

IB English Language and Literature Course

Empowering Students Through Language and
Literature



Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary for successful assessment in textual analysis and comparative literature. It focuses on preparing students for external assessments, including guided textual analysis and comparative essays. Students will critically explore a range of literary and non-literary texts, developing analytical and comparative skills essential for their academic achievement. The course will involve various teaching approaches, such as inquiry-based learning to stimulate curiosity, concept-driven discussions to enhance understanding, contextualized applications to connect with real-world issues, collaborative projects to build teamwork, differentiated instruction to address diverse learning styles, and performance-based assessments to guide evaluation.



Course Objectives

- Develop skills in analyzing texts and comparative analysis of literary texts.
- Enhance ability to construct coherent arguments and analysis.
- Effectively prepare for both written and oral assessments in accordance with IB standards.

Syllabus Structure



Readers, Writers, and Texts

Focuses on the nature of language and communication through various non-literary and literary texts. It emphasizes personal and critical responses to communication complexities.



Time and Space

Examines texts reflecting historical and cultural perspectives, highlighting how context influences meaning and societal impact.



Intertextuality: Connecting Texts

Investigates relationships among texts, encouraging critical responses and understanding of thematic and literary traditions.

Each component has specified teaching hours: Standard Level (SL) totals 150 hours whilst Higher Level (HL) comprises 240 hours, ensuring comprehensive exploration of all text types.

External Assessment Criteria: Paper 1

Guided Textual Analysis (HL)

Criterion A: Understanding and Interpretation

Marks: 0-5

Demonstrates thorough understanding of the text and draws reasoned, evidence-based conclusions that reflect critical engagement.

Criterion B: Analysis and Evaluation

Marks: 0-5

Analyses how textual features shape meaning, with insightful evaluation of authorial choices and their effects on audience.

Criterion C: Focus and Organisation

Marks: 0-5

Presents ideas coherently with effective organisation, logical structure and meaningful connections throughout the response.

Criterion D: Language

Marks: 0-5

Uses clear, precise and stylistically appropriate language that enhances the analysis and demonstrates linguistic competence.

External Assessment Criteria: Paper 2

Comparative Essay (HL)

Criterion A: Knowledge and Interpretation

Marks: 0-10

Demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of chosen texts, interpreting key similarities and differences with insight and depth.

Criterion B: Analysis and Evaluation

Marks: 0-10

Analyses and evaluates literary features effectively, considering author's choices and their impact on meaning and reader response.

Criterion C: Focus and Organisation

Marks: 0-5

Organises ideas coherently with a structured, well-developed argument that maintains focus throughout.

Criterion D: Language

Marks: 0-5

Uses clear, precise and appropriate language that enhances the comparative analysis and demonstrates linguistic sophistication.

Internal Assessment Criteria: Essay

Essay Requirements (HL)

Length

Approximately 1,200 to 1,500 words.

Focus

Analyze a specific aspect of one or more literary works studied.

Research

Develop a well-researched argument that reflects personal insight and critical thinking.

The Higher Level essay will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Criterion A: Knowledge, Understanding, and Interpretation

Marks: 0-10

Demonstrates detailed knowledge and insight into the texts, exploring significant aspects and interpretations.

Criterion B: Analysis and Evaluation

Marks: 0-10

Provides a thorough analysis of literature, evaluating the impact of authorial choices.

Criterion C: Focus, Organization, and Development

Marks: 0-10

Presents a coherent and focused argument, well-organized and effectively developed.

Criterion D: Language

Marks: 0-10

Uses clear, precise, and stylistically appropriate language throughout the essay.

Learning Approaches

1 Develop Thinking Skills

Analyze and evaluate various text types critically.

2 Develop Social Skills

Engage in group discussions and collaborative assignments.

3 Develop Communication Skills

Articulate thoughts coherently through written and oral assessments.

4 Develop Self-Management Skills

Organize tasks, fulfill deadlines, and reflect on personal learning.

5 Develop Research Skills

Investigate texts within their contexts and build an understanding of literary theories.

Teaching Approaches



Inquiry-Based



Conceptually Focused



Contextualised



Collaborative



Differentiated



Informed By Assessment

By integrating these approaches to learning and teaching, the course aims to create a comprehensive learning environment that fosters critical thinking, collaboration, and effective communication, ensuring students are well-prepared for the demands of the IB assessments.

Assessment Breakdown

1

External Assessment (80%)

Paper 1: Guided Textual Analysis (35 marks)

- Guided reflection on non-literary passages

Paper 2: Comparative Essay (25 marks)

- Comparative analysis based on two literary works

HL essay (20 marks)

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Internal Assessment (20%)

Individual Oral (20 marks)

- Presentation supported by extracts from both a literary work and a non-literary work (15 minutes total)
- Examination of a global issue presented through content and form

Learning Platform for Past Papers

To further support our students, we offer access to a specialized learning platform utilized by international schools. This platform allows students to:



Practice Past Papers

Drill past papers and practice exam-style questions, ensuring they are well-prepared for assessments.



Instant Feedback

Receive instant feedback on their performance and areas for improvement.



Access Resources

Access a wide bank of resources, including study guides and exam tips tailored for IB English Language and Literature.



Interactive Quizzes

Engage in interactive quizzes to reinforce learning and assess your understanding.