

GRAMMAR 10: The Elegant Essay Writing Lessons, written by Lesha Myers, M. Ed.; Easy Grammar Ultimate Series: 180 Daily Teaching Lessons, written by Wanda C. Phillips, Ed.D..

LESSON PLANS

Introduction

This year the grammar course will be focused on essay writing techniques as well as a review of basic grammar concepts. Completing this course will aid the students in their overall writing skills as well as prepare them for the grade 11 speech course and the grade 12 research paper course.

The main textbook, *The Elegant Essay*, will introduce the students to the basics of essay writing, and will cover such items as thesis, introduction, transitions and conclusions. Over the course of the year, the student will learn these basics and also how to properly develop an essay.

The secondary book is the *Easy Grammar Ultimate Series: 180 Daily Teaching Lessons Grade 10*. This book will review the basics of grammar, punctuation and sentence structure, which will aid the students in writing their essays.

Additionally, the *Traditional Catholic Speller* (TCS) will be used throughout for the refinement of spelling skills and the inclusion of Catholic vocabulary. See p. 3 of these lesson plans for a description of the weekly spelling routine.

IMPORTANT NOTE: KEEP THESE FIRST THREE PAGES; DO NOT RETURN THEM TO OLVs WITH LESSON PLANS.

Assignments

The Elegant Essay will contain all of the instructions and assignments for this book. The book also contains some sample essays that will help to aid the student in their writings. However, the student's work must be their own. Plagiarism is not permitted.

The *Easy Grammar Ultimate Series* contain all of the workbook pages. The answer key for this book is included in the back of the book. After the worksheets have been graded and recorded, please review any mistakes on tests to ensure that the student understands the concepts. **We ask that parents please remove the answer keys at the end of the book. Please keep these separate from the student. The answers in the Answer Key may differ slightly from the student's responses, depending on the type of exercise being completed. This would be particularly true when the exercise calls for the student to re-word a sentence.** As long as the student's response agrees substantially with the Answer Key, it should be graded accordingly. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE ANSWER KEY IS KEPT IN A CONFIDENTIAL LOCATION (WHERE ALL ANSWER KEYS SHOULD BE KEPT). Even the most honest students can be tempted to cheat.**

PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE ASSIGNED QUESTIONS ARE FULLY ANSWERED IN COMPLETE SENTENCES. **Neither book nor notes of any kind may be used when taking tests.** However, when writing the essays, the student may refer to a dictionary or thesaurus if needed. They are also allowed to refer to their research notes and information.

Please Note:

There are a few items that should be addressed regarding *The Elegant Essay*. This book is written by a Christian woman, but unfortunately not all of the ideas put forth are of a Catholic nature. The book mentions some issues with which OLV does not necessarily agree and of which we would like to make you aware.

The first issue deals with cloning and embryonic stem cell research, which the Church condemns. These are mentioned but in no way supported. They are used as example topics for persuasive essays and the evils are exposed.

The second issue is the use of Bible quotations which are taken from the King James Version. We would recommend that the parent and student reference the Douay-Rheims version whenever a Bible verse is given.

The third issue is the discussion of Television, concerning which OLV does not agree with the book's author.

The final issue is subject of internet use. The topic comes up quite frequently in the textbook in the form of persuasive essay example on the good versus evil of the internet. Since we realize that the internet is a potential occasion of sin, we recommend that the student only have access to it under the direct supervision of the parents. Students should NOT be allowed to "surf".

We wish to make you aware of these subjects as they will be addressed in the book and as it is the parent's duty to explain these more delicate issues to their children.

Sample Essay Topics

Descriptive Essay

- favorite place to visit
- favorite holiday
- favorite book (not pop fiction)
- school subject
- historical figure

Persuasive Essay

- dog vs. cat
- fiction vs. non-fiction
- social issues

Informative Essay

- culture of a foreign country
- patron saint
- how to...
- favorite sport
- historical event

SPELLING INSTRUCTIONS

Book: *Traditional Catholic Spelling and Poetry No. 10*

Monday: 1. Dictate Spelling words to the student.

Sample: access

2. Use a dictionary to syllabify words in writing.

Sample: ac / cess

3. Use a dictionary to look up the definitions of words #'s 1 - 10.

Sample: a means, place, or way of approach.

Complete sample:

access -- (ac / cess): a means, place, or way of approach

4. Copy the Catholic vocabulary.

Tuesday: Use each Spelling word, as well as every Catholic vocabulary word, in a complete, meaningful sentence. Underline the word in the sentence.

Sample: access -- The door on the right is the only access to the sundeck.

Wednesday: Memorize words #'s 1 - 10 and Catholic vocabulary words and definitions for the test on Friday.

Thursday: Use this day to review words and Catholic vocabulary.

(Hint: If your child has a difficult time spelling with a phonics method, try having him write each word five times. English is a very difficult language to learn, and its words are not always spelled as they are sounded. As a result, some children are not able to learn strictly by phonics. Repetition and rote memorization may be the only answer for some words or for some children.)

Friday: Written spelling TEST on words #'s 1 – 10, and on Catholic words and definitions.

Grading: One point for each correct spelling and definition.

The Importance of an Outline

An outline is a pattern or plan for a composition or a talk. The outline helps the writer keep his thoughts in order because it shows how the ideas he has gathered on a topic can be related. In making an outline the writer lists first the tentative title of his composition, the subject that he plans to discuss. Then he writes the topic of the first paragraph, with the ideas he wishes to develop in the beginning sentence, the middle sentences, and the ending sentence. If there is more than one paragraph, he writes the topic for each paragraph and makes a list of the details he plans to include in that paragraph. Study this outline which the writer made for the composition "Volumes of Happiness."

THE BOOKCASE IN OUR LIVING ROOM

I. The contents of the bookcase

A. Types of books

1. Books on engineering
2. Fairy tales
3. Detective stories
4. History textbooks

B. Ownership a puzzle

II. The readers of the books

A. My father

B. My grandfather

C. My baby sister

D. My older brother

III. The enjoyment the books bring

A. Peace

B. Contentment

C. Close companionship

RULES FOR MAKING AN OUTLINE

1. Use a roman numeral for the topic of each paragraph and place a period after the numeral. Keep the periods following these numerals under one another.
2. Use a capital letter for each of the important subdivisions within each paragraph. Indent each subhead so that the letter will fall directly under the first letter of the first word of the main heading, and place a period after each letter.
3. If there are any additional details to be added to any subdivision, use Arabic numbers. Indent so that the number falls directly under the first letter of the first word of the subhead.
4. Begin the first word of each topic, subhead, and detail with a capital letter. Do not use capital letters for other words in the outline unless they are proper nouns or proper adjectives.

GRAMMAR 10
The Elegant Essay Writing Course

Student's name: _____
Street Address: _____
City/State/Province: _____
Zip/Postal Code: _____
Parents' names: _____

ASSIGNMENTS: WEEKS 1 - 2

Text– The Elegant Essay Writing Lessons, Building Blocks for Analytical Writing
WB – Easy Grammar Ultimate Series, Grade 10 ; TCS - Traditional Catholic Spelling 10

Use EZ Grader to find grades for each written assignment; fill in each grade in the corresponding space to the right.
Grades

1st week

- Text Read Unit 1. Make an outline of the main points discussed. Outline instructions can be found on the previous page of these lesson plans.
- Write two paragraphs on whether or not you like writing and what you hope to learn from this course.
 SEND UNGRADED EXERCISE TO SCHOOL. _____
- WB Complete the following exercises:
 Day 1 _____ Day 2 _____ Send *graded* to school.
 Day 3 _____ Day 4 _____ Day 5 _____
- TCS Lesson 1 (see LP p. 3). Spelling TEST Lesson 1. _____
 Week 1 Time: _____

2nd week

- Text Read Unit 2. Make an outline of the main points discussed.
- Pg. 8 Using the first box as a guide, use the intent and topics given but develop a different slant and thesis statement.
 SEND UNGRADED EXERCISE TO SCHOOL. _____
- WB Complete the following exercises:
 Day 6 _____ Day 7 _____ Day 8 _____
 Day 9 _____ Send *graded* to school. Day 10 _____
- TCS Lesson 2 (see LP p. 3). Spelling TEST Lesson 2. _____
 Week 2 Time: _____

For use by OLVS tutor only: Grammar 10 - Week 1 _____ Week 2 _____