

MATERIAL COVERED

The English 8 course is divided into three main sections:

Mechanics

- Spelling Review
- Punctuation Review
- Sentence Skills Review

Writing

- Writing Descriptive/Narrative Paragraphs
- Writing Persuasive/Expository Paragraphs
- Writing a Summary
- Writing a Report

Reading

- Analysing Advertising
- Reading and Understanding Short Stories
- Reading and Understanding Poetry
- Reading and Understanding a Novel

TEXTBOOK

The course uses the following texts:

Crossroads 8

Writer's Express

Anne of Green Gables

The Outsiders

ISBN 0-7715-1324-0

ISBN 0-17-607458-9

SPELLING

Spelling is important! Be prepared to lose marks if you are a poor speller. It is recommended that all work you submit is typed on the computer and spell checked. This method is *not* infallible, though, but it will catch the most obvious misspelled words and typos! Using a dictionary will also help.

GRADING

This course works on a mastery system. You must pass the mastery tests in each unit to the 80% level before you can go on. In addition, there are cumulative tests from time to time. These are tests you can take only once, so studying before them is essential to do well. Your final mark for the course is based 60% on mastery tests and 40% on cumulative tests.

GOAL

The goal of this unit is to review and practice your skills with spelling.

OBJECTIVES

While completing this unit you will review and practice:

- Making a spelling dictionary
- Basic spelling rules
- Strategies for remembering spellings
- How to proofread your work for spelling errors

WHAT TO DO IN THIS UNIT

- This unit uses the textbook *Writer's Express*.
- Ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Worksheet.
- In the *Writer's Express*, read pages 270 – 273, paying particular attention to *Making a Spelling Dictionary*. It contains some great tips on how to become a better speller.
- Do the work in the Unit 1 Worksheet.
- Hand in your worksheet so your teacher may see what you have done, and give you feedback on your work.

- When you are ready, ask your teacher for the Unit 1 Test. Remember, you must get 80% to pass, so studying hard is essential to do well.