



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Rosa Contreras
Course Title & #:	ESL 025 Reading 3	Email:	rosa.contreras@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20166	Webpage (optional):	Canvas
Classroom:	2728	Office #:	2789
Class Dates:	February 17 – June 12	Office Hours:	TBD
Class Days:	Tuesdays and Thursdays	Office Phone #:	760-355-5707
Class Times:	11:20am-12:45pm	Emergency Contact:	ESL Dept. 760-355-6337
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	Face-to-Face

Course Description

This course is designed to assist advanced ESL students in further developing reading skills and reading efficiency in English. Focus will be placed on understanding text structure and overall comprehension of a variety of texts. Further development of reading skills will also be emphasized. (Nontransferable, nondegree applicable)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

ESL 024 or appropriate placement.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Analyze a reading to identify the topic and main idea, and to distinguish between major and minor details (ILO 2).
2. Use knowledge of vocabulary and structure to determine the rhetorical mode of a reading (ILO 2).
3. Apply knowledge of usage of an English-only dictionary to aid in reading comprehension (ILO 2).

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate mastery in using reading skills such as skimming, scanning, vocabulary in context, making inferences, previewing and making predictions to aid in overall comprehension;
2. Demonstrate mastery identifying topics of readings, main ideas (both implicit and explicit), and major/minor details.
3. Demonstrate competency in summarizing short text and reading selections, and the ability to summarize longer selections.
4. Identify text structures – listing, time order, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, sequencing, problem/solution, extended definition – for the purpose of drawing a conclusion;
5. Demonstrate ability to use critical thinking skills through advanced inferencing in order to distinguish fact/opinion, and identify propaganda in both print and electronic media;
6. Demonstrate ability to choose a book of an appropriate level, read independently and provide supporting documentation of such, such a reading log and report.
7. Correctly use an English-only dictionary to locate and decode words, identify parts of speech and antonyms and synonyms in order to understand texts.

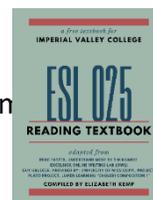
Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

ALL TEXTS ARE REQUIRED

TEXTBOOK:

ESL 025 Reading Textbook adapted from **Read Faster, Understand More** by Tina

*note: This textbook is FREE! Links to pdfs will be provided in Canvas.

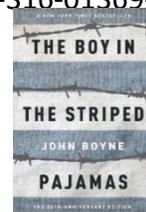
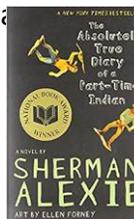


NOVELS:

1. Boyne, J. (2007). **Boy in the Striped Pajamas**. David Fickling Books; Reprint edition ISBN: 978-0-385-75153-7

2. Alexie, S. (2007). **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**; ISBN: 978-0-316-01369-7

NOTE: this textbook is a FREE digital download available in Canvas



You will also need:

- Notebook or paper
- Pen or pencil and highlighter
- Regular access to a computer with internet, Canvas, email, and Microsoft Word
- Webcam or video camera and microphone for recording video discussions
- Good notes

***NOTE:** we will be using technology in this course. Assignments, quizzes, and discussions will be held or submitted on Canvas. Additionally, you may be asked to download, upload, and/or print resources.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a face-to-face course that has been digitally enhanced.

Class meetings in person are required. We will meet face-to-face on campus AND you will do work online (Canvas). You will have about a week to complete each module; modules open on Monday morning and close on Saturday at 11:59pm.

This class will have multiple forms of instruction, including:

- Lecture/Video
- Group work
- Individual work
- Online work (Canvas)

Assignments will include various forms of writing (individual and group), editing, reading, and responding, exams, other exercises focusing on sentence structure and form, and grammar and mechanics.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonable approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.



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Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

This course is built for you to succeed; however, you **MUST** do your work! If you do not do your work, you will not pass. This class uses a weighted grading system. The points for each assignment count toward a category. The weights are as follows:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE
Orientation Module	1%
Reflective Journals	5%
Discussions	10%
Scholarly Writings	15%
Textbook Chapter Assignments	24%
Literature Work (<i>Boy in the Striped Pajamas/The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>)	30%
Exams	15%
Total:	100%

A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = 59% or below. Students must earn 70% or higher to pass the class. **Work Week:** Due dates are on Saturdays.

Late Work: All homework assignments must be submitted on the date they are due. Some late work is accepted, but it will be subject to a **daily -5% penalty point deduction**. If you have an emergency or a health issue and your work will be late, please contact me so we can make arrangements for you to complete your work.

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty Policy: Because I want to ensure that you are practicing and learning in this class, I take plagiarism very seriously. Plagiarism happens when you copy words or ideas from somewhere else and submit it or repeat it as your own work. We get better at what we practice, and when we copy, we only get better at copying, not the important English skills we should be practicing. Plagiarism is academic dishonesty and is a very serious problem.

Plagiarism and cheating includes: • copying and pasting information from webpages • copying answers from an answer key or Teacher's book • copying the work from another student in your class, in another class, or from a previous term • copying information from a webpage or book in Spanish and submitting the English translation as your work • using AI in any way.

To help keep track of plagiarism, I use Turnitin Similarity in our class. Turnitin Similarity will run a report and show how much of the paper is exactly like another paper, webpage, or AI generated. **Any AI usage will result in an automatic zero.**

IMPORTANT: Papers that show signs of AI use or are missing citations or works cited pages when required will receive a zero.



Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy: A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class.

It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class.

- o **Regular participation is required. Participation includes:**
 - o **Posting and responding in weekly discussions**
 - o **Completing weekly work on canvas**
 - o **Submitting your work on time**

If there is a problem with completing your work (such as being in the hospital or being sick), please let me know. I am willing to help you, but you need to make sure you communicate with me.

Late Work Policy: Late work is accepted but will be subjected to a **-5% daily point deduction**. Discussions will not be accepted late. Assignments lock after two weeks.

Participation Policy: People learn better when they are connected as a community. I encourage and expect all students to work together and participate in discussions and group activities **using English Only!**

To ensure your success, plan to **participate in ALL class activities!** There are many ways that we can participate, collaborate, and share ideas in an online environment. Here are a few:

- o Contribute and share ideas in groups and online discussion boards.
- o Reading information from the instructor as well as classmates.
- o Be prepared and complete homework before due dates.
- o Turning in assignments, quizzes, homework on-time.



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You may be dropped if you are no longer actively participating in the course, logging into Canvas, and engaging in course material.

Active participation includes logging into Canvas and engaging with course content, completing and turning in homework, assignments, and quizzes. If you are unable to log into Canvas for a long period, it is your responsibility to find out everything you missed. You have a personal problem or issue, please communicate with me and let me know what's going on before too much time has passed.

IMPORTANT:

- If you are missing any five assignments after Week 4, you will be dropped from the course due to lack of participation.
- If you are missing any ten assignments after Week 8, you will be dropped from the course due to lack of participation.
- If you are missing two Scholarly Writings before the drop date (date after which you will get a grade other than "W"), expect to be dropped from the course.

Tutor Verification Requirement for Scholarly Writing Grading

In order for your final draft of any Scholarly Writing to be graded, you must submit Tutor Verification showing that you worked with a tutor to revise and/or edit your draft.

👉 This requirement applies to all Scholarly Writing in this course—no exceptions.

You may fulfill this requirement in one of the following ways:

- Meet in person with a tutor and receive written feedback directly on your draft
- Meet with a tutor via Zoom and obtain comments during the session
- Submit your draft online to a tutor and receive written feedback in return

It is your responsibility to meet all project deadlines. Not receiving a response from online tutoring does *not* excuse missing the Tutor Verification requirement. Plan ahead and allow time for possible delays.

✅ **How to Submit Tutor Verification:** You must submit one of the following:

- A photo or screenshot of your draft showing tutor comments
- OR, if you met with an IVC tutor, they may email me directly to confirm your visit and summarize what you worked on

Essays submitted without Tutor Verification will not be graded, and will result in zero.

Any AI usage will result in an automatic zero.

Respectful Use and Speech Policy: All students should be respectful to each other and the instructor. Remember that we are all here to learn, and learning requires practice. Nobody is perfect, and nobody in the class should feel scared or embarrassed about making mistakes. They are a part of learning! I expect all students to be treated with respect. If someone disagrees with an opinion, it is not an opportunity for name calling or belittling. It is a time to respectfully listen, contemplate, and learn. We do not have to agree in discussions, but we do have to be respectful and kind. Any instances of disrespect in a discussion will result in the student being asked to leave the class.

Netiquette and Respectful Use: IVC's Respectful Use and Netiquette Policy: IVC's official policy about netiquette is as follows:

What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette:

1. Identify yourself
2. Include a subject line
3. Avoid sarcasm
4. Respect others' opinions and privacy
5. Acknowledge and return messages promptly
6. Copy with caution
7. Do not spam or junk mail

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8. Be concise
9. Use appropriate language
10. Use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons/emojis) to help convey meaning, and
11. Use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)]

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 February 16-21	*Note* Campus CLOSED on Monday, Feb. 16th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day Syllabus & Introduction Module Week 1: Chapter 1 – Active Reading	Saturday, February 21 by 11:59pm
Week 2 February 23-28	Module Week 2: Chapter 2 – Previewing Start chapter 3 – Vocabulary in Context Prepare to read <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	Saturday, February 28 by 11:59pm
Week 3 March 2-7	Module Week 3: Chapter 3 – Vocabulary in Context Begin reading <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> and quiz Scholarly Writing	Saturday, March 7 by 11:59pm
Week 4 March 9-14	Module Week 4: Chapter 4 – Finding the Main Idea Read chapter 7 - 12 in <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> and quiz.	Saturday, March 14 by 11:59pm
Week 5 March 16-21	Module Week 5: Cont. Chapter 4 – Finding the Main Idea Read chapters 13-17 in <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> and quiz Scholarly Writing	Saturday, March 21 by 11:59pm
Week 6 March 23-28	Module Week 6: Chapter 5 – Identifying Supporting Details Reverse Outlining Read chapter 18 - 20 in <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> and quiz	Saturday, March 28 by 11:59pm
Week 7 March 30-April 4	Module Week 7: Cont. Chapter 5 – Identifying Supporting Details Take a test on <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> Submit a book report on <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	Saturday, April 4 by 11:59pm
SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK APRIL 5-11 SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
Week 8 April 13-18	Midterm Week – Read an article, take a quiz Scholarly Writing	Saturday, April 18 by 11:59pm
Week 9 April 20-25	Module Week 9: Chapter 6 – Implied Main Ideas Begin reading <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> Ch. 1-10	Saturday, April 25 by 11:59pm
Week 10 April 27-May 2	Module Week 10: Cont. Chapter 6 – Implied Main Ideas Read Ch. 1-10 in <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	Saturday, May 2 by 11:59pm



	Scholarly Writing - Summary	
Week 11 May 4-9	Module Week 11: Chapter 7 – Making Inferences Read Ch. 11-20 in <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> Summary	Saturday, May 9 by 11:59pm
Week 12 May 11-16	Module Week 12: Cont. Chapter 7 – Making Inferences Read Ch. 11-20 in <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	Saturday, May 16 by 11:59pm
Week 13 May 18-23	Module Week 13: Chapter 8 – Patterns of Organization Read Ch. 21-31 in <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> Scholarly Writing	Saturday, May 23 by 11:59pm
Week 14 May 25-30	Module Week 14: Cont. Chapter 8 – Patterns of Organization Read Ch. 21-30 in <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	Saturday, May 30 by 11:59pm
Week 15 June 1-6	Module Week 15: Chapter 9 – Purpose and Tone Finish reading <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> Write a summary of <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time</i> Begin your final Scholarly Writing assignment to submit in week 16 Prepare final week's exams and writing assignment!	Saturday, June 6 by 11:59pm
Week 16 June 8-12	IMPORTANT: Final Module DUE FRIDAY, December 6th at 11:59pm Exam – <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> Exam – Chapter 9 Submit Final Scholarly Writing	Final Module, Friday, June 12th by 11:59pm

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****