

University of South Alabama
English Language Center
ELC 051: Reading I
Fall I 2019

Course Information

Course Format: Web-enhanced

Class Hours: Monday 12:20 pm – 1:10 pm
 Tuesday 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
 Wednesday 12:20 pm – 1:10 pm
 Thursday 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
 Friday 11:15 am – 12:05 pm

Location: Alpha Hall East Room **?????**

Instructor Information

Instructor:
ELC Office Phone: (251) 460-7185
E-mail:
Office:
Office Hours:

Course Communication

Course Description

This beginning course is the first level of a five-level sequence of courses designed to improve student competencies in reading comprehension. Students will read texts of 200-300 words, acquire basic reading skills and expand their basic vocabulary. This course corresponds with Common European Frame of Reference level A1.

The University of South Alabama encourages faculty to employ active learning methodologies in their classes to support student-centered learning. In this blended course, your instructor will use a variety of methods to enhance your learning experience. You will have a mixture of lectures, group work, and independent practice that incorporates both face-to-face and online teaching/learning strategies.

Course Delivery

This course is delivered in a traditional "face-to-face" method and managed through the Sakai online platform. It is a web-enhanced course, which means that some course materials are available at USA Online on the Sakai learning management system. Grades and attendance will be recorded and displayed on THINKWAVE. Your instructor will assist you in accessing these two platforms.

Course Goals and Objectives

Goal: Students will acquire the basic reading skills that they will need to understand high beginning - low intermediate general interest texts and to proceed to Level II.

Objectives: Using assigned texts, students will be able to:

- 1) relate new information to prior knowledge.
- 2) make predictions about the content of texts that they are about to read.
- 3) skim and scan to determine main ideas, text patterns, and location of specific information within a text.
- 4) differentiate main ideas from major and minor supporting details in written materials.
- 5) decode maps, charts, graphs, and diagrams within texts.
- 6) demonstrate increasing word power by acquiring new vocabulary and the ability to guess new words from context clues and word parts, then apply this knowledge through subsequent practice exercises in new contexts.
- 7) draw inferences.

Course Materials

- *Q: Skills for Success Reading and Writing, Intro*
- pen/pencil, eraser,
- 8 ½ x 11 notebook and paper
- NO smart phones or electronic dictionaries allowed in class

Thinkwave

All students must have a Thinkwave account. Thinkwave will be used for the posting of grades, class announcements, and other class communications. If you need help registering for Thinkwave, the lab assistants can help you.

Course Topical Outline

Week One August 19 – 23	Course Orientation and Syllabus Students must have their textbooks by Tuesday, August 20. Unit 1: What kind of person are you? Reading: What Kind of Person Are You?
Week Two August 26 – 30	Unit 2: Do students spend too much time in school? Reading: Comparing Schools in Three Countries Vocabulary Quiz

Week Three September 2 – 6	Monday, September 2 – Labor Day – No Classes Units 1 and 2 Tests Unit 3: When do we eat special foods? Reading: Celebrating with Food Unit 4: How do you have fun? Reading: No Money? Have Fun Anyway!
Week Four September 9 – 13	Unit 4 (continued) Vocabulary Quiz Units 3 and 4 Tests Unit 5: What is your favorite room? Reading 1: There's No Place Like Home
Week Five September 16 – 20	Unit 5 (continued) Reading 2: A Tall Man in a Small Space Unit 6: How can you change an unhealthy habit? Reading 1: When Does a Change Become a Habit? Reading 2: Dr. Lee on Health Vocabulary Quiz
Week Six September 23 – 27	Units 5 and 6 Tests Unit 7: Why do people live in cities? Reading 1: Why Do People Love Their Cities? Reading 2: First Impressions
Week Seven September 30 – October 4	Unit 8: What events change our lives? Reading 1: A Promise to Children Reading 2: An Extraordinary Coach Vocabulary Quiz Wednesday, October 2 – Last Day of AR Testing and End-of-Term Michigan EPT Thursday, October 3 – Awards Ceremony
Week Eight October 7 – 11	Units 7 and 8 Tests Review for Final Exam Monday, October 7 – Last Day of Classes Wednesday, October 9 – Comprehensive Final Exam Exams will NOT be given early! No exceptions! Do not plan to leave/travel before Thursday, October 10, 2019.

Since all classes do not progress at the same rate, the instructor may wish to modify the class requirements or schedule as circumstances dictate. If such modification is needed, it will be provided to students in writing and will conform with all stated goals/objectives of the course.

Attendance

Class attendance is required as a condition of the F-1 visa. It is also vital to a student's success. F-1 students are not allowed to miss more than **four classes** for any reason. Any F-1 student with five or more absences in any class will be placed on probation for lack of compliance with immigration policies (failure to attend 85% of all scheduled classes). If the attendance does not improve during the subsequent term, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Any student with **ten consecutive absences or a total of fifteen nonconsecutive absences** in any class will be **dismissed from the program**.

Punctuality is also crucial to student success. Students will be marked tardy if they arrive after class begins. They will also be marked tardy if they leave class early for any reason without previously arranged permission from the instructor. Previously arranged permission means meeting with the instructor in ample time BEFORE class begins. If students are **tardy three times**, they will earn the equivalent of one absence. When students miss **more than 20 minutes** because they leave or are late for class, they will be counted absent.

Students with serious medical conditions that necessitate excessive absences should either consider medical leave of absence or register with the Office of Special Student Services to receive appropriate accommodations based on their disability.

Any exception to this policy must be approved ahead of time by the Director of the English Language Center.

Make-up Work

Students who are absent on a test/quiz day **will not be allowed to take a make-up test/quiz unless you have arranged it with the teacher in advance with a written confirmation from the teacher**. All homework and written assignments scheduled for any class period should be turned in immediately upon the student's return without exception. It is the student's responsibility to turn in missed assignments after the day of their return.

If you have an excused absence for a test, **you will have 3 days to take the make-up exam**. If you do not contact your teacher in this time, you will not be given a make-up exam. In addition, if you miss your scheduled make-up exam, you will be given a zero on that exam.

Homework

All homework is expected to be completed at home and on time. If a student chooses to do homework during class or does not do it, then the grade will be a **zero**.

Assessment

In order to pass to the next level, students must meet the learning outcomes of this class with a final grade of 70%. **Students can read AR books between levels 0.1 and 2.5, but they will get an AR Certificate ONLY if they finish the term reading at AR Level 1.0 or higher and acquire 10 points or more with an 80% or higher test average. PLEASE NOTE: Wednesday, October 2, is the last day for AR testing, so students must make sure to finish all testing by this date.**

Students can only take ONE AR test a day. If students take more than one test, the second test will not count towards their grade.

Each chapter test will be worth 100 points. Each quiz will be worth a maximum of 10 points and limited to one quiz per chapter.

The final course grade is determined based on the following:

Comprehensive Final Exam	30%
Unit Tests and Quizzes	55%
Accelerated Reading (AR)	10%
Other: graded homework assignments, participation, etc.	5%

A= 90-100% B= 80-89% C= 70-79% U= 69% or lower

Remember, as a student, studying is your job! What you do in class is only part of the work. You need to manage your time carefully. You should be spending about two hours studying on your own each day for every hour you spend in class.

Final Exams

Final examinations must be taken at the scheduled times at the end of the term. The schedule of exams is posted at the beginning of each term and in the class syllabus. Examinations will not be given early because of personal travel plans or other similar personal reasons. Students who miss final exams will receive a grade of zero (0) on the exam.

Additional Information

For information regarding changes in course requirements, student honor code, academic disruption policy, student academic conduct policy, or students with disabilities, please refer to the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/additionalcoursepolicies-pdf>.

Emergency Response Information

To report an emergency on campus, call the USA Police at (251) 460-6312 (from any phone) or at 511 (from landline phones on campus only). You can also call for help at 911 from any phone for any emergency anywhere, on campus or off campus.