

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Exam Board: Edexcel IGCSE (4EA1)

Assessment method

- 60% Examination: Paper 1- Non-Fiction Texts and Transactional Writing
- 40% Coursework: Imaginative writing (20%); Response to poetry/prose from Section 2 of the Edexcel IGCSE Anthology (20%):

Length of examination

- Paper 1: 2 hours 15 minutes

Breakdown of units

Paper 1 Examination

The Paper 1 English Language examination (60%) features analysis of a text from Section 1 of the anthology, unprepared non-fiction comprehension including a range of questions based on an unseen text and a transactional writing task.

The other examination paper for this syllabus (i.e. Paper 2) is not relevant to our cohort as we pursue all coursework routes instead.

Paper 3 Coursework

The Edexcel IGCSE syllabus for English Language requires a piece of imaginative writing coursework, plus an analytical essay about poetry and/or prose from section 2 of the anthology assessing reading. Each task is around 650-800 words and worth 20%.

Optional Spoken Language Endorsement

The optional Spoken Language Endorsement requires a formal presentation, listening to and responding to questions and feedback.

Overlap with other subjects

Essay writing is an integral part of the subject, thus consolidating skills necessary in other disciplines such as History, Film Studies and Drama. Section 1 includes a diverse range of non-fiction texts encompassing topics that are geographical (such as exploration) and those that explore the practices and circumstances of cultures across the world, including Pakistani, Bhutanese, Somali, Inughuit and Chinese societies. Section 2 expands this to include topics about Indian and French society and addresses social, ethical and philosophical concerns such as war, class, gender and death. Thus, texts enrich students' moral and spiritual awareness, whilst also extending their knowledge of different social and historical contexts. Both the creative writing and spoken language assignments can be flexible in focus therefore can be tailored to suit students' personal interests or academic pursuits in other subjects, for example, a creative response to a music video, discussion of sporting interests or description of key historical figures.

Homework is an essential part of the course and should be regarded as such. It will be set via Google Classrooms and will be assessed throughout the duration of the course. Homework will enable students to consolidate work done in class, including Coursework, but will also provide effective preparation for forthcoming topics.

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