

Nanjing International School (NIS)

Self Taught Language A Guide

Academic Year 2017/2018

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,

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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 up to RMB 200 per lesson, once per week, **if the lesson is delivered at school, on school premises**. This includes meeting time during weekends, or after school. Please note that should a tutor no longer be able to provide services on NIS campus, **the tutor will no longer be eligible to receive the RMB 200/lesson from the school**.

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 Self-Taught Supervisor. This may include attending some classes with other self-taught students, as applicable;
- 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 2017** Grade 10 course selection
- May 2017** 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 2017** Student submit: Tutor name, email and telephone number
Language A-SAC will review and approve booklist.
Student obtains all of the required texts
- August 2017** Student reads one of the Part 4 texts
For new students arriving at NIS, all aspects from March - June 2016 are completed during this month.
- August 2017** Once in each eight-day cycle, student will meet with the Self-Taught Supervisor for an update on progress. Concerns will be communicated to the IB coordinator, tutor and parents via email.

Self -taught Candidate Important Dates

December 2017 G11: Complete Part 4 and submit at least two orals via Garage Band, one copy to Self-Taught Supervisor and the tutor.

May 2017 G11: Complete Part 1 Works in Translation, keep a journal and write a 300-400 word reflective essay with the Self-Taught Supervisor 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 Self-Taught Supervisor 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 Self-Taught Supervisor 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.

Semester One G12: Student will read the other work for Part 2 and begin working on the oral.

Semester Two 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 Self-Taught Supervisor 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 Self-Taught Supervisor)

Suggested Time Table for Self-taught Candidates

Grade	Date	Task	Task
10	Mar		
10	May	Packet with PBL, PLA, PLT Self Taught Materials	
10	June	Finalize Book list approved by SAC	
10	July	Student reads one of Part 4 texts	Written response to text
11	Aug		
11	Sept	Student reads 2nd of Part 4 texts	Written response to text
11	Oct	Student reads 3rd of Part 4 texts	Written response to text
11	Nov		
11	Dec	Student reads one of the World Literature texts	300/400 written response
11	Jan	Student reads 2nd of the World Literature texts	300/400 written response
11	Feb	Student reads 3rd of the World Literature texts	300/400 written response
11	Mar	Practice Paper 1 and 2	
11	Apr	Student writes 1st draft of WL Essay, copy to SAC and tutor who gives feed back	Tutor returns WL before June
11	May		

Grade	Date	Task	Task	Task
11	Aug	Student reads 1 Part 2 work	Completes WL paper turns in to SAC	
12	Aug	Student attends Literature Class		
12	Sept	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Practice Garage Band on Part 2	
12	Oct	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Read 2nd Part 2 work	
12	Nov	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Practice orals on Garage Band and n	
12	Dec	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Paper 2 practice/copies to tutor and NIS	
12	Jan	Student attends 1 Literature Class	Part 4 and 2 orals taped Begins Part 3 texts	
12	Feb	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Mock Exam	
12	Mar	Student attends Literature Classes	Read 2 nd Part 3 text	
12	April	Student attends 2 Literature Classes	Read 3rd Part 3 text	
12	May	DP Exam		

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.