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## PINEWOOD – THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF THESSALONIKI, GREECE

**NAME OF COURSE: ESL 3-4**

**GRADE LEVELS: 6-8**

**SCHOOL YEAR: 2011-2012**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** Students in this course will improve their skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking in the English language, as to ensure their successful academic and linguistic participation in all subject areas. They will read a large variety of thematic based fictional and non-fictional texts, to further enhance their reading skills and comprehension. They will engage in multiple short and longer writing assignments, which will encourage them to become more competent and independent writers. Emphasis is focused on various types of expository essays, descriptive and creative accounts. Study of grammar, usage and mechanics is acquired from and related to the readings, and aims at enabling the students to better understand the functions of the English language. Students in this class will become familiar with academic vocabulary, associated to the thematic units covered, and practice deriving new meanings with the use of context clues. They will practice using new terms, idioms and figures of speech while engaging in speaking activities as groups or individuals. They will present various assignments to their classmates each quarter.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Read and become familiar with a variety of fictional and non-fictional texts.
2. Read for a specific purpose.
3. Read and report on two self selected novels.
4. Respond to fictional and non-fictional texts.
5. Write an organized paragraph.
6. Be able to successfully paraphrase and summarize a given text.
7. Support their opinion in written form.
8. Listen for a specific purpose.
9. Follow the steps of research writing and write a research report.
10. Engage in creative writing.
11. Write an expository essay.
12. Write a problem solution essay.
13. Understand the purpose, characteristics, and structure of a formal speech.
14. Understand the function of various grammar laws and practically apply them to speaking and writing.
15. Prepare and deliver a formal speech.

## SCOPE AND SEQUENCE\*

### Quarter I

**Reading:** This quarter we will be discussing the topics of Famous People, Hobbies, and Making a First Impression. Students will read selected materials from their course book as well as additional readings pertaining to the topics. Students will read the bi-monthly online ESL newspaper, *Newsademic.com*, ongoing throughout the year.

**Writing:** Students begin the school year analyzing the mechanics of the paragraph and engage in paragraph writing. Students will practice summarizing and paraphrasing informational texts, then students will examine the characteristics of a 5-paragraph Expository Essay.

**Grammar:** This quarter students will practice phrasal verbs with *turn*, present simple/continuous, past simple/continuous, use to/would be/get used to, idioms, and present perfect simple/continuous.

**Listening/Speaking:** Students will watch *The Biography of Will Smith* from the Biographychannel.com, listen for specific information and practice the skill of note taking in order to respond to assigned activities. Additionally, they will engage in small group discussions on various topics throughout the quarter. Finally, they will present a short report about a famous person to the class.

**Vocabulary:** Students will use context clues in words, sentences and paragraphs to decode new vocabulary. They will become familiar with a variety of new key and academic words. To further support vocabulary enrichment, they will engage in a variety of activities in which they will apply their newly acquired terms.

### Quarter II

**Reading:** This quarter students we will be discussing the topics of Television, Being a Fan, and Law and Order. Students will read selected materials from their course book as well as additional readings pertaining to the topics. Students will read the bi-monthly online ESL newspaper, *Newsademic.com*, ongoing throughout the year.

**Writing:** Students will examine the characteristics of a news article and write news articles about current events as well as fictitious events, which taps into the students' creative abilities. Students will also write an expository essay.

**Grammar:** This quarter we will focus on phrasal verbs with *go*, modals and semi-modals, present perfect simple/continuous, the Future, and verbs connected with money.

**Listening/Speaking:** Students will watch a news program, listen for specific information and practice the skill of note taking in order to respond to assigned activities. They will also engage in creating a news program taking the role of either the news anchor or field reporter, which they will then present to their classmates.

**Vocabulary:** Students will use context clues in words, sentences and paragraphs to decode new vocabulary. They will become familiar with a variety of new key and academic words. To further support vocabulary enrichment, they will engage in a variety of activities in which they apply their newly acquired terms.

### Quarter III

**Reading:** Students will examine the topics of Travel, the Environment, and Relationships. Students will read selected materials from their course book as well as additional readings pertaining to the topics. Students will continue to read the bi-monthly online ESL newspaper, *Newsademic.com*.

**Writing:** In addition to shorter writing assignments, which are related to the readings, students will study the mechanics of and write an opinion essay as well as a problem solution essay.

**Grammar:** Students will practice the use of gerunds, infinitives, let and make, the causative, passive voice, and reported speech.

**Listening/Speaking:** Students will be viewing the short documentary *Hurricanes 101* by the National

Couture. They will be taking notes in order to complete the various activities related to the documentaries. Additionally, students will present their opinion essay to the class and report on current events.

**Vocabulary:** Students will use context clues in words, sentences and paragraphs to decode new vocabulary. They will become familiar with a variety of new key and academic words. To further support vocabulary enrichment, they will engage in a variety of activities in which they apply their newly acquired terms.

#### **Quarter IV**

**Reading:** This quarter students will be dealing with topics related to Sports, Your Future, and Natural Healing Techniques. Students will read selected materials from their course book as well as additional readings pertaining to the topics. Students will continue to read the bi-monthly online ESL newspaper, *Newsademic.com*.

**Writing:** In addition to shorter writing assignments, which are related to the readings, students will walk through all the stages of research writing and create a 5-page research paper complete with in-text citations and a works cited page.

**Grammar:** This quarter students will be reviewing and using collocations with *job*, *take*, and *work*, relative clauses, conditionals, phrasal verbs with *get*, *if only*, *wish*, and conditionals without *if*.

**Listening/Speaking:** Students will be viewing the documentary *Into the Tsangpo Gorge* (2002). They will be taking notes in order to complete the various activities related to the documentaries. Students will present their research report essay to the class.

**Vocabulary:** Students will use context clues in words, sentences and paragraphs to decode new vocabulary. They will become familiar with a variety of new key and academic words. To further support vocabulary enrichment, they will engage in a variety of activities in which they apply their newly acquired terms.

**\*\*\*Independent Reading:** Throughout the school year, students will read TWO self-selected novels and complete a book review. Readings and activities shall be assigned based on students' interests and modified according to individual needs.

*\*Note that the order in scope and sequence is subject to change during the school year.*

#### **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Students will complete many different types of assignments for homework. For reports or larger HW pieces, a set of formal instructions will be distributed explaining the steps and requirements. All homework assignments are expected to be handed in when due otherwise a 10% reduction in the grade will be imposed for each day late.

#### **ASSESSMENT**

**Student grades each quarter will be assigned according to the following criteria:**

Class Participation:	15%
Homework	30%
Quizzes, Tests and Written Assessments	40%
Presentations	15%

#### **RESOURCES**

1. Connect B1+ Course Book and Workbook, by Megan Blair and Craig Stevens, Burlington Publishing (2009)
2. Newsademic.com – online newspaper for ESL students

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Academic honesty is fundamental to the integrity and operation of our school. Acts of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism (the act of presenting others' words and ideas as one's own without crediting the source), stealing on quizzes and tests, copying work from other students or allowing their work to be copied, or using notes during a test, are considered serious offenses. The consequences of academic dishonesty will be a zero grade on the specific test/assignment, and additional disciplinary action. The said student will be ineligible or removed from the National Honor Society.