

FAQ for Pre IB English I

1. What will we do in 9th grade English?

- Advanced vocabulary
- Study grammar skills
- Read and annotate for analysis
- Practice documented writing and analytical skills
- Speaking/presentation skills
- Group work and discussion.

The works we read in 9th grade are designed to build a set of skills, scaffolding learning with a strong focus on analysis.

- 2. What books will we be reading?** We will be reading classic pieces of literature, drama and poetry that lay archetypal foundations. We will also pair contemporary literature with classic drama, read a variety of thematically connected nonfiction, and poetry. (see 9th grade reading list)
- 3. Will we be annotating?** Yes! **Why?** Annotating is where analysis starts. Annotating gives students a purpose for reading and helps them evaluate the text. It helps students understand what the author is doing and why this is important. Annotating allows the reader to move beyond summary and focus on analysis. All of this is significant to what you are ultimately preparing for in IB English: writing on an unseen text.
- 4. I've heard many of the selections are heavy. Why?** Again, in preparation for IB English, which is the equivalency of a college course, students will be reading mature subject matter. Reading is scaffolded: the works get increasingly more difficult. Growth occurs on every level. There is a huge leap from 8th to 9th grade- ESPECIALLY in IB!
- 5. Will we do projects?** Each book we read has some form of written analysis connected to group or individual oral presentations: we start with a group to build confidence and move to individual presentations.
- 6. How can I be successful in your class?**
 - Time management is key: planners, agendas, lists are all tools that will help you succeed.
 - Be organized: have all materials with you for English every time you walk into English class.
 - Be proactive and engage with the texts, the class, and the teacher.
 - Be present: on our current schedule, if you miss one day of class, it's like missing two.
 - Practice diligence: always go the extra mile.
 - Be open-minded
 - Be a risk-taker with ideas
 - Build relationships with all teachers
 - Know that YOU are your strongest advocate in class.
 - Create a support system with your classmates.
 - Take advantage of ELP/TELP (in school/after school tutoring)
- 7. How is 9th grade English different than 8th grade?**
 - We read full length works: NO Springboard excerpts or abridged pieces of text.
 - More self-advocacy is expected.
 - Faster pace
 - More work outside of class