Project ARIEL 2.0

Academic Resources for Interactive English Learning

An online independent learning, practising and self-testing platform

Who is it for?

For any B.Ed, M.Ed, BAMA British Studies, BAMA American Studies, BAMA Linguistik student currently enrolled in the department, if you want to:

- Improve and practise your language and grammar skills.
- Self-diagnose and remedy problem areas in your written accuracy.
- Enhance your research skills for Hausarbeiten and dissertations.
- Develop your use of referencing and bibliographical conventions.
- Learn fundamental literary studies terminology and practise its use.

What does it offer?

- ARIEL 2.0 offers you reference materials and tutorials written by experienced intructors on:
    - Grammar and language topics (e.g. grammar and syntax terminology, reported speech, use of tense/aspect, handling passive/causative constructions etc.).
    - Study skills such as essay writing (how to use MLA referencing conventions, how to research with library- and online catalogues, how to recognise and avoid plagiarism etc.).

- Self-testing facilities which allow you to:
    - Learn from the tutorials and take short focused tests directly afterwards to see how much you have absorbed.
    - Use general tests to self-diagnose language/grammar problems.
    - Receive direct online feedback on your performance to help you assess your own strengths and weaknesses.

How does it work?

Search the index for topics you want to revise

Link directly to mini-tests to check your own learning

2.3.2 The Present Progressive | 2.3.3.1 The Historical Past

JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ
Koordination Sprachpraxis

2.3.3 The Literary Present: Use of the Present Tense in an Academic Context

At university level, you will be required to write frequently and at length about texts, historical and literary, and secondary literature (other academics' opinions about those texts). You will be required to engage with both primary and secondary sources in an analytic way, and there are certain conventions in terms of style that you should adhere to.

One of these, and one which often causes difficulties for non-native speakers and writers of English, is the use of the so-called 'literary-present'. This essentially recommends that when you are dealing with non-fiction or fiction, whether drama, poetry or prose, you should use the present tense to describe and discuss the actions, thoughts and feelings of characters presented *within* the original text.

The idea is that we regard any piece of literature as a present object. It may have actually been written 5, 50 or 250 years ago, but the text we have in our hands today is seen as a timeless expression – it is addressed to, or speaks to, us now as much as it ever did to the readers in the age it was written, regardless of whether the author is today alive or dead. The text is still 'in print', so it is continues to be a present phenomenon each time it is read!

This means, first, that when we describe events in the plot, or feelings of the characters, we use the present tense (most commonly in the simple form). So, for example, if we are writing about the plot of

<< Zurück | Weiter >> | Fragenübersicht | Frage zurückstellen | Weiter >>

Frage 10 von 11 - Talking about Literature

Instructions

- The verbs in *(brackets)* have to be used to fill in the blanks below.
- Use your knowledge of use of the literary present vs. historical past to put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense.
- Do not forget to conjugate verbs correctly and use extra auxiliary verbs where appropriate.
- In some cases, words in *[square brackets]* must be inserted into your answers.

Example:

Q: In Richard Wright's novel *Native Son*, protagonist Bigger Thomas _____ (become) a victim of unfortunate circumstances that involve him in a crime.
A: In Richard Wright's novel *Native Son*, protagonist Bigger Thomas becomes (become) a victim of unfortunate circumstances that involve him in a crime.

Q: In 1963, John F. Kennedy _____ (be + assassinate) in Dallas, TX.
A: In 1963, John F. Kennedy was assassinated (be + assassinate) in Dallas, TX.

Stephen Crane _____ (be born) in 1871 in New Jersey. His most enduring and famous work _____ (be) *The Red Badge of Courage*, which _____ (be + publish) in 1895. Although, to begin with, it _____ (be + not well + receive) in the United States, in England it _____ (arouse) a lot of attention at the time. The praise it _____ (win) from 19th century English critics _____ (lead) the Amerian public to become more enthusiastic about the novel, which quickly _____ (bring) Crane into the limelight.

The story _____ (be + set) loosely on the real events that _____ (take) place during the American Civil War, although in the book the names of the battles, the war, nor armies _____ (be mention). Although previous writers _____ (take) a larger, more epic perspective, *The Red Badge of Courage* _____ (focus) instead on the psychological voyage of its protagonist, Henry Fleming. Fleming, a new recruit, constantly _____ (battle) with his conscience, and the question of whether he _____ (be) truly courageous. On his travels, Henry _____ (meet) numerous other characters who help highlight for him the problems surrounding ideals of bravery.

Stephen Crane _____ (claim) to be a writer who _____ (be) committed to a realistic portrayal of his own experiences. It _____ (be) somewhat ironic, then, that his most famous novel _____ (recount) a period of history of which he _____ (have) no direct experience.

Self-diagnose using tests, feedback & answer keys

Testergebnisse für Jonathan Westwood

Name: Jonathan Westwood

Datum des Tests: 2013-10-31 15:09:34

Herzlichen Glückwunsch! Sie haben den Test bestanden und dabei die Note "bestanden" erzielt.

Reihenfolge	Titel	Maximale Punktezahl	Erreichte Punkte	Prozent gelöst
1	Present Tense: Simple or Progressive?	5	4	80.00 %
2	Present Tense: Simple or Progressive?	12	11	91.67 %
3	Present Tense: Simple or Progressive?	10	10	100.00 %
4	Present Tense: Simple or Progressive?	7	6	85.71 %
5	Present Tense: Simple or Progressive?	12	11	91.67 %
6	'Always' with Present Tense	3	3	100.00 %
7	'Always' with Present Tense	5	3	60.00 %
8	Stative and Dynamic Verbs	8	8	100.00 %
9	Stative and Dynamic Verbs	8	7	87.50 %
10	Talking about Literature	21	17	80.95 %
11	Talking about Literature	15	13	86.67 %
Gesamt		**106**	**93**	**87.74 %**

Stephen Crane was born ✓ (be born) in 1871 in New Jersey. His most enduring and famous work was ✗ (be) *The Red Badge of Courage*, which was published ✓ (be + publish) in 1895. Although, to begin with, it was not well received ✓ (be + not well + receive) in the United States, in England it aroused ✓ (arouse) a lot of attention at the time. The praise it won ✓ (win) from 19th century English critics led ✓ (lead) the Amerian public to become more enthusiastic about the novel, which quickly brings ✗ (bring) Crane into the limelight.

The story is set ✓ (be + set) loosely on the real events that took place ✓ (take place) during the American Civil War, although in the book the names of the battles, the war, nor armies are mentioned ✓ (be mention). Although previous writers took ✓ (take) a larger, more epic perspective, *The Red Badge of Courage* focuses ✓ (focus) instead on the psychological voyage of its protagonist, Henry Fleming. Fleming, a new recruit, constantly battled ✗ (battle) with his conscience, and the question of whether he is ✓ (be) truly courageous. On his travels, Henry meets ✓ (meet) numerous other characters who help highlight for him the problems surrounding ideals of bravery.

Stephen Crane claims ✗ (claim) to be a writer who was ✓ (be) committed to a realistic portrayal of his own experiences. It is ✓ (be) somewhat ironic, then, that his most famous novel recounts ✓ (recount) a period of history of which he has ✗ (have) no direct experience.

Stephen Crane was born (be born) in 1871 in New Jersey. His most enduring and famous work is (be) *The Red Badge of Courage*, which was published (be + publish) in 1895. Although, to begin with, it was not well received (be + not well + receive) in the United States, in England it aroused (arouse) a lot of attention at the time. The praise it won (win) from 19th century English critics led (lead) the Amerian public to become more enthusiastic about the novel, which quickly brought (bring) Crane into the limelight.

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Stephen Crane claimed (claim) to be a writer who was (be) committed to a realistic portrayal of his own experiences. It is (be) somewhat ironic, then, that his most famous novel recounts (recount) a period of history of which he had (have) no direct experience.

Sie haben 17 von 21 möglichen Punkten erreicht.

Learn and test as you go using interactive tutorials

Find an article comparing Willa Cather's "Paul's Case" and J.D Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* and provide the name of the first author mentioned, the article title, the journal title, the volume, the issue, the year of publication, and the page numbers.

First name of author:

Last name of author:

Article title:

Journal title:

Volume (in numbers):

Issue (in numbers):

Year of publication (in numbers):

Page numbers:

3. Click "Willa Cather's 'Paul's Case' and Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye" in the search results list to see bibliographic details.

Take part in authentic research challenges to practise using library resources, and 'learn by doing' through step-by-step instructions linking directly to online catalogues.

Learn to judge best approach to common essay writing dilemmas

Frage 1 von 8 - Direct and Indirect Quotations

While writing your term paper on Louise Erdrich, you discover another interesting passage in Jeanne Rosier Smith's *Writing Tricksters: Mythic Gambols in American Ethnic Literature* (1997):

Smith page 105:

> The novel's plot revolves around the two men and the one woman they both want, and a parallel struggle between preserving the land in traditional ways and selling out for a money-making casino project. Lyman is a classic trickster who always mixes his own selfishness with the good of the group . . . . As the tribe's leading entrepreneur, Lyman becomes a trickster creator whose plans can "bring the possibilities into existence" and generate badly needed revenue and jobs.

In your term paper, you include the following paragraph:

> By depicting Lyman in an ambivalent way, Erdrich makes sure that her readers do not misinterpret his bingo palace as an easy and universally valid solution. In addition, Lyman's ambivalence also marks him as a trickster figure because tricksters always combine the good of the community around them with their own selfishness. In spite of his selfishness and his sometimes questionable approach, Lyman thus contributes to the group's wellbeing.

Do you need to acknowledge Smith's work in this passage? Please decide whether the statements/examples below are correct or incorrect. <u>Please note that you can click "Prüfen" after every question to view the correct answer.</u>

1) I do not need a source reference here since I do not directly quote Smith's book. The above version of the paragraph is correct.

[incorrect ▼]

2) Yes, I need a source reference since I took an idea from Smith, which I need to acknowledge, but I do not need quotation marks. My term paper paragraph should look like this:

By depicting Lyman in an ambivalent way, Erdrich makes sure that her readers do not misinterpret his bingo palace as an easy and universally valid solution. In addition, Lyman's ambivalence also marks him as a trickster figure because tricksters always combine the good of the community around them with their own selfishness **(see Smith 105).** In spite of his selfishness and his sometimes questionable approach, Lyman thus contributes to the group's wellbeing.

[correct ▼]

3) Yes, I need both a reference to Smith and quotation marks:

By depicting Lyman in an ambivalent way, Erdrich makes sure that her readers do not misinterpret his bingo palace as an easy and universally valid solution. In addition, Lyman's ambivalence also marks him as a trickster figure because "tricksters always combine the good of the community around them with their own selfishness" **(Smith 105).** In spite of his selfishness and his sometimes questionable approach, Lyman thus contributes to the group's wellbeing.

[incorrect ▼]

Prüfen

Good job - please proceed to the next question!

How can you access ARIEL 2.0?

1. login at www.ilias.uni-mainz.de (use your university user name and password):
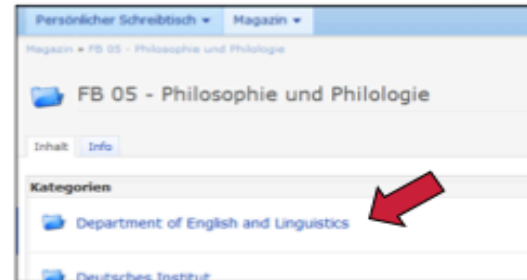
Bei ILIAS anmelden

Benutzername

Passwort

Anmelden
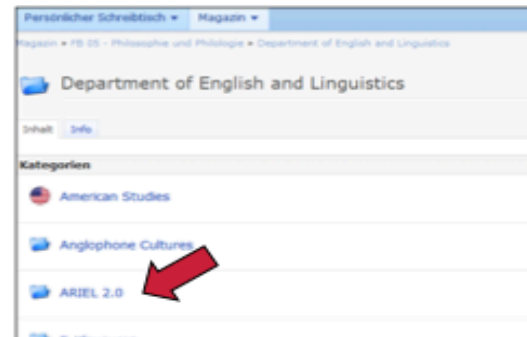
2. Select "Magazin" and choose "Einstiegsseite":

eLearning - Zentrum für Datenverarbeitung

Persönlicher Schreibtisch ▾ | Magazin ▾

Magazin - Einstiegsseite
Zuletzt besucht

Übersicht

3. Open the folder "FB 05 - Philosophie und Philologie":

FB 03 - Rechts- und Wirtschaftswissenschaften

FB 04 - Universitätsmedizin

FB 05 - Philosophie und Philologie

4. Open the folder "Department of English and Linguistics":

Persönlicher Schreibtisch ▾ | Magazin ▾

Magazin » FB 05 - Philosophie und Philologie

FB 05 - Philosophie und Philologie

Inhalt Info

Kategorien

Department of English and Linguistics

Deutsches Institut

5. Select "ARIEL 2.0":

Persönlicher Schreibtisch ▾ | Magazin ▾

Magazin » FB 05 - Philosophie und Philologie » Department of English and Linguistics

Department of English and Linguistics

Inhalt Info

Kategorien

American Studies

Anglophone Cultures

ARIEL 2.0

E-Klausuren

Log-in, learn, participate…

- Ariel 2.0 is an open platform which can be accessed from home or university.

- Your private use of ARIEL 2.0 as independent learning tool is anonymous and free.

- ARIEL 2.0 is a system designed and managed by instructors to help you. It is currently a work-in-progress undergoing improvements and additions every semester – feel free to contact us with questions and/or constructive feedback!

- Contact Jonathan Westwood (westwood@uni-mainz.de) or Bärbel Höttges (hoettges@uni-mainz.de)