Nature of the subject – Language A1

The language A1 programme is primarily a pre-university course in literature. It is aimed at students who intend to pursue literature, or related studies, at university, as well as at students whose formal study of literature will not continue beyond this level. The former would normally follow the Higher Level (HL) programme (5 lessons per weak, 15 titles in a two-year course) and the latter the Standard Level (SL) programme (3 lessons per weak, 11 titles in a two-year course).

Both levels are divided into four compulsory parts

Higher Level

World Literature

- 3 World Literature works studied as a group.
- Each work chosen from the IB Prescribed World Literature List.
- All works linked by one or more aspects.
- Each work originally written in a language different from the Language A1 studied.
- Each work written by a different author.

Detailed Study

- 4 Language A1 works studied in detail.
- Each work chosen from a different genre category.
- Each work written by a different author.

Groups of Works

- 3 Language A1 works and 1 World Literature (WL) work studied as a group.
- All works chosen from the same genre category.
- All 3 works chosen from the Prescribed Book List for the Language A1 studied.
- WL work chosen freely.
- Each work written by a different author.

School's Free Choice

- 3 Language A1 works and 1 WL work studied as a group.
- All 4 works chosen freely.
- WL work linked to Language A1 works by one or more aspects.
- Each work written by a different author.

Standard Level

World Literature

- 3 World Literature works studied as a group.
- Each work chosen from the IB Prescribed World Literature List.
- All works linked by one or more aspects.
- Each work originally written in a language different from the Language A1 studied.
- Each work written by a different author.

Detailed Study

- 2 Language A1 works studied in detail.
- Each work chosen from a different genre category.
- Each work written by a different author.

Groups of Works

- 2 Language A1 works and 1 World Literature (WL) work studied as a group.
- All works chosen from the same genre category.
- Both Language A1 works chosen from the List for the Language A1 studied.
- WL work chosen freely.
- Each work written by a different author.

School's Free Choice

- 2 Language A1 works and 1 WL work studied as a group.
- All 3 works chosen freely.
- WL work linked to Language A1 works by one or more aspects.
- Each work written by a different author.