



Diploma Programme (DP) grade descriptors

Language A1

Higher level (HL)—all components

May 2005

These descriptors have been formulated with the assessment criteria contained in the present subject guide in mind.

Language A1 grade descriptors (HL)

Grade 7 Excellent performance

Demonstrates: excellent knowledge and understanding of works and tasks; very strong and detailed appreciation of the effects of technique and style; very strong evidence of independent and/or original perspectives on the works studied, where appropriate; consistently focused, carefully developed and persuasive presentation of ideas or argument; use of language that is varied, clear, concise, precise and convincingly adapted to tasks.

Grade 6 Very good performance

Demonstrates: very good knowledge and understanding of works and tasks; strong and detailed appreciation of the effects of technique and style; strong evidence of a personal engagement with the works studied, where appropriate; clearly focused, well-developed and purposeful presentation of ideas or argument; use of language that is varied, clear, concise and effectively adapted to tasks.

Grade 5 Good performance

Demonstrates: sound knowledge and understanding of works and tasks; good appreciation of the effects of technique and style; good evidence of a relevant personal response to the works studied, where appropriate; clearly focused and effective presentation of ideas or argument; use of language that is clear, concise and appropriately adapted to tasks.

Grade 4 Satisfactory performance

Demonstrates: adequate knowledge and understanding of works and tasks; adequate awareness of the effects of technique and style; adequate evidence of a relevant personal response to the works studied, where appropriate; generally focused and satisfactory development/presentation of ideas or argument; use of language that is generally clear, accurate, fluent and appropriate to tasks.

Grade 3 Mediocre performance

Demonstrates: some knowledge but superficial understanding of works and tasks; some awareness of the effects of technique and style; some evidence of a relevant personal response to the works studied, where appropriate; some evidence of a focus but ideas are neither appropriately developed nor presented; use of language that is limited in clarity, accuracy, fluency and appropriateness to tasks.

Grade 2 Poor performance

Demonstrates: basic knowledge and/or understanding of works and tasks; basic awareness of the elements of technique and style; basic structure to the presentation of ideas; use of language that is lacking in clarity, accuracy and coherence.

Grade 1 Very poor performance

Demonstrates: rudimentary knowledge and/or understanding of works and tasks; presentation without clarity or relevance; use of language that is barely intelligible.