

**Home School Partners ([www.homeschoolpartners.net](http://www.homeschoolpartners.net))**  
**Set 1: Syllabus**  
**English (with American Literature), American Government**

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**American Government**

**Text:** *[American Government for Christian Homeschoolers](#)*

- What the Bible teaches about government
- Separation of church and state
- Christians and government
- Greek, Roman, Renaissance, Reformation, and English influences on American government
- Government types
- The Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, U. S. Constitution, Bill of Rights
- Interpreting the Constitution
- Congress, the President, the Supreme Court
- Key Supreme Court cases
- Washington's Farewell Address
- The Sedition Act
- Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions
- Nullification
- The Election of 1800
- U. S. political parties
- Key presidential vetoes
- Tariffs
- Secession
- North/South War and Reconstruction
- Taxation
- World War I
- The Federal Reserve
- Endless U. S. departments and government agencies
- Local government
- Government spending and debt
- Herbert Hoover, Franklin Roosevelt, and the Great Depression
- Government involvement in education
- War and big government
- "Powerful Presidents"
- Vetoes and pardons
- Lobbyists and making laws
- Government using "emergencies" to empower itself

**Assessable Artifact:**

The Assessable Artifact is a project required by York University that contributes toward the class grade and the earning of three college credits for American Government. This Assessable Artifact is a set of 30 100-125-word essays that analyze 30 separate news articles on the topic of American Government, current government news, or political topics. This Assessable Artifact is completed gradually, with students writing and turning in their analyses a few at a time. Students continue to add to their Assessable Artifact until they complete 30, and they upload a Microsoft Word document containing all 30 analyses to York University at the end of the class term.

## **English (American Literature, Grammar, Vocabulary, Composition)**

**Texts:** *American Literature for Christian Homeschoolers*, *The Elements of Style*

### ***Vocabulary:***

- Approximately 80 vocabulary words
- Definitions, roots, origins
- Synonyms, antonyms
- Uses in context

### ***Grammar and usage:***

- Using the possessive
- Serial commas
- Parenthetical expressions and commas
- Independent clauses and conjunctions
- Run-on sentences and sentence fragments
- Active vs. passive voice
- Editing to remove redundancy, parallel structure
- Parentheses and quotations
- Number in pronoun antecedents
- Plural and possessive of proper names ending in “s”

### ***Composition/Writing:***

- A modern “Rip Van Winkle” style essay
- A three-day journal based on an American Literature reading
- An edifying speech to a group of peers
- A response to a big-government-favoring friend’s opinion
- Four evaluations of different American Literature pieces
- 30 short analyses of articles on government/political topics

### ***American Literature:***

*Readings and analyses include theme, plot, character, setting, symbolism, allegory, rhyme scheme, meter, personification, anthropomorphism, metaphor, paradox, irony, genre, tone, style, and voice.*

- Volume 1: Essays, Poems, Letters, and Speeches
- Volume 2: Short Stories
- Volume 3: *Up From Slavery* (biography)
- Volume 4: *The Magnificent Ambersons* (novel)

**(See the 30-week reading layout for American Literature on the next two pages.)**

### **Assessable Artifact:**

The Assessable Artifact is a project required by York University that contributes toward the class grade and the earning of three college credits for American Literature. This Assessable Artifact is a set of four evaluations of four separate American Literature readings. These evaluations must include (a) what students appreciate about the writings, (b) what they learned from them, (c) what they believe makes the pieces they chose distinctively *American*, and (d) representative quotes from each piece chosen. This Assessable Artifact is completed gradually, with students writing and turning in their evaluations over time. Students continue to add to their Assessable Artifact until they complete all four (with an introduction and conclusion), and they upload a Microsoft Word document containing these evaluations to York University at the end of the class term.

## American Literature for Christian Homeschoolers Reading Schedule

Volume 1: Essays, Poems, Letters, and Speeches	Volume 2: Short Stories	Volume 3: <i>Up From Slavery</i>	Volume 4: <i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i>
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Week	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
1	Letter to the Town of Providence To My Dear and Loving Husband	Letters of William Penn to Richard Turner, the Indians, the Free Society of Traders	Rip Van Winkle	None!
2	Epistle of Caution and Advice Concerning Buying and Keeping of Slaves	<i>The Way to Wealth</i>	The Minister's Black Veil	None!
3	<b>Quiz 1 (covers Weeks 1-2 readings)</b>	On Being Brought from Africa to America On Virtue	Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death	The Purloined Letter
4	<i>Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (through 4th Remove)</i>	<i>Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (through 12th Remove)</i>	<i>Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (through 19th Remove)</i>	<i>Narrative of the Captivity of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (20th Remove to end)</i>
5	<b>Quiz 2 (covers Weeks 3-4 readings)</b>	A Handful of Clay Fables	Gardening Notes	Pigs Is Pigs
6	<i>The Log of a Cowboy, Chapters 1 &amp; 2</i>	<i>The Log of a Cowboy, Chapters 7 &amp; 10</i>	<i>The Log of a Cowboy, Chapters 21, 23, 24</i>	Family Life in America The Child Knows the Answer
7	<b>Quiz 3 (covers Weeks 5-6 readings).</b>	Resolution of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends	Declaration of the Mennonites and Brethren to the Pennsylvanian Assembly	The American Crisis Petition Concerning the Wives and Children of Loyalists
8	Bartleby, the Scrivener		Bartleby, the Scrivener (For Additional Thought Questions)	
9	<b>Quiz 4 (covers Weeks 7-8 readings)</b>	Letter to Thomas Jefferson Jefferson's Reply	The Luck of Roaring Camp	An Angel in Disguise Thanatopsis
10	Old Ironsides Concord Hymn	Paul Revere's Ride The New Colossus	<i>Self-Reliance</i>	None!
11	<b>Quiz 5 (covers Weeks 9-10 readings)</b>	The Arrow and the Song The Raven	Sonnet—To Science When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer	The Stolen White Elephant
12	<i>Walden, Chapter II</i>	An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge	How To Watch a Chess Match	None!
13	<b>Quiz 6 (Weeks 11-12 readings).</b>	<i>Up From Slavery, Intro (Original), Chapter 1</i>	<i>Up From Slavery, Chapters 2-3</i>	<i>Up From Slavery, Chapters 4-5</i>

Week	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
14	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapters 6-7	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapters 8-9	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 10	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 11
15	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 12-13	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 14-15	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 16	<i>Up From Slavery</i> , Chapter 17
16	Quiz 7 (covers Weeks 13-15 readings)	How the Captain Made Christmas	The Gift of the Magi	None!
17	The Chambered Nautilus	Poems of Emily Dickson	A Sisterly Scheme	None!
18	A New England Nun	The Meaning of July Fourth	The Young Idea's Shooting Gallery	None!
19	Quiz 8 (Weeks 16-18 readings)	Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address	The Lady, or the Tiger?	The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky
20	Lucky People	Locked Doors		Taming the Bicycle
21	Quiz 9 (Weeks 19-20 readings).	The Fruitful Sleeping of the Rev. Elisha Edwards	Editha	Holt! Who Goes There? Happy the Home Where Books Are Found
22	The Lesson Richard Cory	Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening War Is Kind	Mending Wall	The Road Not Taken
23	Quiz 10 (Weeks 21-22 readings)	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Intro., Chapters 1-2	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 3-4	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 5-6
24	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 7	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 8-9	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 10-11	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 12-13
25	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 14-15	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 16-17	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 18-19	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 20
26	Quiz 11 (covers Weeks 23-25 readings)	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 21-22	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 23-24	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 25-26
27	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 27-28	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 29-31	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapter 32-33	<i>The Magnificent Ambersons</i> , Chapters 34-35
28	Regret	Poor, Dear Margaret Kirby	How To Understand International Finance	None!
29	Quiz 12 (Weeks 26-28 readings)	The Cure for a Troubled Heart	America's Present Emergency	Miss Hinch
30	A Father to His Freshman Son The Art of Governing	Address from the Brandenburg Gate	The Most Dangerous Game	Welcome Home— and Shut Up!