# English Culture and Literature 604-103-MQ Student Companion Manual: Quick FAQ

## What is this manual?

A 15 unit student guide for an advanced college level English as a Second Language course aligned with Competency 4SA3. It helps students read, interpret, discuss, and write about literary texts.

## How is the course organized?

The course is divided into three modules:

**Module 1, Units 1 to 7: Foundations**
Literary terms, close reading, narrative techniques, and thesis development.

**Module 2, Units 8 to 11: Applying Analysis**
Essay writing, drama, oral analysis, revision, and editing.

**Module 3, Units 12 to 15: Independent Analysis**
The novel, research, the final essay, and the final presentation.

## What does each unit include?

Each unit includes learning objectives, key concepts with definitions and sources, examples, practice exercises, answer keys, homework, a self assessment checklist, and a short summary.

## What texts are studied?

The main texts are Chinua Achebe's *Marriage Is a Private Affair*, Robert Frost's *The Road Not Taken*, Susan Glaspell's *Trifles*, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus*.

## What is the Neighbourhood Voices Project?

The Neighbourhood Voices Project is the research focus of Units 13 and 14. Students connect a literary text to a Québec or Canadian community they know well.

Students can choose between two approaches:

**Community Pathway:** Connect a theme from *Purple Hibiscus* to a community.

**Literary Pathway:** Choose a literary text and connect it to a community using five literary devices: imagery, symbolism, narrative voice, setting as character, and motif.

## What are the major assessments?

a. Play Video Response: 5%
b. Close Reading Exam: 5%
c. Midterm Writing: 20%
d. Midterm Speaking: 20%
e. Final Writing Exam: 25%
f. Final Speaking Exam: 25%

There is also a required, non graded outline and conference checkpoint before the Final Writing task.

**What writing and analysis methods will I learn?**

The manual introduces several methods that can help you organize your ideas and develop your analysis:

1) **ICE:** Introduce, Cite, Explain
2) **PEEL:** Point, Evidence, Explanation, Link
3) **STEAL:** Speech, Thoughts, Effect on others, Actions, Looks
4) **Freytag's Pyramid:** Understanding plot structure
5) Literary present tense and formal academic writing

**What is in the appendices?**

The appendices include a literary terminology glossary, grammar reference, essay writing guide, speaking tips, suggested reading, and an answer key index.

**Can I use AI tools?**

AI tools may be used for limited support, such as brainstorming ideas, testing a thesis, or identifying unclear sentences. You are responsible for checking any suggestions you receive. Your argument, evidence, and final wording must be your own, and any AI use must be acknowledged in your final work.

**How can I check my work?**

Each unit includes an **Answer Key** after the practice exercises. You can use it to check your answers and review areas that need more work.

**How should I prepare for exams?**

Review the **Quick Summary** and **Self Assessment Checklist** at the end of each unit. Practise writing under time limits, work on developing a clear thesis quickly, and practise building PEEL paragraphs. For speaking assessments, rehearse from brief notes rather than reading from a full script.

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