

Language A: Literature

Literature is concerned with our conception, interpretation and experience of the world, and we study novels, plays, poems and non-fiction to explore how they can represent the complex pursuits, anxieties, joys and fears to which human beings are exposed in their daily lives.

Writing is one of the more enduring fields of human creativity, and this course encourages students to engage in independent, original, critical and clear thinking. It also promotes respect for the imagination and a critical approach to the understanding and interpretation of literary works.

Texts

The texts and authors that are studied must cover a range of genres, periods, countries and continents and have a fair gender split. The new syllabus requires that the chosen texts must be worked into three 'Areas of Exploration': Readers, Writers and Texts, Time and Space and Intertextuality. The new syllabus also requires texts to link to seven concepts, 'Fields of Enquiry'. An engaging curriculum has been designed to encompass all of these areas to ensure that students experience a broad, challenging and exciting study of literature.

Syllabus outline

	<i>Component</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
<i>External assessment</i>	<p>Paper 1 Guided literary analysis Write an analysis of one text at SL; 2 texts at HL.</p> <p>Paper 2 Comparative essay (SL & HL – 30 marks) Respond to one question, based on two of the works studied.</p> <p>Higher Level Essay (HL only – 20 marks) 1200-1500 words Coursework, based on one literary work.</p>	<p>35%</p> <p>SL: 1 hour 15 minutes HL: 2 hours 15 mins</p> <p>SL: 35% HL: 25%</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>HL : 20%</p>
<i>Internal assessment</i>	<p>Individual oral Individual Oral A fifteen-minute oral response, based on two extracts from works already studied (one of</p>	<p>SL: 30% HL: 20%</p> <p>15 minutes</p>

	which is translated) to the prompt: “Examine the ways in which the global issue of your choice is presented through the content and form of two of the works that you have studied.”	
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The Learner Portfolio This is an individual collection of student work compiled during the course, and is a mandatory and central element of Language A: Literature. Although it is not assessed, it is a basis for assessment, a collection of evidence of the student’s work, and a space to explore and reflect on the studied texts and the student’s responses to them.