



Read in order to live.

Gustave Flaubert, Letter, June 1857

The Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) English A: Literature Syllabus is a Literature based course studied in the first language of the student. Students in the ACS (Independent) IBDP study this course, to fulfil the IB Diploma requirement for a Group 1 subject. Students selected for the Humanities Scholarship Programme must study this subject at Higher Level.

Course Content

In the Language A: Literature course, students will learn about the various manifestations of literature as a powerful mode of writing across cultures and throughout history. They will explore and develop an understanding of factors that contribute to the production and reception of literature, such as:

- the creativity of writers and readers
- the nature of the interaction with the writers' and readers' respective contexts and with literary tradition
- the ways in which language can give rise to meaning and/or effect
- the performative and transformative potential of literary creation and response.

Through close analysis of literary texts in a number of forms and from different times and places, students will consider their own interpretations, as well as the critical perspectives of others. In turn, this will encourage the exploration of how viewpoints are shaped by cultural belief systems and how meanings are negotiated within them. Students will be involved in processes of critical response and creative production, which will help shape their awareness of how texts work to influence the reader and how readers open up the possibilities of texts. With its focus on literature, this course is particularly concerned with developing sensitivity to aesthetic uses of language and empowering students to consider the ways in which literature represents and constructs the world and social and cultural identities.

HSP Literature Text List

- William Shakespeare: *Hamlet*
- Bernhard Schlink: *The Reader*
- Bao Ninh: *The Sorrow of War: A Novel of North Vietnam*

- Mo Yan: *Red Sorghum: A Novel of China*
- Yukio Mishima: *The Sound of Waves*
- Carol Ann Duffy: *New Selected Poems*
- Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*
- Joy Harjo: *Crazy Brave: A Memoir*
- Sylvia Plath: *The Bell Jar*
- Chinua Achebe: *Things Fall Apart*
- Thornton Wilde: *Our Town: A Play in 3 Acts*
- Arthur Miller: *Death of a Salesman*
- Tennessee Williams: *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Assessment

1) External Assessment: 80%

a) Paper 1: Guided literary analysis (35%)

The paper consists of two literary passages, from two different literary forms, each accompanied by a question. Students write an analysis of each of the passages. (40 marks)

b) Paper 2 Comparative Essay (25%)

The paper consists of four general questions. In response to one question, students write a comparative essay based on two works studied in the course. (30 marks)

c) Higher Level Essay (20%)

Students submit a 1500-word essay on one literary text or work studied during the course. (20 marks)

2) Internal Assessment (Individual Oral): 20%

Supported by an extract from one work written originally in the language studied and one from a work studied in translation, students will offer a prepared response of 10 minutes, followed by 5 minutes of questions by the teacher, to the following 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. (40 marks)

University Courses and Careers

Studying Literature will open the door to a wide range of university studies that could lead to a diversity of careers in education, law, public administration, journalism, publishing, human resource, international and public relations, media communications, psychology and social work. In addition, it also provides the necessary analytical skills in areas such as business and marketing.