learners to live Mino-Pimatisiwin (the Good Life) and contribute to their communities as global, literate citizens. Language enhances learning and is integrated across all other subjects/disciplines which fosters a love of deep literacy learning. Each learner develops their knowledge and skills through opportunities to listen, speak, read, write, view and represent in a variety of contexts.

The language arts are interrelated and interdependent; strength in one area reinforces and supports the development of skills in another area. All Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers are teachers of language and contribute to learners' literacy growth in a variety of ways. Literacy is the foundation for all learning, and it is the gateway to self-knowing, being and doing.

Reading and creating texts requires learners to acquire the ability to be multiliterate. The texts that fill the world of today's learners are multimodal as they combine print, digital, oral, and a range of visual modes. The English language arts engage learners in multiple modes of communication (multiliteracies) in and across multiple contexts for the purpose of experiencing, questioning, investigating, creating, communicating, and reflecting to make sense of information in the world.



Through Kindergarten to Grade 12, learners continuously develop their global competencies in English language arts to build a sense of self, identity, community and knowledge about the world as they engage purposefully as active and responsible participants in their own and others' lives. English language arts spark the imagination, inspire a love for learning and develop appreciation for the rich diversity of human experiences shared through language, literature, and story.

## Course Overview

In Grade 4, learners further strengthen their ability to use language purposefully as they engage in more complex listening, interacting, speaking, reading, and writing tasks. They participate in structured discussions, using evidence to support their ideas, clarify their thinking, and respond thoughtfully to others. Their understanding of how language works deepens, with greater emphasis on grammar, syntax, word choice, and the use of different types of sentences to expand and communicate thoughts and ideas.

Learners in grade 4 read a wide variety of increasingly complex literary, multimodal and informational texts, analyzing them for theme, structure, visuals (images, graphics, charts, etc.), point of view, and bias. They develop a more critical awareness of how voice, different perspectives, and language shape meaning and influence readers.

As researchers, Grade 4 learners generate meaningful questions, gather and evaluate information from diverse sources, and organize it to build understanding. As text creators, they apply this learning when creating texts of various forms and genres that are clearly structured, cohesive, and adapted to suit purpose and audience. With increased independence and intention, learners plan, draft, revise, edit and present their work, demonstrating an evolving command of language and a growing ability to communicate effectively across formats.

## Global Competencies in English Language Arts

### Critical Thinking

**Critical thinking in English language arts** involves the intentional process of synthesizing and analyzing ideas using criteria and evidence, making reasoned judgements, and reflecting on the outcomes and implications of those judgments.

When critical thinking as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- find and use sources for specific purposes and for different audiences to share knowledge, explore ideas and deepen thinking.

- evaluate sources for validity and reliability and question assumptions, bias and stereotyping in their own and others' texts.
- connect ideas, patterns and relationships from multiple texts and sources using criteria and evidence to make decisions for different purposes.
- reflect on multiple perspectives, points of view and interpretations to make sense of and respond to texts for purpose, audience and context.
- ask questions and use a variety of thinking processes (e.g., critical, holistic, imaginative, creative, interpretive, computational) to deepen and extend learning.
- analyze, challenge, and make judgments on their own and others' text and ideas, using observations, experiences, and evidence.
- use criteria to make ethical decisions about what and whose stories are told and how they respond to text.
- critically examine the contents of texts evaluating text origin and methods of expression.

## Creativity

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**Creativity in English language arts** involves exploring and playing with ideas and concepts to represent thinking, solve problems, explore opportunities, and innovate in unique ways. It is the interaction between intuition and thinking.

When creativity as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- invent, take risks, and reflect on creating possibilities for different purposes, audiences, and contexts.
- respond to uncertainty with curiosity and open-mindedness and ask questions to explore ideas/possibilities and fill information gaps.
- select from and use language and literacy strategies, resources, and sources to explore real world challenges and generate ideas to solve problems.
- create and enhance new ideas by interpreting and integrating information from multiple texts and building off the ideas of others.
- create and adapt plans to meet needs for specific purposes and different audiences.
- test and adapt ideas, plans and designs to make decisions about texts for clarity and effect, including styles of communication and creative uses of conventions.
- reflect on creative processes, iterations and revisions and seek and use feedback to refine designs.

## Citizenship

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**Citizenship in English language arts** involves engaging and working towards a more equitable, compassionate, and sustainable world through the development and value of relationships to self, others, and the natural world.

When citizenship as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- understand their perspectives on complex issues, the role of text creators, and how texts represent and promote particular beliefs, values, and ideas.
- empathize with perspectives that are similar or different than their own and develop strong connections with the natural world.
- welcome and discuss diverse viewpoints, experiences and worldviews to make sense of issues related to others and the natural world.
- evaluate factors and propose solutions to strengthen communities and advocate for themselves, others and the natural world.
- engage with others and attend to the complexities of digital citizenship, intellectual property, and fair use in safe, respectful and positive ways.
- engage in dialogue to find equitable solutions to social issues that support the well-being of self, others, and the natural world.
- investigate complex moral and ethical issues and conflicts through different lenses to contribute to the betterment of communities.
- research and study topics and ideas to make ethical choices for themselves, others, and the natural world.

## Connection to Self

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**Connection to self in English language arts** involves awareness of the related nature of emotional, intellectual, physical, social, cultural, and spiritual aspects of living and learning, and the responsibility for personal growth, well-being..

When connection to self as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- recognize personal strengths, gifts and challenges to develop language and literacies for learning and well-being in all areas of their lives.
- explore their own voice and understand factors that shape and transform their identities.
- recognize and express their feelings and emotions and use appropriate language strategies to support self-regulation and well-being.
- reflect on their decisions, engagement with texts, and others' feedback to monitor their language and literacy growth over time.
- set language and literacy goals to extend learning, broaden experiences, and deepen connections for well-being.

- plan for the future and follow their own lines of inquiry to pursue curiosities, passions, and interests.
- persevere through challenges to understand and create increasingly complex texts.
- adapt and change their language and literacy practices in new and varied contexts and communities.
- recognize their agency and embrace their role in making decisions about their language and literacy learning and well-being.

## Collaboration

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**Collaboration in English language arts** involves learning with and from others and working together with a shared commitment to a common goal.

When collaboration as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- seek to understand diverse perspectives, opinions, and ideas to make sense of and respond to increasingly varied and complex texts.
- add to, stretch, and redirect their thinking to deepen and build on others' ideas.
- value and put trust in others' contributions when considering alternative viewpoints and contemplating the actions that can be taken.
- build relationships by actively listening and asking questions of themselves and others to explore topics and ideas.
- work through differences in constructive ways and can compromise, change perspective or resist points of view and opinions.
- use criteria for conversations and collaboration to co-construct meaning with others as they investigate issues, moral dilemmas, and possibilities for social justice.
- commit to using collaboration norms, strategies, and protocols in communities of practice to work toward a collective purpose or common goal.

## Communication

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**Communication in English language arts** involves interacting with others and allowing for a message to be received, expressed and understood in multiple ways and for a variety of purposes.

When collaboration as a competency is applied in English language arts, learners:

- recognize, apply and adjust rules and conventions in text to express ideas and emotions.
- consider audience, purpose and context when making decisions about using and combining different modes and forms to communicate ideas.

- understand how their words and actions shape their identity and impact how they tell their own and others' stories.
- use visual, print, and oral signals to enhance understanding when receiving messages in a variety of contexts.
- seek to understand others' ideas, purposes, and messages through actively listening and questioning in a variety of contexts.
- recognize that diverse perspectives, experiences, and ideas can impact and influence understanding and how we respond to texts.
- use their networks of background knowledge to make sense of texts and deepen their understandings through language and languages.
- make connections to how the English language works and use language in discerning and purposeful ways to build relationships both in person and in digital contexts.
- recognize the importance and impact of particular ways of thinking, doing, creating, and using language to communicate and strengthen communities.

## Enduring Understandings

Enduring understandings are the essential big ideas, residing at the heart of all disciplines. They are the principles educators interpret and use to guide planning for the implementation of the English language arts curriculum.

### Language and literacies are central to all learning.

Today's learners need a broad communicative repertoire to interact with and navigate multiple forms of text and social contexts.

- *Reflection: How do I design learning experiences and assessment practices so that learners have meaningful opportunities to use language and literacies in all facets of learning?*

### Language and literacies are context dependent.

Today's learners will understand how to use language and literacies for different contexts such as navigating different purposes, audiences and cultural contexts.

- *Reflection: How do I recognize and help others to recognize that the ways we use language, and literacies will change based on context?*

### Language and literacy learning is complex, continuous, and recursive.

Today's learners will realize that language and literacy learning are dynamic and provide opportunities for learners to return to and reflect on their learning which expands their experiences, interactions, and relationships.

- *Reflection: How do I provide opportunities for learners to broaden, deepen, and transform their language and literacies?*

### **Language and literacies develop differently for each individual.**

Today's learners have unique and diverse ways of developing and expanding their language and literacies.

- *Reflection: How do I learn about and harness the different ways of learning/knowing language and literacies in my classroom?*

### **Language and literacy learning and use are social.**

Today's learners will experience language and literacies through the processes of communication, conversation, and collaboration to make meaning when interacting with text/creators of texts.

- *Reflection: How do I support collaboration in my classroom to build language and literacy among learners?*

### **Language and literacy demands are evolving.**

Today's learners require the capacity and capability to navigate multiples uses of language, multiliteracies and multimodal texts (print, digital, physical, aural/oral, gestural, spatial and visual modes).

- *Reflection: How do I select, use, provide access to, and support the creation of multiple forms and modes of texts in my classroom?*

### **Language and literacy experiences inform and influence our developing sense of self.**

Today's learners are affected by their language and literacies, and this defines how they construct their personal identity. English language arts are essential for all to live Mino-Pimatisiwin (the Good Life). English language arts curriculum acknowledges literacy as a fundamental right and that it is at the heart of the learner's knowing, being and doing.

- *Reflection: How do I learn about the multiple identities of learners in my classroom/school?*

### **Language and literacies are enacted through inextricably connected practices.**

Today's learners will use a range of modes to make and communicate their meaning through language and literacy.

- *Reflection: How do I support focused and intentional teaching within meaningful language and literacy experiences?*

[\(Source: English Language Arts Curriculum Framework, A Living Document, 2020\)](#)

## Learning Outcomes

### Strand A: Explore and Discover Language and Literacy

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#### GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME

##### ELA.4.A1 Oral Language Communication

Learners will apply listening and speaking skills to receive, exchange and develop ideas for various purposes and audiences.

#### Listening (Receptive)

**ELA.4.A1.1** Listen to and reflect on the ideas and opinions of others by highlighting key ideas and details heard.

**ELA.4.A1.2** Use non-verbal cues and social conventions (turn taking - when to speak, when to listen) to demonstrate listening to others in multiple contexts.

#### Interacting

**ELA.4.A1.3** Engage in dialogue with others (partners, small/large group) to exchange ideas, opinions and information.

**ELA.4.A1.4** Ask complex open-ended questions (e.g, “why?”, “how?”) to promote critical thinking and respond to questions by providing evidence and reasoning.

#### Speaking (Expressive)

**ELA.4.A1.5** Use complex sentences with various transition words, rich vocabulary and grammar to expand and communicate thoughts and ideas.

**ELA.4.A1.6** Contribute their voice to discuss thoughts, feelings, ideas and opinions; express personal thoughts and emotions

#### GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME

##### ELA.4.A2 Language as the Foundation for Reading and Writing



Learners will develop and apply the understanding of the system of language (knowledge and skills) and language comprehension for reading and writing.

**Phonological/Phonemic Awareness**

Consolidation, application and mastery is typically achieved by this grade.

**Alphabetic Knowledge**

Consolidation, application and mastery is typically achieved by this grade.

**Phonics**

**ELA.4.A2.3** Apply and consolidate knowledge of word reading and spelling skills to decode/encode (spell) more complex multisyllabic words in isolation and in various texts with increasing accuracy and automaticity.

**Word Study (Morphology)**

**ELA.4.A2.4** Examine words and word parts (morphemes) in reading and writing to determine word meaning and accurate spelling.

**Vocabulary**

**ELA.4.A2.5** Acquire and use new vocabulary related to learning experiences topic and subject specific (e.g., life cycles, communities).

**Reading Fluency**

**ELA.4.A2.6** Apply fluency knowledge - use punctuation in a variety of text forms; demonstrate automaticity in reading more complex words and phrases to support comprehension; apply knowledge of sentence structure to maintain comprehension.

## Strand B: Comprehend and Respond to Multimodal Texts

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**GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME****ELA.4.B1 Acquire New Information**

Learners will activate, acquire and build background knowledge through inquiry of diverse topics and engagement with multimodal forms of text (e.g., visual, oral, print, digital, experts, Elders).

**Activate Prior Knowledge and Inquire**

**ELA.4.B1.1** Identify and discuss prior knowledge including knowledge gained from various sources and personal diverse experiences to understand new text.

**ELA.4.B1.2** Create detailed questions that connect personal experiences with broader topics for collaborative inquiry.

### **Engage with a Variety of Texts (Read, View, Listen)**

**ELA.4.B1.3** Select and engage with a variety of multimodal texts from diverse creators for a variety of purposes to build background knowledge.

### **Review Information**

**ELA.4.B1.4** Review information gathered, and text selected and decide what to share or omit (e.g., facts, perspectives, opinions).

### **GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME**

#### **ELA.4.B2. Construct Meaning**

Learners will understand and apply a variety of comprehension strategies to construct the meaning of text and consolidate new information.

### **Identify Text Cues**

**ELA.4.B2.1** Identify how the form/genre and structure of texts, including cultural text forms (e.g., myths, 7 Teachings), can help organize the expression of ideas or information to help with understanding.

**ELA.4.B2.2** Identify and use some text features from multimodal forms of fiction and nonfiction and describe how they add to the meaning.

### **Make and Confirm Predictions**

**ELA.4.B2.3** Make predictions using background knowledge and text information; pose questions to confirm predictions; adjust understanding.

### **Make Connections**

**ELA.4.B2.4** Make connections to texts through personal experiences, the ideas developed in and between multimodal texts, and the world to enhance meaning.

### **Monitor Understanding - Check and Adjust**

**ELA.4.B2.5** Use strategies (e.g., rereading, adjusting reading rate, questioning, inferencing) to monitor and confirm understanding.

### **Monitor Understanding – Summarize**

**ELA.4.B2.6** Recall and share important information from texts in logical order using own words.

### **Consolidate New Knowledge**

**ELA.4.B2.7** Acquire, understand, categorize and use precise, descriptive vocabulary to communicate new understanding.

**GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME****ELA.4.B3 Think Critically about Multimodal Text and Respond**

Learners will recognize, analyze, and respond critically to inequities, bias, and viewpoints in texts and ideas.

**Analyze Text**

**ELA.4.B3.1** Recognize and explain how diversity and inclusion are presented in texts; use simple text evidence (e.g., quotes, actions, illustrations) to support observations.

**Recognize Facts, Bias and Viewpoints**

**ELA.4.B3.2** Recognize whether ideas, messages, sources, and/or characters should or should not be trusted; identify examples of stereotyping, bias or prejudice with guidance.

**ELA.4.B3.3** Identify how different perspectives presented in text might influence an audience; use text evidence and personal experiences to explain.

**Respond to Text**

**ELA.4.B3.4** Express a personal response by sharing and supporting an opinion based on specific, relevant evidence from content; recognize and respond to stereotyping, bias, and/or prejudice with guidance.

**Strand C: Compose and Create Multimodal Texts**

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**GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME****ELA.4.C1 Generate Ideas, Create Plan and Draft/Prototype**

Learners will generate ideas, conduct research, evaluate sources, and design a plan to compose multimodal texts (visual, multimedia, oral, written) for a range of purposes and audiences.

**Generate Ideas**

**ELA.4.C1.1** Generate ideas and select a topic with ideas integrated from personal experiences, background knowledge and prior learning appropriate for a particular audience and purpose.

**Research Sources**

**ELA.4.C1.2** Discuss new information gathered from a variety of relevant sources, including modelled text, various text styles and mentors (e.g., experts, audio, digital online sources).

**Create Plan**

**ELA.4.C1.3** Use strategies (e.g., brainstorming, jot notes, asking questions, mind mapping, sketching ideas, research planners, discussion with others) to plan for text creation.

### **Choose Form**

**ELA.4.C1.4** Recognize different types of writing (narrative, informational, descriptive and persuasive) and genres to inform text creation for different purposes and audiences.

### **Create Draft/Prototype**

**ELA.4.C1.5** Create multimodal texts (e.g., oral storytelling, written stories, posters, songs, research reports/projects, photo essays, interactive notebooks, slide show with narration); use digital tools and organizers with increasing independence; plan layouts; select relevant visuals and use appropriate elements (e.g., font, color, imagery) to draft ideas effectively and creatively.

### **GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME**

#### **ELA.4.C2 Enhance the Clarity and Artistry of Multimodal Texts**

Learners will apply knowledge and understanding of the variables of writing to enhance the clarity, precision and effectiveness of their creations and reflect critically on created text.

### **Organize Ideas**

**ELA.4.C2.1** Experiment with organizational patterns (e.g., description, compare and contrast, problem-solution); introduce topic and provide a sense of closure to match the text form chosen.

### **Sentence Structure**

**ELA.4.C2.2** Reread and include a variety of sentences; use more advanced transitions to connect ideas (e.g., because, if, while, and although); use verb tense correctly; vary the way sentences start.

### **Word Choice**

**ELA.4.C2.3** Use words, images, or graphics to fit context and purpose; adjust word choice to show how ideas progress, relate or change; add sensory details.

### **Voice/Style**

**ELA.4.C2.4** Expand personal voice in text, using varied and descriptive language and a tone (e.g., formal, informal, serious, humorous) appropriate to purpose and context to communicate thoughts, feelings and opinions about a topic with others.

### **Revision**

- ELA.4.C2.5** Notice when writing does not make sense and make revisions; seek feedback to reorganize ideas, add, or remove text, and change words to improve content and clarity.

### **GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME**

#### **ELA.4.C3 Edit and Publish**

Learners will apply knowledge of editing to communicate the text clearly and coherently to an audience, using a variety of media, tools and strategies to publish text.

### **Legibility and Word Processing**

- ELA.4.C3.1** Write fluently with accurate formation, size, placement and spacing using margins to ensure legibility; use fluent word processing skills, choose font style, size and colour to enhance text for an audience.

### **Spelling**

- ELA.4.C3.2** Demonstrate knowledge of word meanings, spelling patterns (vowel combinations), word parts (morphemes, prefixes, suffixes) and digital spell check to spell multisyllabic words.

### **Punctuation and Capitalization**

- ELA.4.C3.3** Use capital letters consistently and accurately for proper nouns, titles and dialogue.
- ELA.4.C3.4** Know and use basic punctuation skillfully and correctly (e.g., periods, commas, question marks, exclamation marks, apostrophes, quotation marks) to communicate meaning clearly for others.

### **Publish Final Text**

- ELA.4.C3.5** Create final text that integrates various modes (e.g., text, images, sound, video) to communicate message for a specific purpose and audience.

## **Strand D: Communicate Ideas and Build New Understandings**

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### **GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME**

#### **ELA.4.D1 Share Ideas and Information**

Learners will use a range of multimodal forms of communication (e.g., visual, multimedia, oral and written texts) to share, clarify, and extend ideas/ information for different purposes and audiences.

### **Express Ideas and Engage Audience**

- ELA.4.D1.1** Adjust intonation, tone, volume, expression and communication style to share ideas.
- ELA.4.D1.2** Integrate artifacts visual aids/digital tools to enhance communication with an audience.
- ELA.4.D1.3** Present ideas and information with supporting details, including an introduction and conclusion, in an organized, logical format to an audience.

### **GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOME**

#### **ELA.4.D2 Assess and Set Goals**

Learners will use metacognition (the ability to think about one's own thinking) to assess their language skills as listeners, speakers, readers, writers, viewers and representers, supporting their growth as independent learners. Learners will set goals and monitor progress.

### **Self-Assess**

- ELA.4.D2.1** Apply self-monitoring skills and ask questions (e.g., "What strategies have I learned?", "What is important to know?") to recognize some effective strategies to use.
- ELA.4.D2.2** Develop criteria with teacher support for assessing learning; use tools such as journals, mind maps, lists, portfolios, digital tools (e.g., podcasts) to self-assess own understanding/learning.

### **Receive and Reflect on Feedback**

- ELA.4.D2.3** Receive descriptive feedback from others focusing on specific areas for improvement and explore processes/strategies to improve work in listening, speaking, reading, viewing, writing or representing.

### **Set Goals and Monitor Progress**

- ELA.4.D2.4** Focus on specific learning goals to improve listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing or representing.
- ELA.4.D2.5** Monitor and track progress; reflect on accomplishments of new learning.