

IB MYP LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE YEAR 4 / English 9

TEACHER: Kerri van Doorninck

Email: kvandoorninck@wvschools.ca



DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The aim of English Language Arts, as defined in the BC curriculum, is to provide students with opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society.

Through their participation in English, students are encouraged to:

- comprehend and respond to oral and written language critically, creatively, and articulately
- communicate ideas, information, and feelings critically, creatively, and articulately, using various media
- think critically and creatively, and reflect on and articulate their thinking and learning
- develop a continuously increasing understanding of self and others

The aims of the teaching and learning of MYP language and literature are to encourage and enable the student to:

- use language as a vehicle for thought, creativity, reflection, learning, self-expression, analysis and social interaction
- develop the skills involved in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and presenting in a variety of contexts
- develop critical, creative and personal approaches to studying and analysing literary and non-literary texts
- engage with text from different historical periods and a variety of cultures
- explore and analyse aspects of personal, host and other cultures through literary and non-literary texts
- explore language through a variety of media and modes
- develop a lifelong interest in reading
- apply linguistic and literary concepts and skills in a variety of authentic contexts.

FUNDAMENTAL IB CONCEPTS

This course addresses the fundamental IB concepts in the following ways:

Analysing: We will deconstruct texts in order to identify their essential elements and their meaning.

Organizing: We work to understand and be able to organize our ideas and opinions using a range of appropriate conventions for different forms and purposes of communication.

Producing Text: We will produce written and spoken text, focusing on the creative process itself and on the understanding of the connection between the creator and his or her audience.

Using Language: In all lessons, we will have opportunities to develop, organize and express ourselves and communicate thoughts, ideas and information.

METHODOLOGY and ASSESSMENT

This course will incorporate multiple ways of learning including discussion, lecture, project-based work, cooperative learning, reflection, group inquiry and individual inquiry. Throughout the year, students will complete a variety of assessments, including *at least* one piece of extended writing (essay), a test, and another assignment such as a webpage, annotated bibliography, a case study, a presentation, etc. Please go to the school website to view the criteria which will be used to assess students' achievement in this course.

The assessment process reveals what a student understands, knows and can do. The evaluation process indicates the quality of performance based on learner outcomes (curriculum). Assessment and evaluation provide ongoing feedback to teachers, students and parents in order to enhance student learning. Assessment and evaluation are employed when teachers gather information (*diagnostic*), monitor student progress (*formative*), and evaluate achievement of learning outcomes for the purpose of report card marks (*summative*).

Assessment in the MYP aims to:

- support and encourage student learning by providing feedback on the learning process
- promote positive student attitudes towards learning
- promote a deep understanding of subject content by supporting students in their inquiries set in real world contexts using the areas of interaction
- promote the development of higher-order cognitive skills by providing rigorous final objectives valuing these skills
- reflect the international-mindedness of the programme by allowing for assessments to be set in a variety of cultural and linguistic contexts
- support the holistic nature of the programme by including in its model principles that take account of the development of the whole student

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS / RESOURCES

- Students will not need a textbook for this course, though we will keep a set in the class as a secondary resource
- Throughout the year, films and documentaries will be used to compliment regular instruction and learning
- Online resources will be used for several assignments and lessons

INCOMPLETE OR LATE SUBMISSIONS

Incomplete or late submissions of assignments or projects is not acceptable. If the student is absent they must have an excused absence substantiated by either myself or the office. All assignments will then be handed in on the first class back, unless an agreement has been made between myself and the student due to unforeseen circumstances. Assignments not handed in will receive a NHI (0) until they are submitted.

For major assignments such as essays and projects students will be given a penalty of 5% a calendar day for late assignments. Students are reminded that assignments, projects and essays are their responsibility.

ABSENCES AND LATES

Unexcused absences are not acceptable and any information missed must be made up on the student's time. If there is an unexcused absence on the day of a test or quiz, the absence will be seen as skipping, and the student will receive a mark of 0. In case of illness or unforeseen excused absence(s) students are expected to notify the office and myself as soon as possible via email or voicemail. Students are also expected to make up any work they have missed.

Two lates per term are given to students, as mistakes and unforeseen circumstances do occur. However frequent lates will affect a student's work habits and may result in further action being taken depending on the frequency.

FOOD, DRINKS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please note that food and drinks (other than water) are not allowed in classrooms at Rockridge Secondary. All cell phones should be turned off during class time. I-PODs and other MP3 devices should not be used during class time, unless specifically allowed by myself during personal work. Laptops are allowed for class use, however improper use of laptops during class time will result the removal of laptop privileges.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR

Students are always expected to act in a courteous and respectful manner to other students and myself. This means that no one should be interrupted or insulted in any manner. Students should refrain from speaking while others are speaking and should raise their hand to participate. **Participation is encouraged at all times and is essential for success.**