

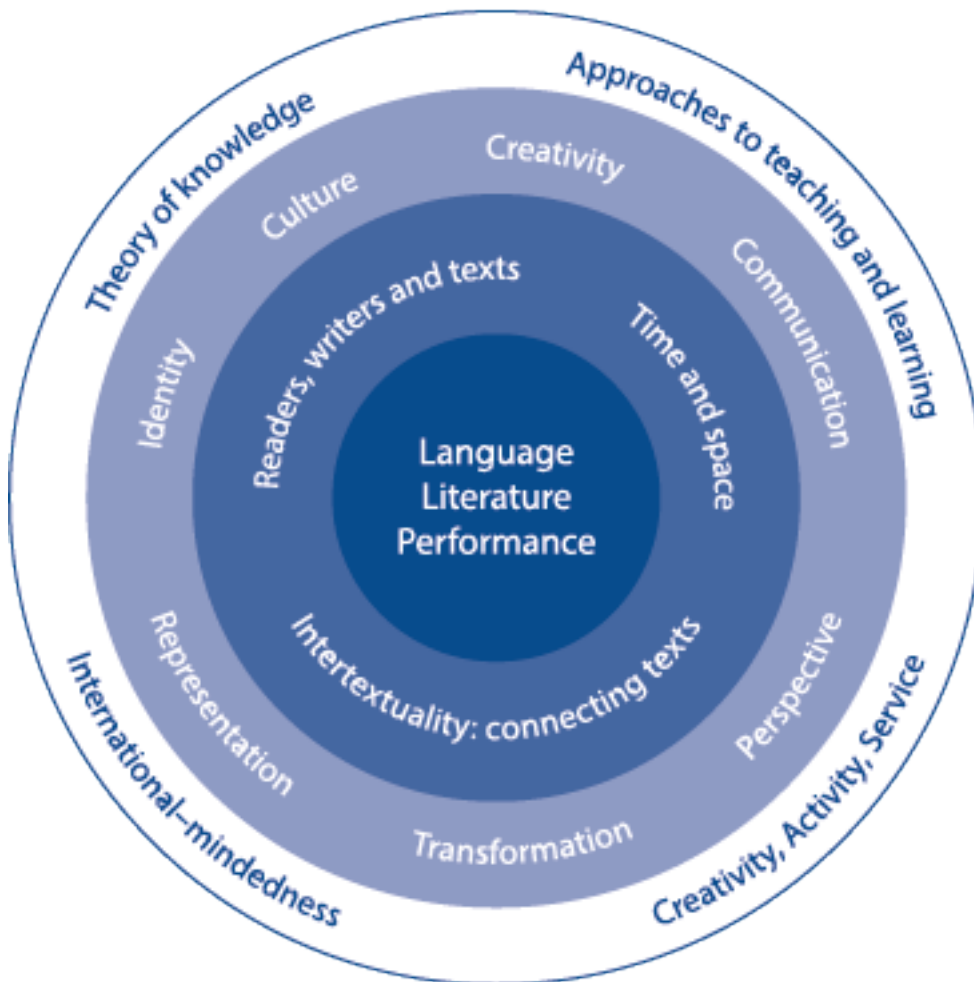
Preparing to take the course

Introduction

This course is part of the studies in language and literature group and this guide to being a school supported self-taught student (SSST) will help you understand it better. It is not meant to be a replacement for the *Language A: literature guide*. You should read both to understand the course fully.

Being a self-taught student offers a unique opportunity to study the literature of a language that may not be offered at your school as a taught subject. A certain level of autonomy is expected, for example you will be asked to develop a list of literary works and a timeline. You will also be expected to autonomously administer the 150 hours required for the study of the course.

The information included in this section is intended for SSST students who are taking this standard level (SL) course over a period of two years. If you are taking the course on an anticipated status it is essential to consult with your supervisor to ensure that you comply with the correct dates for submission of assessment tasks.



Language A: literature SSST is similar to the taught course, which is built on the notion of conceptual learning. This means that the course is organized around concepts, or big ideas, which makes it easier to form connections between subjects and between parts of a course. Concepts are important as they are applicable and transferable to real-life situations. In this course, the central concepts are culture, communication, transformation, perspective, creativity, representation and identity. When reading and studying a literary work, you should explore how it relates to these concepts.

This will help to:

- see how the literary works are relevant to your world and your experiences
- make connections between works studied in the course

- make connections with theory of knowledge (TOK), the approaches to learning and international-mindedness
- make connections with other subjects you are studying
- become a flexible and critical reader.

The course is organized into three areas of exploration which blend together while each providing a focus for investigation:

- **Readers, writers and texts** introduces the notion of literature, its purposes and the ways in which texts can be read, interpreted and responded to.
- **Time and space** draws attention to the fact that texts are not isolated entities, but are connected to space and time.
- **Intertextuality: connecting texts** focuses on the connections between and among diverse texts, traditions, creators and ideas.

The aims of the three classroom-based courses in studies in language and literature are to:

- engage with a range of texts in a variety of media and forms from different periods, styles and cultures
- develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, presenting and performing
- develop skills in interpretation, analysis and evaluation
- develop sensitivity to the formal and aesthetic qualities of texts and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
- develop an understanding of relationships between texts and a variety of perspectives, cultural contexts and local and global issues and an appreciation of how they contribute to diverse responses and open up multiple meanings
- develop an understanding of the relationships between studies in language and literature and other disciplines
- communicate and collaborate in a confident and creative way
- foster a lifelong interest in and enjoyment of language and literature.