

MVHS IB Language & Literature “for All”

2024-2025 FAQ

● What is IB?

- While International Baccalaureate Programmes have the same expectations as the Virginia Department of Education and Advanced Placement, the IB enhance students’ learning as they are taught and assessed to take ownership of their learning by analyzing and explaining *how* they developed their understanding of the content and reflecting on how they will apply their learning in different contexts.

● Can all students access IB coursework?

- Absolutely. At Mount Vernon, we meet all students at their current level of ability and believe through quality instruction and guidance all students can take ownership of their learning and grow as readers, writers, thinkers and speakers to become effective citizens in ever changing local and global environments.

● What does IB Language & Literature “for all” look like at Mount Vernon?

- While we have previously only offered IB Language & Literature Higher Level (HL), we are proud to now offer IB Language & Literature Standard Level (SL).
- Students and families may elect to take either Standard Level or Higher Level.
 - *See below to learn about the differences between Standard Level and Higher Level.*
- MV continues to offer different sections of the Standard Level course to meet the needs of all diverse learners. The Higher Level course sections will remain the same.


● Can I still take Dual Enrollment English?

- Yes! Students may take English DE 111/112, the only DE English course offered at MVHS, their *senior* year. Students who meet the NOVA requirements and those expecting to attend school in Virginia are strongly encouraged to explore this opportunity for senior year.
(Note: Registration for DE 111/112 must be completed by March of the student’s junior year.)

● How can I earn college credit if I take IB English SL or HL?

- Depending on the school to which you apply and the score you earn on **ALL IB ASSESSMENT CRITERION**, you absolutely can earn the same amount of credits one can earn by successfully completing English DE 111/112. NOVA, Morgan State, George Mason, William and Mary, Virginia Tech, and JMU are just some of the schools who will accept IB credit for college! Please reach out to our College and Career Center Specialist or your student’s counselor for more information.

● What is the difference between IB English SL and IB English HL?



IB English Language & Literature

SL vs. HL

Standard Level

Prerequisite *any* English 10 course


- 4 literary works over two years
 - Different time periods, authors must be from different continents, multiple genres
 - 1 work in translation- written by an author on the prescribed reading list
 - 1 work written by an author of the prescribed reading list
 - 2 free choice
- Various units on reading, analyzing, and evaluating, non-literary text types
 - Advertisements, brochures, websites, comics, lyrics, etc.

Higher Level

Prerequisite English 10 HNS; teacher recommendation

- 6 literary works over two years
 - Different time periods, authors must be from different continents, multiple genres
 - 2 works in translation- written by an author on the prescribed reading list
 - 2 works written by authors on the prescribed reading list
 - 2 free choice
- Various units on reading, analyzing, and evaluating, non-literary text types
 - Advertisements, brochures, websites, comics, lyrics, etc.

● What and when are the IB assessments to earn IB/ College Credit?



Assessments: IB English SL & HL

Like all assessments to monitor student achievement, participation is expected and required for each assessment during each year.

Standard Level

ASSESSMENT: Junior Year. SL Year One

- *Reading SOL*
- *Writing WorkKeys*

ASSESSMENT: Senior Year. SL Year Two

- Individual Oral (prepared, spoken analysis of text passage, selected by student)
- Paper 1
 - Comparison of 2 non print texts (i.e. advertisements) May of Senior Year
- Paper 2
 - Comparison of two literary works read in class May of Senior Year

Higher Level

ASSESSMENT: Junior Year

- *Reading SOL*
- *Writing WorkKeys*
- Individual Oral (prepared, spoken analysis of text passage, selected by student)

ASSESSMENT: Senior Year. HL Year Two

- *Higher Level Essay 1,500 word essay*
- Paper 1
 - Comparison of 2 non print texts (i.e. advertisements) May of Senior Year
- Paper 2
 - Comparison of two literary works read in class May of Senior Year

● If I took IB English SL junior year, can I take HL senior year?

- Yes. But you will have to take your Individual Oral (IO) before September 30th of senior year to secure May exam registration.
 - Students will need to schedule the IO assessment with Ms. Jones and Ms. Freeland.

● Hold up. Do I actually have to take the IB tests?

- We encourage all students to complete the IB requirements over both years of the course to earn college credit; however, students may opt out of their senior May exams testing during fall of their senior/second year of the course. All students are expected to complete exams graded for FCPS credit.
 - FCPS covers the cost of the first SIX AP/IB courses a student takes within their high school career. After the 6th AP/IB exam, unless under Free and Reduced Lunch status, students and families are required to pay.
- Students who are still in need of the English verified credit are expected to test in year two, as the IB score can count as the ENG verified credit needed to confirm graduation status.

- **IB English wasn't scary! I can do IB! Can I take other IB courses my senior year?**

- **Yes! Depending on the credits they need to graduate, rising seniors may also take these one-year IB courses:**
 - IB Spanish I SL (pre req: Spanish 3)
 - IB Business
 - IB Geography
 - IB Psychology
 - IB Environmental Science
 - IB Sports, Exercise Health Science
 - IB Film
 - IB Visual Arts, per teacher recommendation; will not submit work for IB/College credit