

Course Description

Course Description

This course integrates academic reading comprehension and paragraph writing skills. It develops students' ability to analyze texts, identify main ideas and supporting details, expand academic vocabulary, and produce coherent and well-structured paragraphs. The course emphasizes critical reading, organization of ideas, grammatical accuracy, and written communication in academic contexts.

1. Educational Institution	Shatt Al-Arab University			
2. Scientific Department / Center	Department of Translation			
3. Course name/code	Reading Comprehension			
4. Programme (s) to which it contributes	First Class			
5. Available forms of attendance	Lecture			
6. Semester/Year	2025/2026			
7. Number of study hours (total)	60 hours	Number of hours per week		
		theoretical	practical	Total
		3		
8. Date of preparation of this description	2026/02/12			
Course Objectives:				
1. Develop academic reading comprehension skills.				
2. Enable students to identify main ideas and supporting details.				
3. Improve vocabulary acquisition through contextual analysis.				
4. Develop structured paragraph writing skills.				

5. Strengthen grammatical accuracy and punctuation use.
6. Promote critical thinking and analytical reading skills.

9. Course Outcomes and Teaching Methods, Learning and Evaluation

A- Cognitive Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Analyze academic texts and identify main ideas.
- Differentiate between main and supporting ideas.
- Interpret vocabulary in context.
- Recognize paragraph structure and organization.

B. Subject-specific skills

- A) Write coherent and unified paragraphs.
- B) Apply linking devices effectively.
- C) Use appropriate grammar and punctuation.
- D) Revise and edit written work independently.

Teaching and learning methods

- • Text analysis and guided reading
- Structured paragraph writing practice
- Group discussion and peer feedback
- Vocabulary development activities

- Writing workshops

Evaluation Methods

- Reading comprehension quizzes
- Paragraph writing assignments
- Classroom participation
- Midterm examination
- Final examination

C. Thinking and Development Skills

- Critical reading and analysis
- Logical organization of ideas
- Self-editing and revision strategies
- Academic writing development

Teaching and learning methods

Guided Text Analysis:

Structured reading sessions that train students to identify main ideas, supporting details, vocabulary in context, and organizational patterns in academic texts.

Process-Based Writing Practice:

Step-by-step paragraph development activities including brainstorming, outlining, drafting, revising, and editing.

Collaborative Learning and Peer Review:

Pair and group-based activities that promote discussion, idea exchange, and structured peer feedback on written assignments.

Vocabulary Development Activities:

Contextual vocabulary exercises, word formation practice, and academic word usage tasks integrated with reading materials.

Technology-Assisted Writing Support:

Use of digital platforms, online dictionaries, and grammar-checking tools to enhance writing accuracy and independent learning.

Evaluation Methods

- Reading comprehension quizzes
- Paragraph writing assignments
- Classroom participation
- Midterm examination
- Final examination

d. General and qualifying skills transferred (other skills related to employability and personal development).

- Effective written communication
- Academic research skills
- Time management and task organization
- Teamwork and peer collaboration
- Analytical thinking skills

11. Course Structure

Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit / Topic	Teaching Method	Evaluation Method
1	3	Understand the nature of academic reading and writing	Introduction to Reading & Writing Skills	Theoretical lecture	Class participation
2	3	Apply strategies for reading academic texts	How to Read an Academic Text	Text analysis	Short quiz
3	3	Identify main ideas and supporting details	Main Idea & Supporting Details	Guided discussion	Assignment
4	3	Develop vocabulary through context	Vocabulary Building	Practical exercises	Quiz

Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit / Topic	Teaching Method	Evaluation Method
5	3	Write grammatically correct sentences	Sentence Structure	Writing practice	Short test
6	3	Distinguish between simple and compound sentences	Types of Sentences	Practical activity	Performance evaluation
7	3	Produce a coherent descriptive paragraph	Descriptive Paragraph	Guided writing	Paragraph assessment
8	3	Use linking words effectively	Linking Devices	Group activity	Written evaluation
9	3	Analyze a complete reading passage	Reading Passage Analysis	Text discussion	Written test
10	3	Recognize compound words and idioms	Word Formation & Idioms	Lecture + practice	Quiz
11	3	Write an opinion paragraph	Opinion Paragraph	Writing workshop	Writing assessment
12	3	Apply prefixes and word forms correctly	Prefixes & Word Forms	Exercises	Quiz
13	3	Produce a cause and effect paragraph	Cause & Effect Writing	Practical writing	Paragraph evaluation
14	3	Use time expressions appropriately	Time Expressions	Guided practice	Assignment
15	3	Demonstrate overall progress	Midterm Exam	Examination	Examination
16	3	Identify and correct common writing errors	Common Writing Errors	Editing tasks	Test
17	3	Revise and edit written paragraphs	Editing & Revising	Peer review	Performance assessment
18	3	Develop critical reading skills	Critical Reading	Discussion	Assignment
19	3	Compare and analyze different texts	Text Comparison	Analytical practice	Test
20	3	Write an expository paragraph	Expository Writing	Writing practice	Assessment
21	3	Organize ideas using brainstorming techniques	Brainstorming & Outlining	Group activity	Assignment
22	3	Apply grammar rules in writing	Grammar for Academic Writing	Lecture + practice	Test
23	3	Use punctuation accurately	Punctuation	Writing exercises	Quiz
24	3	Provide constructive peer feedback	Peer Feedback	Group work	Continuous evaluation

Week	Hours	Required Learning Outcomes	Unit / Topic	Teaching Method	Evaluation Method
25	3	Write a narrative paragraph	Narrative Writing	Guided writing	Assessment
26	3	Analyze extended academic texts	Extended Reading	Text analysis	Quiz
27	3	Write an analytical paragraph	Analytical Writing	Practical workshop	Evaluation
28	3	Integrate reading and writing skills	Integrated Skills Practice	Task-based activity	Assignment
29	3	Review course content comprehensively	Comprehensive Review	Discussion	Mock test
30	3	Demonstrate mastery of course objectives	Final Examination	Examination	Examination

12. Infrastructure	
1 Required textbooks	• <i>Academic Reading Skills</i> (approved departmental textbook) • <i>Paragraph Writing: From Sentence to Paragraph</i> (Department-approved edition)
2 Key references (sources)	• Zemach, D. & Rumisek, L. (Academic Writing Series). • McCarthy, M. & O'Dell, F. <i>Academic Vocabulary in Use</i>. • Longman Academic Writing Series.
a. Recommended books and references (scientific journals, reports,...)	• • <i>Journal of English for Academic Purposes</i> • <i>TESOL Quarterly</i> • Research articles on academic literacy and writing pedagogy
b. Electronic references, websites	• Cambridge Dictionary Online • Oxford Learner's Dictionaries • Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)

13- Course improvement Plan

Integrating educational technology and digital writing tools to enhance students' academic reading and writing performance.

Connecting course skills to professional communication and translation practice to support employability.

Applying continuous formative assessment to monitor progress and improve learning outcomes.



توقيع أستاذ المادة



توقيع رئيس القسم