IGCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

Why is English Literature important?

- Language is often full of deeper meaning. Nuance and register can have dire consequences if not fully understood. When our boss says ‘Don’t be alarmed, I’m sure everything will work out’, what does he really mean? The Literature course helps students develop intrinsic perception of language.
- Appreciating beauty is vital. Knowing what makes a play, a poem or a novel magical is something we hope our students will develop. Without story where would mankind be?
- Gaining an understanding of the social, cultural and historical backgrounds to texts helps students step into the past and feel the pressures people faced. For example, students will learn about how events and emotions can be described in a variety of different poems, written in English by writers from all around the world, at different periods in history.

Course Content

Analysis and interpretation of the following texts:
- The Importance of Being Earnest – Oscar Wilde
- A selection of poetry in English across the years – Cambridge Songs of Ourselves
- Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard – Kiran Desai

How will I learn?

In lessons you will be encouraged to:
- Consider the reasons behind the language choices made by writers
- In groups act-out selected scenes from the Drama text
- Explore the structure and themes of texts
- Evaluate some of literature’s greatest characters
- Role-play relationships presented in the texts

How will I be assessed?

Coursework + Exam:
- Exam - Open Books (2 hours and 15 minutes) 75%
- Coursework - (2 different pieces of written work) 25%

Post IGCSE opportunities

- AS/A-Level English Literature
- Careers as writers and literary critics

Department Policy

Our goal is for as many students as possible to attain a grade C or above in First Language. We will have three groups. The coursework option allows for a slow and precise development of written language and literary skills. Our goal is for as many students as possible to attain a grade C or above in English Literature. We will have three groups. All groups will be studying First Language and Literature in Year 10. At the end of Year 10, the department will decide if the student should continue with the Literature course, or concentrate on the study of English Language; those who study English Language only in Year 11 will have more time to develop their basic English skills, in oral and written terms.

Contact for further information

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