



10th Grade Language & Literature

Willows Preparatory School 2020-2021

Subject Aims

- Encourage critical thinking and conceptual understanding of texts as well as speech
- Learn how language is an instrument of communication whose purpose is as crystalline as it is sometimes ineffable
- Analyze and discuss the subjective and objective elements of language and literature
- Become critics of our own work as well as that of others
- Acknowledge that words do not exist in a vacuum and understand the immediate impact of words on the world
- Learn to support ideas with eloquence, thoughtfulness, and a global mindset

Keys to Class

- **OneNote:** We will be using this platform for classwork, homework, projects, and everything else we do in class.
- **Discussion:** Participation in discussions is non-negotiable. Voice your opinion with thought and care!
- **Microsoft Word & PowerPoint:** We will spend some time learning how to use these apps properly and professionally.
- A critical approach to texts will be central to our class. Metacognition is encouraged!
- Excellence requires revision. Revision requires openness. Openness requires self-reflection.

IB Grading Criteria

Criterion A: Analyzing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ How do you identify and comment on the context, language, structure, technique, and style of a text?○ How can you understand a text's relationship to another text or to a bigger concept like "truth" or "humanity"?○ How well do you identify, explain, and/or analyze how an author's choice to use language?
Criterion B: Organizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ How do you cite references appropriately? How do you use the appropriate tools based on the purpose of that presentation?○ When explaining your points, can you organize them, so they are sensible and easy to follow? How do you apply logic in constructing an argument, position, or idea? Can you use transitions to present your points in a way that signals your reader?○ Do you think about how to use writing tools so that you communicate clearly and effectively?
Criterion C: Producing Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Can you show your imagination at work? How does your creativity show how you personally process the world around you?○ How do you use metaphors or similes? Do you use long or short sentences? Are you thinking about how these things will impact the person reading your writing?○ When you are writing a paper and developing an opinion or a thought, how do you choose examples?
Criterion D: Using Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Do you think about which words would be best based on the purpose? Do you practice using new vocabulary words?○ How well do you demonstrate how different situations call for different <i>tones</i> of writing?○ Are your spelling and punctuation clear and accurate enough that we understand your points?○ Can you communicate using body language, eye contact, tone of voice, and adjusting your volume to present ideas?

Content Brief

Semester 1	Semester 2
<p><i>SATIRE AND SOCIETY</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion: Satire, politics, social criticism, social responsibility, identity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Aristophanes: Selected Plays</i>○ <i>Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>○ <i>Oscar Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	<p><i>CLASSICAL RHETORIC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion: Rhetorical devices, nuanced writing, effects of language, dominant and oppositional reading<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Ward Farnsworth: Classical English Rhetoric</i>○ <i>Aristotle's Rhetoric</i>○ <i>Selected Speeches & Essays</i>
<p><i>MAGICAL REALISM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion: How language leads to thought, thought leads to narrative, and narrative leads to expression<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Short stories by Julio Cortazar, Jorge Luís Borges, Wolfgang Hildesheimer</i>	<p><i>MAJOR LITERARY MOVEMENTS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion: How literature adapts to its political and social climate<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>T.S. Eliot, Virginia Woolf, James Joyce</i>○ <i>Jean-Paul Sartre, Franz Kafka, Philip K. Dick</i>