

IB ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

DP English A2 (Level 1)

New International School of Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand

18 - 20 September 2009, Friday - Sunday

Workshop Leader

Mallika Ramdas

Mallika Ramdas currently teaches English A2 (HL and SL), and has also taught English B and the world literature component for School Assisted A1 languages, at the United World College of South East Asia (UWCSEA) in Singapore since 2003. She is also Head of University Counselling at UWCSEA, responsible for college counselling for 600+ IB diploma students, along with two other colleagues.

Previously, Mallika taught English A2, B, and world literature for A1 self-taught languages, and was Head of Languages at the Mahindra United World College of India from 1997-2003. She was also Director of Guidance (including university counselling) in her final two years there.

Mallika has a doctorate in Russian Literature from Columbia University, a master's in Russian Area Studies from Princeton University, and a bachelor's in Economics from Delhi University. She taught undergraduate Russian language and literature courses at Columbia and Princeton universities from 1991-1995.

Mallika has been an IB examiner for English A2 Paper 2 (essay) for 6 years and for English A2 Paper 1 (comparative commentary) for 1 year. She has been leading IB workshops in English A2 since 2007. She was a teacher-observer at the English A2 grade award meeting in Cardiff in June 2009.

All participants are requested to bring with them the following:

- A copy of this Agenda
 - A copy of the IB Language A2 Programme Guide (for first examinations in 2004)-
Essential!
 - Sample English A2 programs (HL & SL) taught by you or at your school
 - List of useful teaching resources for the English A2 course
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Please note: session topics are subject to change based on needs of the group

Friday, 18 September

0830 - 0900

Welcome & Introduction

0900 - 1000

Session 1: Overview of the A2 Course

- Aims and Objectives
- Course Content at Higher and Standard Levels
- Assessment Structure at HL and SL

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200

**Session 2: Structuring the A2 Course over 2 years
Internationalism and TOK through the A2 course**

- Syllabus content & principles of course design
- Incorporating internationalism in the A2 course
- Exploring TOK issues when designing your A2 course
- Sequencing the A2 options (modules) over 2 years
- Practical syllabus-design tasks

1200 - 1300

Lunch

1300 - 1430

Session 3: Literature Content

- Literary Options—objectives and syllabus guidelines
- How to teach the literary options—shared good practise
- Exploring TOK issues through literature
- Teaching specific skills towards the assessments

1430 - 1500

Afternoon Break

1500 - 1630

**Session 4: Cultural Options (Non-Literature Topics)
The Online Curriculum Centre (OCC)**

- Cultural options—objectives and syllabus choices available
- How to teach the cultural options—shared good practise
- Exploring TOK issues through the cultural options
- Teaching specific skills towards the assessments
- The Online Curriculum Centre (OCC)—a hands-on look at resources available to the A2 teacher

1630

End of Day 1

Saturday, 19 September

0830 - 1000

Session 5: The Comparative Commentary (Paper 1)

- Paper 1 format—choices available to students
- CC expectations and assessment criteria at HL and SL
- How to teach comparative commentary skills

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200

Session 6: Marking Sample Paper 1 Commentaries

- Marking/moderating some sample comparative commentaries
- Understanding the assessment criteria
- Analysis and discussion of exam marking and grade boundaries for Paper 1, and the grade awards process

1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	Session 7: The Essay (Paper 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paper 2 format—choices available to students ▪ Essay expectations and assessment criteria at HL and SL ▪ How to teach essay skills for literary and cultural options
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break
1500 - 1630	Session 8: Marking Sample Paper 2 Essays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marking/moderating some sample essays ▪ Understanding the assessment criteria ▪ Analysis and discussion of exam marking and grade boundaries for Paper 2, and the grade awards process.
1630	End of Day 2

Sunday, 20 September

0830 - 1000	Session 9: Written Tasks (Externally Assessed Coursework) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Objectives and Formal Requirements ▪ Timing of written tasks in 2-year plan ▪ Teaching Activities towards written tasks ▪ Sharing examples of appropriate written tasks ▪ Assessment Criteria for the written tasks ▪ Marking and moderating sample written tasks
1000 - 1030	Morning Break
1030 - 1200	Session 10: Internal Oral Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Oral Commentary (taped)—formal requirements ▪ Teaching activities for individual oral commentary ▪ Interactive Oral Activity—formal requirements, options ▪ Types of interactive orals and teaching activities ▪ Timing and other issues concerning the orals ▪ Assessment Criteria for internal (oral) assessment ▪ Marking sample individual oral commentaries
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	Session 11: Moderating Oral Commentaries The Extended Essay in Group 2 English (A2/B) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Analysis and discussion of assessment criteria for the orals and the external moderation process ▪ Extended Essays in Group 2 English—expectations and possible topics ▪ EEs—general versus subject-specific assessment criteria ▪ EEs—role of the supervisor, recent changes
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break
1500 - 1600	Session 12: Extended Essays (continued) The Future of English A2—Curriculum Changes Conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extended Essays—Supervisor’s Role, Plagiarism, and any other issues

- The future of English A2—Summary of Curriculum Review developments to date for Group 1 and 2
- AOB and conclusions

1600

Workshop Closes and Award of Certificates*

*** An official "IB Certificate of Attendance" is awarded to participants who have attended all sessions of a workshop. Please ensure that travel arrangements do not preclude candidacy for a certificate.**