Nanjing International School (NIS)

Self Taught Language A Guide

Academic Year 2015/2016
Welcome parents and students:

NIS is pleased to offer the following “Guide to Self Study” as a component to the IB Diploma for those students who elect to study a Group 1 Language as self taught. “The IB has a policy of mother-tongue entitlement which promotes respect for the literary heritage of the student’s home language and provides an opportunity for students to continue to develop oral and writing skills in their mother tongue while studying a different language of instruction.” (IBO Guidance for the support of mother tongue in the Diploma Programme, October 2009, p. 2)

Please note: The Self-Taught Language A course is recognised as a Standard Level course (SL) by the IB.

In support of this, the Language A Department and the Diploma Coordinator have developed this guide to assist students who elect to study their home language as Self-taught Standard Level Course. Students successful at Self-taught language are eligible for the Bilingual Diploma.

Please keep this booklet to monitor progress over the course of the two years of the Programme. Feel free to contact Ms. Ham or Dr. Saavedra at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms Katie Ham
SAC Language A
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Dr. Juan Saavedra
IB Diploma Coordinator
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Studying Language A self-taught at NIS

Self-taught Language A is a demanding literature course comparable to Language A literature SL (please see “Summary of Units of Study” in this guide). Students will read 10 works selected from two available lists. Students taking the Self-taught Language A need to express their interest in the course at registration (if joining the school in G11) and during the course choices forum in the second semester of G10. The Diploma coordinator and the SAC for Language A will meet with the student and parents to discuss the practicalities of the course. Please be aware the Extended Essay cannot be written in the language chosen by the student as Self-taught.

Since the subject is designated as self-taught, NIS (and the IB) expectation is that the student is competent to study independently. This includes reading the required texts, research, note taking and writing practice papers. It is not a supported class, where regular teacher directed lessons happen on a weekly basis. The ideal candidate for Self-taught will have self-discipline, good time management skills and will be able to work independently.

Responsibilities of the school

• Check availability of the course (not all languages are available for self-taught)

• Registration with the IB (in October of G12)

• Provide time within the student’s timetable for Language A Self-taught

• Provide a physical space (classroom or adequate space) for regular meetings with the tutor (if the tutor is in Nanjing)

• Through the library provide the books required for the course (some parents prefer to buy the books themselves and keep them)

• Through the SAC for Language A, liaise with the tutor and check the course is properly constructed and delivered

• Through the SAC for Language A, supervise the student’s progress

• Through the SAC for Language A, keep a record of the ‘on campus’ meetings of the tutor and student

• Deliver the Part 2 and 4 orals according to IB instructions and following IB regulations

• Submission of Internal Assessment paper work and forms to the designated examiner

• Enter predicted grade on IBIS

• Deliver the final exams in the May session
• The school will also assist by paying the designated tutor RMB 200 per lesson once a week if the lesson is delivered in school (this includes meeting time during weekends or after school). The amount of time needed with the tutor varies between students. In many cases more than one meeting a week is required; if this is the case the parents must pay for any extra lessons.

Responsibilities of the parents

• Find and hire a suitable tutor (NIS may be able to assist with this). This includes transportation arrangements if necessary

• Arrange regular meetings with the tutor either following the student’s timetable during normal lesson time, after school, or during the weekends

• Inform the school about the tutor preferably before the start of the academic year, including dates and times that they will request a space at NIS for the lesson.

• Supervise the student’s progress.

• Keep a record of the meetings with the supervisor.

Responsibilities of the student

• Follow the advice/instructions given by the designated tutor.

• Follow the advice/instructions given by the SAC for Language A. This will include attending some classes with other self-taught students.

• Be familiar with the course requirements

• Follow the suggested timeline for all work and readings
Language A Literature Self-taught Overview

Timeline for Self-Taught Candidates

March 2015  Grade 10 course selection

May 2015  Student and parent meet with Language A-SAC or IBO Coordinator
           PLT (IBO Prescribed Literature in Translation)
           PLA (Prescribed List of Authors)
           Student Language Record is completed
           Information on tutors

June 2015  Student submit: Tutor name, email and telephone number
           Language A-SAC will review and approve booklist.
           Student obtains all of the required texts

August 2015  Student reads one of the Part 4 texts

August 2015  Grade 11 Students who do not have a tutor or are not enrolled in either the DP course, Literature or Language and Literature have the option of meeting with the English Language A class as needed to discuss programme requirements and approaches to tasks.

           Student will meet with Language A-SAC monthly for an update on progress. Concerns will be communicated to the IB coordinator and parents via email.
Self-taught Candidate Important Dates

**December 2015 G11:** Complete Part 4 and submit at least two orals via Garage Band, one copy to Language ASAC and the tutor.

**May 2016 G11:** Complete Part 1 Works in Translation, keep a journal and write a 300-400 word reflective essay with the Language A-SAC or tutor who will maintain and attach the Works in Translation Essay.

The student will prepare first draft of the Works in Translation Essay and submit it to the Language A Subject Area Coordinator (SAC) and the appropriate tutor. The tutor will then submit comments to the student prior to the end of term. The student will finalize the essay over the summer and submit the final copy to the Language A-SAC in August of Grade 12. The final copy will be submitted to www.turnitin.com.

**Grade 12 Students:**

**Summer:** Student will read one of the Part 2 (Detailed Study) works.

**First semester G12:** Student will read the other work for Part 2 and begin working on the oral.

**Second Semester of G12:** Complete Part 3 (Genre Study) and work on Paper 2 which will be submitted to the tutor for grading and discussion.

Student will take a mock exam at the designated time at NIS.

Student will meet with the Language A-SAC in March for Oral Recording of Part 2 and 4 works.

**May Final Examination**

Throughout the two years the student should be keeping up with their reading, making notes, using GarageBand for oral practice as well as writing practice Paper 1 and Paper 2 (copies can be obtained from Language A-SAC)
## Suggested Time Table for Self-taught Candidates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Course Selection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Student and parent meet with SAC, completes the Student Language Record</td>
<td>Packet with PBL, PLA, PLT Self Taught Materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Tutor name, email, phone # Student purchase all texts</td>
<td>Finalize Book list approved by SAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td>Student reads one of Part 4 texts</td>
<td>Written response to text</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Student attends 1 Literature Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Student reads 2nd of Part 4 texts</td>
<td>Written response to text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Student reads 3rd of Part 4 texts</td>
<td>Written response to text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Student attends 1 Literature Class</td>
<td>Student reads one of the World Literature texts</td>
<td>300/400 written response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Student attends 1 Literature Class</td>
<td>Student reads 2nd of the World Literature texts</td>
<td>300/400 written response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Student reads 3rd of the World Literature texts</td>
<td>300/400 written response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Practice Paper 1 and 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Student writes 1st draft of WL Essay, copy to SAC and tutor who gives feedback</td>
<td>Tutor returns WL before June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Student reads 1 Part 2 work</td>
<td>Completes WL paper turns in to SAC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Student attends Literature Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Practice Garage Band on Part 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Read 2nd Part 2 work</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Practice orals on Garage Band and n</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Paper 2 practice/copies to tutor and NIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Student attends 1 Literature Class</td>
<td>Part 4 and 2 orals taped Begins Part 3 text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Mock Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Student attends Literature Classes</td>
<td>Read 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Part 3 text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Student attends 2 Literature Classes</td>
<td>Read 3rd Part 3 text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>DP Exam</td>
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Summary of Units of Study

The Self-taught Language A follows the Diploma Standard Level Literature Syllabus with the following exceptions:

Part 1  Self Taught procedures for the Works in Translation Essay are reproduced from the Literature Guide, p. 32, copy attached as Appendix A or in the Edublog  (http://share.nanjing-school.com/languageaself-taught)

Part 4  Book choices MUST come from the Non Fiction section of the appropriate language PLA (Prescribed List of Authors which can be located on the EduBlog or following this link: http://share.nanjing-school.com/languageaself-taught

Part 2/4  The Oral Examination is conducted with the Subject Area Coordinator according to the Self Taught Oral Procedure Guide in February of Grade 12. The oral procedure is also found on the EduBlog site: http://share.nanjing-school.com/languageaself-taught

Description of the Units of Study

Part 1  Works in Translation
Two works from PLT

Assessment  25% 1200/1500 word essay on 1 work

Part 2  Detailed Study
Two works, each a different genre, from language specific PLA

Assessment  15% oral recording February Grade 12

Part 4  Non Fiction Study
Three works chosen from language specific PLA, non fiction section

Assessment  15% oral February Grade 12

Part 3  Genre Study
Three works, same genre, from language specific PLA

May Exam Session (Grade 12)

Assessment  25% Paper 2 Comparative Essay
Assessment  20% Paper 1 Unseen Commentary
* Works contained on the Works Studied List must represent at least three literary periods AND three genres. (DP Literature Guide, p. 17)

* NIS will provide examples of past Paper 1 and Paper 2 for student practice
Appendix A extracted from the DP Literature Guide p.32 Written assignment (Work in Translation Essay)

External assessment details: School-supported self-taught students—SL

The assessment criteria and the marks awarded are the same as for taught students (see “External assessment criteria—SL”.

Note: The assignment must be the independent work of the student. Statements on the coversheet declaring that the assignment is the independent work of the student must be signed by the student and by the supervising teacher.

Stage 1: Journal writing

In place of the interactive oral undertaken by taught students, school-supported self-taught students are required to keep a literary journal in which, for both the works in translation studied in part 1 of the course, they write their personal response to the following questions.

• In what ways do time and place matter to this work?
• What was easy to understand and what was difficult in relation to social and cultural context and issues?
• What connections did you find between issues in the work and your own culture(s) and experience?
• What aspects of technique are interesting in the work?

Stage 2: The reflective statement

Having decided on which work their assignment will be based, self-taught students are required to write a reflective statement of 300–400 words in length, based on their journal writing for that work. The reflective statement must be in response to the following question.

• How was your understanding of cultural and contextual considerations of the work developed through your journal writing?

The reflective statement is awarded a mark out of 3 using criterion A of the assessment criteria for the written assignment. The reflective statement that is sent with the assignment must be on the work used but does not have to be explicitly connected to the topic.
Stage 3: Developing the topic

Self-taught students must choose one of the prompts listed below and apply it to one of the two works studied. Using the prompt as a starting point they should develop an essay title suited to the particular work chosen. Examples of how a prompt can lead to a title are given in the “Written assignment” section of “External assessment details—SL”, and further examples can be found in the teacher support material.

- What is the impact on the work of a major choice and/or decision made by characters?
- In what ways are the voices of history and tradition present in the work?
- Which minor character plays the most significant role?
- To what extent is the natural landscape important to the impact of this work?
- Do you think there are some characters in the work whose chief role is to convey cultural values?
- How does the author convey the sense of time passing in the work?
- In what ways is the work interested in being realistic?
- Identify one or more symbol, motif or strand of imagery. What role do they play in the work?

Stage 4: Production of the essay

Each student must produce an essay of 1,200–1,500 words in length on a literary aspect of one work, developed from one of the prompts listed above.

The student must complete the essay on his or her own and submit it for external assessment. When submitted, it must be accompanied by the appropriate **reflective statement** and the **journal writing** on both works studied.

The final essay is awarded a mark out of 22 using criteria B, C, D and E of the assessment criteria for the written assignment.