Dominican International School





SUBJECT: English Language Arts

GRADE LEVEL: 9 SCHOOL YEAR: 2023-24

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an overview of the English language and literature. This course is focused on imparting to the students the skills needed to interact with works presented in class, initially by introducing to them the critical concept that literature is an art form. Throughout the course, students' understanding will be developed through exposure to as many aspects of the English language as possible. The foundational skills that students need to be a successful communicator are therefore the core of the course. Connections with other Grade 9 courses, particularly Asian Studies and Christian Living, will be made when possible. English 9 is ground for students to engage in comprehending and interpreting varying kinds of literature. Students expand their oral and written vocabulary while they develop their cognitive skills that aid in making connections to other subjects through language arts. The course in its content and process aims to create sensitivity to human needs and social problems as it continues to inculcate in students the joy of reading for pleasure outside the walls of classroom, and promotes creative self-expression.

Writing

Creative Writing is a Grade 9 class that focuses on developing the writing skills of the students toward the goal of a complete essay. Students will expand their writing skills in a variety of styles, including personal narratives, opinion essays, and descriptive pieces. The emphasis will be to develop their writing skills in a relaxed and supportive environment that will allow the students to evolve their own unique writing voices. Students will read and evaluate a variety of texts, which will also be models for their own writing, and to stimulate a creative response. Students will keep a writing journal regularly to improve writing fluency and confidence. The journal will be a place for students to respond to written texts, and to record observations, thoughts, feelings and opinions. This material will be used as the basis for longer, more formal and assessed work when appropriate. Students will also focus on grammar and sentence combining exercises, and record new vocabulary from reading texts, to develop their technical writing skills. We will also study sentence and paragraph structure, tone of voice and style. Students will be expected to work collaboratively during the preparation and review of written work, and the discussion of reading texts. During peer-review sessions, students should treat their partners with respect and make constructive criticisms

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

READING LITERATURE

Students will **analyze** texts to determine explicit meaning and to draw inferences from them, citing textual evidence to support this analysis.

Students will **describe** the theme or central idea of texts and **analyze** in detail its development over the course of the texts, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details

Students will summarize texts objectively.

Students will **analyze** and **explain** how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of texts, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Students will **infer** the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; **analyze** the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

Students will **analyze** and **explain** how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

Students will **analyze** and **discuss** particular points of view or cultural experiences reflected in works of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.

Students will **examine** and **discuss** the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each treatment (e.g., Auden's "Musée des Beaux Arts" and Breughel's Landscape with the Fall of Icarus).

Students will **examine** and **explain** how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from Ovid or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).

Students will read and **demonstrate** comprehension of literature, including stories, dramas, and poems proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Students will **discuss** topics, texts, and issues, collaboratively (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led), building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Students will **justify** remarks in discussions, referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

Students will work with peers to **plan** during group work, including setting rules for collegial discussions and decision-making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed.

Students will **discuss** material in class by posing and responding to questions that relate the current topic to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and **clarify**, **verify**, or challenge ideas and conclusions.

Students will respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, **summarize** points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or **justify** their own views and understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

Students will **use** digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) strategically in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Students will **use** speech in a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

LANGUAGE

Students will **demonstrate** command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Students will **use** parallel structure.

Students will **use** various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival, adverbial, participial, prepositional, absolute) and clauses (independent, dependent; noun, relative, adverbial) to convey specific meanings and add variety and interest to writing or presentations.

Students will **demonstrate** command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Students will **use** a semicolon (and perhaps a conjunctive adverb) to link two or more closely related independent clauses.

Students will **use** a colon to introduce a list or quotation.

Students will **use** correct spelling.

Students will **apply** knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

Students will **apply** the guidelines in a style manual (e.g., MLA Handbook, Turabian's Manual for Writers) to writing appropriate for the discipline and writing type.

Students will **identify** or **clarify** the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Students will **use** context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

Students will **identify** and correctly **use** patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).

Students will **use** general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.

Students will **verify** the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

Students will **demonstrate** understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

Students will **interpret** figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.

Students will acquire and **use** accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Students will **use** proper subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.

Students will **produce** complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.

Students will **use** punctuation for effect.

Students will **identify** and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.

Students will **identify** and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.

Students will **identify** and correct vague pronouns (i.e., ones with unclear or ambiguous antecedents).

Students will **identify** variations from standard English in their own and others' writing and speaking, and identify and **use** strategies to improve expression in conventional language.

Students will **use** varied sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.

Students will **use** phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.

Students will **use** language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.

Students will **identify** and correct inappropriate shifts in verb voice and mood.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCES:

- Textbook: Into Literature (Houghton/Mifflin/Harcourt)
- HMH Grammar Practice (Houghton/Mifflin/Harcourt)
- Dictionary/Thesaurus
- Novels for Extra Reading:

Q1: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Q2: The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

Q3: The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Q4: I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak

ASSESSMENT:

• Writing Rubrics

- Presentation/oral rubrics
- Quizzes and Quarter Tests/Exams
- Peer evaluation

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please see Google Classroom for more information. Class code:

HOMEWORK RULES

- All assignments must be turned in on the due date.
- Students who do not meet their homework deadlines with be placed in Project I.
- If a student has been absent when a homework assignment is set, it is his/her duty to find out what homework is due, and complete it by the required deadline.
- If a student is absent for a test, they will receive a **0** score, unless they have a **very good** reason for being absent.

CLASSROOM RULES

- Be on time and neatly dressed, in full school uniform.
- Speak in ENGLISH ONLY.
- Respect your teachers, fellow students and their property.
- Keep your seating space and classroom clean and neat.
- Only a water bottle is allowed during class; no eating or drinking of other liquids.
- Ask permission to leave the class.
- Neither cheating nor plagiarism in ANY form will be accepted. Anyone caught doing either during an assessment will be given a 0, and will NOT be given another chance.

All students are expected to follow the rules. Consequences will follow if rules are broken.

<u>Academic Dishonesty</u> means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and
- 1. Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- 2. Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.
- 3. Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment

<u>1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT</u>

(NB: Depe	nding on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 th to 11 th 2 Days of Class 10~ First Day / Orientation Day	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
	Mentor Text: "Unusual Normality" pp 112-119
	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2 Nouns, Compound Nouns, and Pronouns (pp 1-6)
	YSC: Initial YSC introduction to students – Introduce YSC theme to students Students discuss job description (at least writer and director)
	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
	Mentor Text: "Unusual Normality" pp 120-127
Week 2	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2
Aug 14 th to 18 th	 Adjectives, Pronouns used as Adjectives (pp 7-12)
15 Opening mass	• Adverbs (pp 19-22)
	Personal Narrative - Prewriting
	o Genre Introduction: Personal Narrative
	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
Week 3	Short Story: "Once Upon a Time" pp 128-134
Aug 21 st to 25 th 22~ Fire drill	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2
	 Verbs, Linking Verbs, and Verb Phrases (pp 13-17)
	Personal Narrative – Prewriting: Telling a story
	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
	Short Story: "Once Upon a Time" pp 135-141
Week 4	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2
Aug 28th to Sep 1st	 Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections (pp 23-27)
	Personal Narrative – Prewriting: Finding a voice
	YSC: Presentation of YSC theme, rules, and rubrics to all MS and HS classes - Language Teachers
	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
Week 5 Sep 4 th to 8 th 8~ Mass & Birthday Mother Mary& VIP Induction	Poem: "The Vietnam Wall" pp 150-157
	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2 The Sentence, Run-On Sentences, Subjects and Predicates (pp 29-34)
	Performance Assessment: Personal Narrative
	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers
Week 6 Sep 11 th to 15 th FYI ~ Pre-Exam Days 12-14	Visual Essay: "Views of the Wall" pp 158-161
	HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2

	Simple Subject/Predicate, Finding the Subject, Compound Subjects/Verbs (pp 35-40) YSC: Brainstorm, gather ideas and decide on student roles in class (esp. writers and song/lyrics writer possibly)
Week 7 Sep 18 th to 22 nd	INTO LITERATURE 2: Breaking Through Barriers Speech: "The Gettysburg Address" pp 164-174 HMH Grammar: Module 1 and 2 Complements, Objects, Classifying Sentence by Purpose (41-49) YSC: Writers should work on script
Week 8 Sep 25 th to 29 th No Classes 25-28 ~ Teacher's Conference 29~ Moon Festival	No classes scheduled
Week 9 Oct 2nd to 6 th 3 Days of Class 5-6~Q1 Exams	Exam Review Exams

$\underline{2^{nd}\ QUARTER-TENTATIVE\ COURSE\ CONTENT}$

(NB: Depe	ending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 1 (10) Oct 9 th to 13 th 3 Days of Class 9-10 ~ Double 10 Holiday	First Quarter Exam Review Introduction: Elements of Shakespearean Drama HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 • Prepositional, Adjective, and Adverb Phrases (pp 52-55) YSC: Job list/ Announce Program Design Competition (Submission ??)
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 2 (11) Oct 16 th to 20 th	Romeo and Juliet: Act 1 HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 • Verbals, Verb Phrases, Participial Phrases (pp 56-59) YSC: First draft due(??)
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 3 (12) Oct 23 rd to 27 th 27 – Book Fair 27- Masquerade Night	Romeo and Juliet: Act II HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 • Gerunds and Gerund Phrases (pp 60-63) YSC: Students edit first draft • Encourage and facilitate YSC activities during homeroom and after school till 4:30 PM— Homeroom Teachers • Create + Print YSC posters
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 4 (13) Oct 30 th to Nov 3 rd 1-All Saint's Day Mass	Romeo and Juliet: Act III HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 • Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases (pp 64-65) • Appositives and Appositive Phrases (pp 69-70) YSC: In-class activities
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 5 (14) Nov 6 th to 10 th	Romeo and Juliet: Act IV HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 • Kinds of Clauses (pp 73-75) • YSC: Final Draft/Rehearsal/Posters due Nov ??
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss
Week 6 (15) Nov 13 th to 17 th	Romeo and Juliet: Act V

	HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4	
	• The Adjective and Adverb Clause (pp 75-78)	
	 Argumentative - Prewriting Genre Introduction: Argumentative Evidence Chart: Who's to blame for the deaths of Romeo and Juliet? 	
	YSC: rehearsal	
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss	
Week 7 (16) Nov 20 th to 24 th 24 - YSC Contest	 HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4 The Noun Clause and Sentence Structure (pp 79-82) 	
24-Gr.12 Q2 Exam	TOOL O	
	YSC: Competition	
Week 8 (17) Nov 27 th to Dec 1 st FYI – Pre-Exam Days~28-30	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss Literary Analysis: "Romeo Is a Dirtbag" (pp 424-431) Compare Arguments	
27-Gr.12 Q2 Exam	Argumentative - PrewritingMaking a Claim	
	INTO LITERATURE 4: Love and Loss	
Week 9 (18) Dec 4th to 8th	Romeo and Juliet – review	
Half Day 8 - Foundation Day Celebrations	Performance Assessment: Argumentative Essay	
	HMH Grammar: Module 3 and 4	
	Module Review (pp 71 and 83)	
Week 10 (19) Dec 11 th to 15 th 3 Days of Class 14-15 ~Q2 Exams	Exam Prep Exams	
Dec 18th to Jan 1st	Christmas Break	

<u>3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT</u>

(NB: Depe	anding on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (20) Jan 2 nd to 5 th 3 Days of Class 2~Record Day 4~New Year Mass	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs Second Quarter Exam Review Short Story: "Harrison Bergeron" pp 450-455 HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7 • Subject-Verb Agreement (pp 86-87) • Intervening Phrases (pp 88-89)
Week 2 (21) Jan 8 th to 12 th	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs Short Story: "Harrison Bergeron" pp 456-463 HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7 • Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns (pp 90-91) • The Compound Subject (pp 92-93) Afghan Culture Blog: Introduction to <i>The Kite Runner</i> and Afghanistan
Week 3 (22) Jan 15 th to 19 th	 INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs Mentor Text: from <i>Hidden Figures</i> pp 482-488 HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7 Doesn't/Don't and Collective Nouns (pp 94-95) Other Problems in Agreement (pp 96-97) Pronoun- Antecedent Agreement (pp 100-101) Afghan Culture Blog: Post #1
Week 4 (23) Jan 22 nd to 26 th	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs Mentor Text: from <i>Hidden Figures</i> pp 489-493 HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7 • Regular/Irregular Verbs and Verb Tense (pp 105-112) Afghan Culture Blog: Post #2
Week 5 (24) Jan 29 th to Feb 2 nd Week 6 (25)	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs Poem: "Booker T. and W.E.B." pp 494-501 HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7 • Active and Passive Voice (pp 113-114) • Lie and Lay; Sit and Set; Rise and Raise (pp 115-118) Afghan Culture Blog: Post #3 INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs
Feb 5 th to 7 th 3 Days of Class	Poem: "Booker T. and W.E.B." pp 494-501

	HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7	
	• Case of Pronouns (pp 121-122)	
	Nominative Case Pronouns (pp 123-124)	
	 Pronouns as Direct Objects (pp 125-126) 	
	Afghan Culture Blog: Post #4	
Feb 8th to 16 th	Chinese New Year Break	
	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs	
	Memoir: from <i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i> pp 502-513	
	HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7	
Week 7 (26) Feb 19 th to 23 rd	 Indirect Objects and Objects of Prepositions (pp 127-128) 	
19 ~ Lenten Mass	• Who and Whom (pp 131-132)	
20-22 ~ Pre-Exam Days	 Appositives and Incomplete Constructions (pp 133-134) 	
	Afghan Culture Blog: In-class presentation	
	Arguan Culture Blog. In-class presentation	
	Performance Assessment: Afghan Culture Blog	
Week 8 (27)	INTO LITERATURE 5: Freedom at All Costs	
Feb 26 th to March 1st 4 Days of Class 26-29 ~IOWA	Graphic Memoir : from <i>Persepolis 2</i> pp 514-519	
28 ~ Memorial Day Holiday	HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7	
	Review Exercises (pp 98-99; 129-130)	
Week 9 (28)	HMH Grammar: Module 5, 6, 7	
March 4th to 8th	Module Review (pp 102-104; 119-120; 135-136)	
4 Days of Class 8 – Q3 Exams	Exam Review	
o – Q3 Exams	Exams	

<u>4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT</u>

(NB: Deper	ading on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments	
Week 1 (29) March 11 th to 15 th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 11 - Q3 Exams 12~ Q4 Begins	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys Third Quarter exam review Introduction: Elements of the Epic HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12 • Comparison of Modifiers (pp 137-138)	
	Uses of Comparative and Superlative Forms (pp 139-140)	
	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys	
Week 2 (30) March 18 th to 22 nd 18-21 ~ Fire Drill	Epic Poem: from <i>The Odyssey</i> pp 538-565	
19~ Feast of St. Joseph	HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12 Dangling and Misplaced Modifiers (pp 141-144)	
36 250 4 4 3 50	Easter Break	
Mar 25th to April 5th		
Week 3 (31)	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys Epic Poem: from <i>The Odyssey</i> pp 538-565	
Apr 8th to 12th	HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12	
10~Easter Mass	• End Marks and Abbreviations (pp 173-174)	
	• Commas in a Series (pp 175-176)	
	Commas with Compound Sentences (pp 177-178)	
	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys	
Week 4 (33)	Epic Poem: from <i>The Odyssey</i> pp 538-565	
Apr 15th to 19th	HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12	
	Commas with Nonessential Words (pp 179-180)	
	Commas with Introductory Words (pp 181-182)	
	Commas with Sentence Interrupters (pp 183-184) INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys	
Week 5 (34) Apr 22 nd to 26 th 22-26 ~ AP Mock Exams	Epic Poem: from <i>The Odyssey</i> pp 538-565	
	Performance Assessment: Odyssey group project	
	HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12	
	• Semicolons and Colons (pp 187-190)	
Week 6 (35) Apr 29 th to May 3 rd 1-2~ Pre-Exam Days 3~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only) 04/29-10 ~ AP Exams	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys Mentor Text: "Archaeology's Tech Revolution" pp 566-577	
	HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12 Italics, Underlining, Quotation Marks (pp 193-195)	

Week 7 (36) May 6 th to 10 th 6-10~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only) 6-10 ~ AP Exams	INTO LITERATURE 6: Epic Journeys Travel Writing: from <i>The Cruelest Journey: 600 Miles to Timbuktu</i> pp 578-593 Performance Assessment: Mali Presentation HMH Grammar: Module 8, 11, 12 • Apostrophes (pp 199-202) Module Review (pp 145-146; 191-192; 203-204)
Week 8 (37) May 13 th to 17 th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 15-16~ Q4 Exam1 17~ Record Day	Exam Prep Exams
Week 9 (38) May 20 th to 24 th 21-24 ~ Student Clearance 21~ Baccalaureate Mass	School Activities
Week 10 (39) May 29 th to June 2 nd 4 Days of Class 30- ~ Students Last Day 31~ Teachers/Staff Meeting	School Activities