



**Gifted Learning Links Program
Core Essentials Course Syllabus**

**Instructor name: Elaine Purnell
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Course Title: The Power of Language: Grammar 1

Session Date: Core Essentials 2011-2012; Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer

Course Description:

This course introduces students to a unique approach to grammar instruction that culminates in the depth and breadth of grammatical knowledge. Grammar concepts are few, but well defined, as there are only about 40 terms to grasp in order to comprehend all the elements of basic grammar. The first part of the series is devoted to understanding the four parts of grammar that comprise the whole package: parts of speech, sentences, phrases, and clauses.

Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- a. Understand grammar is a method of Critical Thinking
- b. Know grammar is a way of thinking about language
- c. Be able to understand the meaning of parts of speech, parts of sentences, the meaning of clauses, phrases and the meaning of grammar

Resources and Materials:

- a. Thompson, Michael Clay. The Magic Lens. Unionville: Royal Fireworks Press, NY 2002 ISBN

CTD Statement on Third-Party Web Sites

Instructors are required to thoroughly review any third-party web sites they intend to use in their courses for inappropriate content. However, because web content continuously changes, CTD disclaims any responsibility for any of the content contained on third-party web sites used in course materials. If you become aware of anything that may be inappropriate, please notify CTD staff immediately.

Schedule:

	Topic/Focus	Activities & Reading Assignments	What do I need to post to the Discussion Board?	What do I need to turn in?
Week 1	Orientation to Online Learning	Read pages 5-8 of The Magic Lens	Discussion –If only language were simple	

	Topic/Focus	Activities & Reading Assignments	What do I need to post to the Discussion Board?	What do I need to turn in?
Week 2	The Eight Parts of Speech	<p>Level One</p> <p>Read pages 9-34.</p> <p>Discuss pronouns, antecedent, object pronouns, subject pronouns, memorize the subject and object pronouns.</p> <p>Verbs.</p>	<p>What is a noun of direct address?</p> <p>What is the difference between a proper noun and a common noun?</p> <p>Which examples of visage is your favorite? Why?</p> <p>What can you tell me about nouns?</p>	<p>Study page 15; write a paragraph explaining in your own words what this rule means.</p> <p>Write five sentences using <i>its</i> correctly. Then explain the difference in a clear paragraph.</p> <p>List the demonstrative, relative, and possessive pronouns.</p> <p>Practice one</p>
Week 3	The Parts of Sentence	<p>Level One continued.</p> <p>Study pages 68-70. One – Level Analysis.</p> <p>Level Two. Read pages 35-79</p> <p>Discuss the parts of sentences are the main terms of thought.</p>	<p>The three perfect tense.</p> <p>Progressive forms of the six tenses.</p> <p>Why are some verbs irregular?</p> <p>Adverbs, conjunctive adverbs</p> <p>The Crayola Syndrome.</p>	<p>Read and discuss page 35.</p> <p>Drill for the memory of forms pages 38 and 40.</p> <p>Complete questions 4-17 page 48.</p> <p>Write a five-paragraph essay on the topic “How much of our communication is contained in the verb alone”.</p>

	Topic/Focus	Activities & Reading Assignments	What do I need to post to the Discussion Board?	What do I need to turn in?
Week 4	Parts of Sentence Continued	Continued from last week	Continued from last week	Practice Two. Complete page 73, 74, and 75
Week 5	Level Three: Phrases	Parts of Speech, Parts of Sentence and the Dictionary. Phrases. Read pages 114-149	Binary diagramming what is it? Gerunds, participles, infinitive	Complete page 135. Level –Three Practice Three and Four
Week 6	Level Three: Phrases Continued	Continue from last week	Appositive phrase Level three definitions	Study page 136, review page 137, 138 Complete pages 141-148
Week 7	Level Four: Clauses	Clauses pages 149-172	3 –Level analysis	Practice Four
Week 8	Level Four: Clauses Continued	Continued from last week		Practice Five
Week 9	Applications	Sentences 4-Level Analysis		

Student Evaluation and Grading Policies for Credit Courses Only:

Enrichment students will receive a final narrative evaluation after the course is complete.

Instructor Biography:

Elaine Purnell is a sixth grade Reading, Language Arts, and Social Studies teacher at Nichols Middle School in Evanston, Illinois. This is her ninth year teaching in the district. Ms. Purnell received her Master in Education from DePaul University. She is an award winning coach for Chicago Area Problem Solvers, an enrichment program for talented elementary and high school students

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