

Language B English

The Nature of English B

IB Language B English is an additional language-learning course designed for students with some previous learning of the English language, and may be studied at either SL or HL. The main focus of the course is on language acquisition and the development of language skills. These language skills are developed through the study and use of a range of written and spoken materials. Such materials will extend from everyday oral exchanges to literary texts, and are related to the English speaking cultures and countries. The aim of IB English Language B is for students to develop mastery of language skills and intercultural understanding.

Teaching Approach

Students are expected to develop skills in several areas, including thinking skills (students reflect on their learning), research skills (students research on their learning and are encouraged to look up on their vocabulary and verify language structures), communication skills through oral assessments, social skills (a CAS activity that may link to French and the French culture) and self management skills (developing planning strategies for the completion of work).

The English B course is based on inquiry learning and focuses on conceptual understanding where discussions are based on how “purpose” shapes our communication. The teaching is based on local and global contexts and students are expected to work both individually and collaboratively in class. Formative and summative assessments will take place throughout the course. There are 5 prescribed themes that need to be covered in the IB Languages program: Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization and Sharing the Planet.

Where does English B lead?

Studying a new language is an opening to the discovery and understanding of a new culture. Knowledge of a new language goes hand-in-hand with whatever profession a student chooses to pursue. From international organisations, development agencies, foreign companies, journalism and many more, communicating in another language can no longer be confined to the classroom but is a living language that can be used in any situation.

In addition, the English language is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world today, and is the language of education, commerce, science and communications. Having strong English language skills will allow students to access a wider range of education and employment opportunities, and allow them to develop a broader understanding of international cultures, people, history and current affairs.

More information about English B can be found online at the [IB website](#)