

Syllabus Reading Foundation

Instructor: Ms. Bich Nguyen

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 11h00AM

Office Location: UPC 358

Course Description

This course helps students improve their reading ability by focusing on the following: understanding both main ideas and major details of texts, implementation of reading strategies, acquiring new vocabulary, phonetic decoding skills, extensive reading, and oral and reading fluency. The texts used in this course are simple and straightforward, and they deal with personal and familiar topics.

Course Emphasis

Each percentage represents the amount of **class time per week** focused on the specified aspect. For example, 10% would equal approximately 25 minutes of class time *each week*. That time can be used in a single chunk, or split between days across the week.

Please see the **Assessments and Learning Experiences** section below for more information about how to teach and assess each of the emphases.

- Reading - 70%
 - Skills, strategies, & comprehension - 30%
 - Vocabulary - 20%
 - Fluency building - 10%
 - Oral fluency & pronunciation - 10%
- Listening & speaking - 15%
- Writing - 10%
- Grammar - 5%

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Understands level-appropriate* text.
 1. Understands explicit main ideas.
 2. Understands explicit major details.
 3. Maintains sufficient reading rate for comprehension.
2. Effectively implements appropriate reading strategies.
 1. Previews texts for topics and main idea.

2. Scans texts for major details.
 3. Recognizes basic organization patterns.
 4. Connects content to background knowledge.
 5. Increases reading rate.
3. Acquires new vocabulary words.
 1. Uses visuals, captions, background knowledge, and context to infer the meaning of unfamiliar words.
 2. Recognizes high-frequency general vocabulary.
 3. Understands high-frequency general vocabulary.
 4. Reads level-appropriate text* aloud comprehensibly.
 1. Pauses at sentence boundaries (.?!).
 2. Uses falling intonation at sentence boundaries marked by periods.
 3. Correctly pronounces the most common high-frequency general vocabulary.
 4. Maintains sufficient reading rate for comprehension.

Required Materials

You cannot use an old textbook. Your textbook needs to be blank (no writing or answers from other students).

- FA - *Prism Reading and Writing Intro* ([Cambridge physical book](#); [Cambridge ebook](#))
- [Links to an external site.](#)
-) 9781009251723

1. A Little Princess (Oxford) Author: Jennifer Bassett
2. Mary, Queen of Scots (Oxford) Author: Tim Vicary

3.The Coldest Place on Earth (Oxford) Author: Tim Vicary

Grades

You have two different grades: a Proficiency grade and a Learning Experience grade. The Proficiency grade shows your language ability, and your Learning Experience grade shows your active participation.

Assignments & Assessments

Here is a list of assignments and tests for this class. You can see the due dates for the assignments on the calendar.

Proficiency

The Proficiency grade shows how well you understand and use English. This grade includes reading comprehension tests, vocabulary quizzes, reading fluency and rate, and reading exams. You usually need a Proficiency grade above 74% to move to the next level at the end of the semester. If your Proficiency grade is low, you may be dismissed.

Reading Comprehension Tests (25% Proficiency)

We will have regular reading comprehension tests throughout the semester. For each extensive reading book, we will have chapter quizzes that test your understanding of the reading. We will also have regular comprehension tests associated with the textbook. These will be completed in-class. See the class calendar for dates.

Vocabulary and Strategy Quizzes (25% Proficiency)

Each week you will be assigned a vocabulary and strategy quiz. Students should complete these assignments with NO help from other resources (AI, notes, textbook, friends, etc.). The vocabulary words will come from our textbook reading and the strategies will be skills we practice in class such as, skimming, predicting, summarizing, etc. What we do in class should be enough to be prepared for the strategy quiz, but students should study vocabulary words on their own.

Reading fluency & rate (20% Proficiency)

We will be practicing our reading fluency rate throughout the semester. Our goal for the semester is 200 WPM and 70% comprehension. You will keep track of the progress you make and will receive both a proficiency and learning experience grade for your work.

While most reading happens silently, you will most likely be asked to read aloud at some point in many different settings, and therefore need to practice and improve your oral reading fluency. Oral fluency activities can focus on word-, sentence-, and passage-level fluency. You will be graded on your intonation, pausing, stress, and word pronunciation. These activities will usually be in-class.

Reading Exams (30% Proficiency)

We will have both a 3 Exams as part of our class this semester. The exams will include topics from the textbook, comprehension questions, vocabulary questions, and reading strategies.

Late Proficiency Assignment Policy

You can complete a late Proficiency assignment. A late assignment does not automatically lose points. You need to complete the assignment before your teacher reports grades (every three weeks): **June 8th, June 29th, July 20th, August 3rd, and final grades August 12th**

If your absence is too close to the grade report, your teacher can give you an extra week. If you do not complete the late assignment by the new deadline, your grade will be 0.

Your teacher can decide to excuse a missed proficiency assignment.

Learning Experiences

Learning Experience grades show your effort to learn, practice, and apply your ELC lessons. Some Learning Experience grades will be in the class and some will be assignments you complete at home. Going to class does not mean a good Learning Experience. You need to actively participate and complete assignments on time. **You need more than 80% for your Learning Experience grade or you can be dismissed.**

Examples of Learning Experiences in this skill area include: reading logs, textbook assignments, book projects or presentations, extended group work tasks, review activities, preparing outside of class for an in-class task.

Late Learning Experience Policy

Learning experiences need to be completed by the due date.

If you have an excused absence, your teacher can choose to accept a late learning experience assignment before the grade report days (every three weeks): **June 8th, June 29th, July 20th, August 3rd, and final grades August 12th.** If your excused absence is too close to the grade report, your teacher can give you an extra week. Your teacher can also choose to excuse the Learning Experience.

You cannot complete every unexcused Learning Experience late, so you need to talk to your teacher. You will have a 0 for some unexcused Learning Experiences.

Language Acquisition Tests (LATs)

Language Acquisition Tests (LATs) are the final test in the semester. You will have a reading, writing, listening, and speaking test. All students at the ELC take the same tests. You must take the LATs or the semester will be incomplete.

This semester, you will take your LATs on **August 12 and 13.**

Attendance Policy

Links to an external site.

ELC students must maintain 80% attendance in every course. When a student's attendance goes below 80% in any one of the four courses, that student receives a warning letter and is put on attendance probation. Any additional unexcused

absences before raising your attendance back to in dismissal from the ELC program. Upon receiving an attendance dismissal letter, students should go to the Admissions Office (105 UPC).

Students are marked absent when they

- are more than 10 minutes late,
- miss more than 10 minutes of class,
- or leave more than 10 minutes early

When absent, students should contact their teachers to receive information on missed learning experiences.

Some absences may be excused. Students who are sick and unable to attend class should provide a doctor's note to the Teacher and Student Services Office (103 UPC) within two days of returning to class. Students should also notify ELC administration in writing of any planned absences, (for example: a family wedding or a death in the family). These documents should be delivered to the same office (UPC 103). These absences will be considered on an individual basis and may not necessarily be excused.

Preventing Sexual Discrimination & Harassment

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is intended to eliminate sex discrimination and sexual harassment in educational contexts. Any ELC student who becomes aware of sexual harassment, discrimination, or misconduct of any kind, directed toward them or any other member of the ELC community should immediately contact Sandy Hatchett (801-

422-5318, sandy_hatchett@byu.edu) or Dr. Ben McMurry (801-422-8521, ben_mcmurry@byu.edu). They will work with you and report to the Title IX office.

Students with Disabilities

Links to an external site.

Students with Disabilities should meet with the Student Services Advisor for help in identifying ways to accommodate any special needs. Teachers who suspect or are aware that one of your students has a disability, should also contact the Student Services Advisor (801-422-5318). If ELC teachers receive notice of disability document from a student or from another entity on campus, the teacher should share the letter with the Student Advisor as soon as possible.

Accommodations for students are agreed upon by two administrators.

Academic Honesty

Links to an external site.

ELC students should be honest with others, complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work, and avoid academic dishonesty including cheating, falsification, and plagiarism. To learn more about the definitions of cheating, falsification and plagiarism, visit the [ELC Policies page](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

- All incidents of academic dishonesty must be reported to the Student Services Advisor.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

At the English Language Center, our goal is to help you become strong English users who act with honesty, excellence, and integrity.

- AI cannot be used on any test at the ELC.
- AI may be used in your coursework only within the limits set by your teacher. Each teacher may have different policies.
- You must always add a note at the end of your assignment explaining how you used Interactive AI or Generative AI.

If you are not sure about AI use in your class, talk to your instructor.

Academic integrity: The use of AI to create work that is intended to deceive or misrepresent the student's abilities, contribution, or knowledge is strictly prohibited and will be treated the same as plagiarism. This includes plagiarism, or representing others' work as one's own. Any use of AI should also adhere to established law and BYU's plagiarism policy:

<https://policy.byu.edu/view/academic-honesty-policy>

[Links to an external site.](#)

FA Reading S/S 2026 Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22
Week 2	May 25 NO CLASS	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29
Week 3	June 1	June 2	June 3 Reading Fluency Practice	June 4 Vocabulary Quiz 1	June 5
Week 4	June 8	June 9	June 10 Reading Fluency Test 1	June 11 Vocabulary Quiz 2 Reading Comprehension 1	June 12

Week 5	June 15	June 16	June 17 Reading Fluency Practice	June 18 Vocabulary Quiz 3	June 19
Week 6	June 22	June 23	June 24 Reading Fluency Practice	June 25 Reading Test 1 Reading Comprehension 2	June 26
Week 7	June 29	June 30	July 1 Reading Fluency Test 2	July 2 Vocabulary Quiz 5 Reading Test 2	July 3
Week 8	July 6 Kahoot!	July 7	July 8 Reading Fluency Practice	July 9 Vocabulary Quiz 6 Reading Comprehension 3	July 10
Week 9	July 13 Kahoot!	July 14	July 15 Reading Fluency Practice	July 16 Vocabulary Quiz 7 Reading Test 3	July 17

Week 10	July 20	July 21	July 22 Reading Fluency Test 3	July 23 Vocabulary Quiz 8 Reading Comprehension 4	July 24
Week 11	July 27	July 28	July 29 Reading Fluency Practice	July 30 Vocabulary Quiz 9 Reading Test 4	July 31
Week 12	August 3	August 4	August 5 Reading Fluency Practice	August 6 Vocabulary Quiz 10 Reading Comprehension 5	August 7
Week 13	August 10	August 11	August 12	August 13	