

English A: Language and Literature (SL/HL) 11 (2016-2017)

Time: 7 x 35 minutes per week

Course Description:

The English A Language and Literature course aims to develop in students the ability to understand and analyze how texts, both literary (such as drama, fiction, non-fiction, and poetry) and non-literary (such as speeches, articles, text messages, tweets, captions, comic books, song lyrics, advertisements, Web sites, blogs, billboards, television programs, films, news broadcasts, newspapers and magazines) work to communicate to audiences. A key aim of the course is to encourage students to question the meaning generated by language and texts because these are rarely straightforward and unambiguous. A wider aim is the development of "critical literacy" in students: an understanding of the ways in which formal elements are used to create meaning in a text is combined with an exploration of how that meaning is affected by culturally-defined reading practices and habits and by the circumstances of production and audience reception. The curriculum includes four parts: "Language in cultural context," "Language and mass communication," "Literature—a critical study" and "Literature—texts and contexts." Students at standard level (SL) and higher level (HL) both learn the same analytical skills, but HL students will apply them to a greater number of texts in a greater variety of assessments and are expected to do so with greater analytical sophistication and fluency.

Resources:

Philpot, Brad. *English Language and Literature for the IB*. Cambridge.
Collection of poems composed by Wilfred Owen.
Friel, Brian. *Translations*. London: Faber & Faber.
Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. (HL only)
Plus a wide range of additional resources/texts to encourage exposure to various genres.

Main Topics Covered:

Semester 1

- Language in Cultural Context
- Language and Mass Communication
- Creative responses: Written Tasks
- Further Oral Activities
- Textual analysis

Semester 2

- Critical study of Literature
- Critical study of Wilfred Owen's poems
- Critical study of *Translations*
- Individual Oral Commentary

Assessment

Internal Assessment for Reports	Weighting
Quarter 1 – CA1 only Quarter 2 (end of semester 1) – CA1+ CA2 + SA1 Quarter 2 – CA3 only Quarter 4 (end of semester 2) – CA3+ CA4 + SA2 • End of Semester Examinations (SA1 Or SA2) • Continual Assessment (CA1 + CA2 Or CA3 + CA4) including: - Oral assessments - Written assessments	70 20 + 10
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