

Language and Literature English Course Description

MYP 4 and MYP5 School year 2025/2026

The IB MYP Language and Literature course plays a crucial role in the MYP , as they help students understand and engage with the world around them; it develops critical thinking, communication, and analytical skills through the exploration of various texts and contexts.

Course Structure and Objectives

The course emphasizes the importance of language as a tool for communication and understanding. The curriculum focuses on six key skill areas: listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and presenting, developed through an inquiry-based learning approach, encouraging students to investigate, reflect, and take action in their learning.

It aims to:

Foster Critical Thinking: Students analyze and interpret a wide range of literary and non-literary texts, enhancing their ability to form opinions and make informed decisions.

Promote Intercultural Understanding: By exploring texts from diverse cultures and contexts, students develop empathy and a deeper understanding of global issues.

Encourage Creative Expression: The course allows students to express themselves creatively through various writing styles and multimedia projects.

Objectives for Language and Literature

- a) **Analysing** (being able to deconstruct a text, literary or non-literary, in order to identify their essential elements and their meaning,
- b) **Organizing** (being able to understand and organize ideas and opinions using a range of appropriate conventions for different forms and purposes of communication.
- c) **Producing text** (being able to develop the ability to make choices aimed at producing texts that affect both the creator and the audience. (audience imperatives).
- d) **Using language** (being able to use accurate and varied language that is appropriate to the context and intention)

Key Concepts

The MYP emphasizes key concepts that guide students' inquiry into language and literature. These concepts include:

Communication: Understanding how language conveys meaning and connects people.

Connections: Exploring relationships between texts, creators, and audiences across cultures and time.

Creativity: Encouraging innovative thinking and problem-solving through language.

Perspective: Encouraging diverse opinions and points of view in approaching the same situations, texts, ideas etc.

Assessment

It is based on specific criteria that evaluate students' understanding and skills. Each criterion has eight achievement levels, ranging from limited to excellent performance. Teachers use these criteria to provide feedback and guide students in their learning.

Students are assessed continually (formative assessment) - oral and written work alike - through various written assignments such as commentaries on a piece of written/ visual text, creative pieces of writing such as short stories, poems, ads, visual pieces such as commercials or film strips, different types of essays, tests, quizzes, homework assignments, etc. They are assessed individually, as a member of a group working as a team, in pair work or class discussion. Also personal engagement throughout the school year will be taken into consideration and time management.

The assessment criteria and assessment tasks are presented at the beginning of a task/project. Depending on the nature of a task specific assessment criteria and rubrics will be provided -either orally or in a written form.

At the end of each unit there is a summative assessment task either written, oral or visual. There could be more than one summative task within a unit. At the end of the school year the levels of achievement for each of the assessment criteria will be decided on by the so called best fit approach / best teacher judgement.

Determining grades using a proportion of scores for classwork, homework and tests ; determining grades by averaging summative performance scores over the year and using single pieces of work to determine final grades are inappropriate grading practises and are counter to MYP assessment principle.

The levels of achievement at the end of the school year are converted into the final grade. The conversion table is prescribed by the IB O and cannot be changed or adapted.

IB assessment criteria for Language and Literature

Criterion A: Analysing (Max.8 points)

- Students analyse content, context, language, structure, technique, and style of texts.
- They assess the effects of creators' choices on the audience.
- Justification of opinions requires examples, explanations, and terminology.
- Evaluation of similarities and differences across genres is expected.

Criterion B: Organizing (Max.8 points)

- Students employ organizational structures that align with context and intention.
- Opinions and ideas should be organized coherently and logically.
- Use of referencing and formatting tools is necessary for appropriate presentation style.

Criterion C: Producing Text (Max.8 points)

- Texts should reflect personal engagement, insight, imagination, and critical reflection.
- Stylistic choices must demonstrate awareness of audience impact.
- Relevant details and examples should be selected to develop ideas.

Criterion D: Using Language (Max.8 points)

- Appropriate and varied vocabulary, sentence structures, and forms of expression are essential.
- Writing and speaking should maintain a suitable register and style.
- Correct grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling are required for effective communication.
- Non-verbal communication techniques should be used appropriately.

MANDATORY READING FOR LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN MYP4 AND 5 IN 2025/2026

MYP4

- The Catcher In the Rye by J. D. Salinger
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- A selection of short stories

MYP 5

- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
- A choice among the following: 1984 by George Orwell; V for Vendetta by Alan Moore, or A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess
- Othello, the Moor of Venice by William Shakespeare
- A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaleid Hosseini
- A selection of poetry