

Kolbe Academy Home School

GRADE FOUR ENGLISH GRAMMAR *Voyages in English 4*

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Teachers' Notes: Begin every class with a prayer. This is a good way to help the child memorize new prayers. Repeat the same ones every day until they are known. Be sure to explain the meanings of the prayers. Repetition in all areas of study is most beneficial. In most cases, Fridays have been left open. You may do a four day week or use Friday as a "catch – up" day. While art and music should be worked in during the week, Friday is also a good day to concentrate on those subjects.

Your student may not need all of Week 8 for review. You can use this time to catch up if necessary and then go over the subject matter. If you intend to use the sample tests provided, look them over before teaching the subjects and make sure you teach the material in the tests. Some children have a difficult time doing written exams, but it is important for them to learn how to take them. If your fourth grader does poorly on them, give them to him orally a couple of days after he has taken them and average the grades.

COURSE TITLE: English Grammar

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

English Grammar for Grade Four implements the functions of all the parts of writing to develop in the student the ability to write clearly and persuasively. This is partially accomplished by using the method of "imitation," reading the stories that go along with the *Voyages in English* text and then imitating the methods used in the stories to develop the writing skills of the student. This year in grammar brings all learning from the previous three years into focus and applies it in a progressively more difficult, but rewarding way.

Voyages in English, 4 – This is the best English book in publication for this level at this time. While it is good, it does have a major shortcoming. In many cases incorrect terms are used. The student should be introduced to the correct terms and taught to use them. Following are some of these differences.

- ❖ **Like words** are synonyms.
- ❖ **Opposites** are antonyms.
- ❖ **Sound twins and triplets** are homonyms.
- ❖ **A noun** is a word that names a person, place or thing.
- ❖ **A proper noun** is a word that names a particular person, place, or thing, and it is always capitalized.
- ❖ **A common noun** is a word that names any one of a class of person, places, or things.
- ❖ **A verb** is a word that expresses action or being.
- ❖ **A telling sentence** is a declarative sentence.
- ❖ **An asking sentence** is an interrogative sentence.
- ❖ **A commanding sentence** is an imperative sentence.
- ❖ **An exclaiming sentence** is an exclamatory sentence.
- ❖ **Singular** means "one".
- ❖ **Plural** means "more than one".

Group exercises may be freely skipped, as time constraints dictate. Students who have difficulty with grammar and composition should disregard the group activities altogether, in order to have more time to concentrate on the grammar sections. The earlier sections on letter writing, etc., are better compressed if compression is necessary.

The teaching of English should be cumulative. In Grade Four the student will review what he learned in previous grades and build on it. As the material is introduced he will not remember everything he has learned the previous year, but it will come more easily to him. Every year the student expands his knowledge and should not be confused or overwhelmed with the new information. Likewise, everything learned in English should be applied and reinforced in the student's reading, composition, spelling, and phonics.

Correcting one's mistakes is a good aid to remembering the information the next time one needs it; hence, it is recommended that the student correct all errors in his daily work with the explanation that this will help him later. Furthermore, the best way to teach English is by example and reinforcement of correct usage in the spoken and written word.

The student should be expected to memorize many words and definitions in this book. The more he uses his memory, the better it is for him both now and in the future. A child's dictionary is recommended for use in English. It is recommended that the student have a notebook especially for written composition and that he write a paragraph in it every day. The paragraph should be about ordinary things or events, i.e., the family pet, an outing he went on, the coming holiday, etc. Each paragraph should have a good beginning sentence, middle sentences that tell more about the beginning sentence, and a good ending sentence that tells what he thought about it or somehow concludes the paragraph.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ To read and study good writing and good stories.
- ❖ To have the students write well, creating their own stories imitating the samples in the text.
- ❖ To foster the student's use of vocabulary that is imaginative and descriptive, in both spoken and written work.
- ❖ To enable the student to identify and learn:
 - the five major parts of speech;
 - correct punctuation for sentence construction;
 - proper sentence structure, phrases, clauses, run – on sentences, etc.;
 - the four types of sentences and their definitions;
 - the proper uses of capitalization.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED:

- ❖ Identification of each part of speech, its function, and its relationship to the other words.
- ❖ Proper punctuation and capitalization
- ❖ Identification of both simple and compound sentences.
- ❖ Construction of a comprehensive paragraph built around a key sentence.
- ❖ Diagramming of a compound sentence.

COURSE TEXT: *Voyages in English 4*

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Voyages in English book 4* is represented by the abbreviation **VOY**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week's daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON**, **TUES**, **WED**, and **THUR** abbreviations.

Kolbe Academy has worked diligently to create the best possible course plans with the home schooling family in mind. Remember, however, that our program is intended to be flexible. Per the principle of subsidiarity, these course plans are a **suggested** course of study. As the teacher, you should adapt and modify these course plans to meet the individual learning needs of your child. **Do not feel obligated to follow these course plans exactly.**

◆◆◆ FIRST QUARTER ◆◆◆

WEEK 1	
VOY	Chapter 1 pages 3 – 11.
MON	Pages 3 – 4. Do exercise 1 on paper.
TUE	Pages 4 – 5. Do exercise 2 on paper.
WED	Pages 5 – 8. Do exercises 3 & 4.
THUR	Pages 8 – 11. Do exercise 5.
Notes	
WEEK 2	
VOY	Chapter 1 pages 11 – 18.
MON	Pages 11 – 14. Do exercise 6.
TUE	Pages 14 – 15. Do exercise 7.
WED	Pages 15 – 16. Do exercise 8.
THUR	Pages 16 – 18. Do exercise 9.
Notes	
WEEK 3	
VOY	Chapter 1 pages 18 – 27.
MON	Pages 18 – 22. Do exercise 10.
TUE	Pages 22 – 24. Do exercise 11.
WED	Pages 24 – 26. Do exercise 12.
THUR	Pages 26 – 27. Memorize the definition of a sentence on page 26. Do exercise 13, part 1.