

# IB English Language and Literature



## Introduction:

We study the English A Language and Literature course. This involves, at HL, the study of six set texts (four at SL) by authors from all over the world, looking at them in detail in terms of themes, characters and issues. We explore each text in terms of how it fits into a world view and we read newspaper articles, short stories and blogs to make links with global issues such as identity, politics, gender, the environment and art. Lessons involve discussions about the set text and how it relates to our lives. You will use your own experiences and opinions to make judgements about the texts and contribute fully to discussions which can often become lively.

We will also ask you to research issues, themes and ideas and present your thoughts to the class so that you become teachers too. Learning to present confidently and clearly is a vital life skill – and you will become good at this.

You will need to be prepared to complete a lot of independent study, so you have to be interested in the subject if this is going to work for you.

## Course structure:

### Y12:

- Textual Analysis
- How to IB
- Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
- Fairy Tales by Charles Perrault
- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Assessment: Individual Oral
- The Fat Black Woman's Poems by Grace Nichols

### Y13:

- Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
- Higher Level Essay (HL)

## Entry requirements:

To be admitted onto this course you will need to meet the following requirements:

- Grade 6 or above in **both** GCSE English Language and English Literature

## Careers:

Employers are looking for articulate communicators with a global perspective and sharp analytical skills. Some possible career pathways include:

- Journalist: broadcast, print or web
- Teacher
- Lawyer
- Marketing
- SEO
- Advertising
- Public relations
- Academic
- Author
- Publishing
- Social Work
- Civil Service
- Government

## Assessment:

### Internal assessment (40%):

- Individual Oral: a 'spoken' essay on two of your texts linked to a global issue (20%)
- Higher Level Essay: an exploration of an aspect of a text you have studied (20%)

### External assessment (60%):

- Paper 1: Textual Analysis (35%)
- Paper 2: Comparative Essay on two of the literary works you have studied (25%)