

B1a.6 Language A: literature standard level school supported self-taught candidates

Language A: literature standard level may be studied as a school supported self-taught subject in the following circumstances:

- where no teacher of the language is available
- where an external teacher is unable to see the candidate(s) on a frequent and regular basis and is therefore unable to meet the internal assessment requirements of the language A: literature course.

The school supported self-taught option is not considered appropriate for entries of more than five candidates in any language A: literature standard level. All self-taught candidates for the same language A: literature should follow the same programme of study.

B1a.6.1 Responsibilities of a school with language A: literature school supported self-taught candidates

Regardless of whether a part time external tutor is available, a full-time teacher of a language A: literature in the school must be appointed to supervise and advise the self-taught candidate. The teacher must, in collaboration with the DP coordinator:

- advise the candidate on choosing a course of study that conforms to IB regulations
- ensure that the candidate has access to the works chosen before starting the course of study
- ensure that the candidate is studying the works agreed upon with the supervising teacher and, in the case of special request languages, approved by the examiner responsible
- provide guidance on the techniques required for such tasks as essay writing and the commentary
- give the candidate a clear idea of the course of study, the papers to be taken, their format and link to the course studied
- provide the candidate with the most recent version of the document *Language A: literature school supported self-taught alternative oral assessment procedures* available on the online curriculum centre and past examination papers
- provide the candidate with the published genre questions for the formal oral commentary specific to the examination session. These are published on language A: literature pages of the online curriculum centre as well as on IBIS in September.
- supervise the work required for part 1 works in translation

- ensure that the candidate has regular access to the *Language A: literature guide* and is familiar with the assessment criteria for all assessed components.

Wherever possible, the candidate should be taught with candidates taking other languages A: literature in the school.

B1a.6.2 Course of study for language A: literature SL school supported self-taught candidates

All works must be chosen from the PLA, where one exists for the language A: literature studied, and from the PLT. This includes all works studied in part 4 (Options). Where more than one candidate is studying the same self-taught language in a school, all the candidates taking that language must study the same works, with the exception of transfer candidates.

For special request languages where no PLA exists for the language A: literature studied, please refer to section B1a.4.4 (Choice of authors and works). The language A: literature requirements regarding genre, period and place apply to all self-taught students studying a language A that has a PLA available.

B1a.6.3 External assessment for language A: literature SL school supported self-taught candidates

The format for the written examination papers is the same as that for taught candidates. The final essay produced for the written assignment component is also identical in format to that produced by taught candidates. However, alternative procedures are in place for school supported self-taught candidates for stages 1 and 3 of the production process. See section B1a.7 (Written assignment) for details.

Special request languages A: literature without a PLA: The paper will consist of three essay questions on each of the following genres: drama, poetry, prose fiction and prose non-fiction. Each candidate will answer one question only.

B1a.6.4 Alternative oral assessment: Self-taught candidates

By **15 September** each year, questions will be published by the IB for each genre grouping: drama, prose fiction, prose non-fiction and poetry. There will be five questions for each genre and they will be published in English, French and Spanish in the language A: literature pages of the online curriculum centre, and on IBIS. The questions will give a framework for close study of part 2 works. For each question, candidates are asked to find a suitable 40-line passage or poem that can be used as a basis for a commentary. Each of the questions will be framed to elicit a detailed, analytical response.

On **1st March (May session) or 1st September (November session) of the final year of the student's course**, the IB Assessment Centre will provide an alternative oral examination based on part 2 and part 4 of the candidate's course of study. The instructions for each candidate will stipulate the genre and a choice of two of the five pre-released questions for that genre for section 1 (oral commentary) of the alternative oral examination.

To enable the IB Assessment Centre to prepare an oral examination, coordinators must:

- ensure that the self-taught option is selected on IBIS when registering the candidate for the language A: literature SL
- submit the choice of authors and works on IBIS using the *Language A: notice of works studied* by 1 December/1 June, five months before the written examinations. All *Language A: notice of works studied* forms should be submitted via IBIS wherever possible. If a language A does not use Roman characters, the electronic form on IBIS should still be used wherever possible. The use of an online keyboard is recommended if a physical keyboard is not available. If there are any difficulties with this, please contact ibid@ibo.org.
- specify the genres of the part 2 works as categorized in the PLA, as well as the genres of the school supported self-taught commentary questions studied, in the *Language A: notice of works studied* form using the check boxes. The oral questions will be based on the information provided on this form. No changes must be made to the course of study after this form has been submitted to the IB Assessment Centre.

The choice of authors and works must still be submitted for languages A: literature SL without a PLA via the *Language A: notice of works studied* form, even if the full course of study has been submitted to the IB Assessment Centre 18 months before the written examinations.

Further information can be found in the document *Language A: literature school supported self-taught alternative oral assessment procedures* available on the online curriculum centre.

Format for school supported self-taught candidates

The format of the alternative oral examination is as follows.

Format of assessment The total recording time for the oral is 20 minutes.	Preparation time (minutes)	Maximum recording time (minutes)
<p>Section 1 Individual oral commentary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-structured oral commentary based on works studied in part 2. • Candidates take copies of their chosen passages (approximately 40 lines) and their notes on those passages into the preparation room for the alternative oral examination. • The presentation is recorded and uploaded along with the passage and notes used in the commentary. 	20	10
<p>Section 2 Individual oral presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentation based on two of the three works studied in part 4. • The candidate prepares notes for an oral presentation, which should be a discussion of two of the three works studied. Notes must be in point format only. • The presentation is recorded and uploaded, along with the passage and notes used in the oral presentation. 	Candidates will have prepared notes prior to the examination.	10

Note: The oral presentation follows the formal oral commentary and the recording is not stopped or paused between the two tasks.

Preparation

Preparation time of 20 minutes is allowed before the beginning of the examination for the candidate to prepare both the oral commentary for section 1 and the oral presentation in section 2.

The candidate is allowed to take brief working notes into the examination for reference, but may not read aloud a full commentary and presentation. All notes used during the recording must be uploaded along with all other materials.

Submitting material for assessment

The Diploma Programme coordinator must check that the candidate and invigilator have signed all declarations and that the following are uploaded via IBIS for each:

- the audio recordings of the oral examination
- the passage used for the oral commentary and the notes used in the formal commentary and in the oral presentation
- copy of visual aids (if any) used during the presentation
- copy of the examination papers for the oral examination

The school supported self-taught alternative oral examination must take place by **1 May** (May session) or **1 November** (November session), and all materials listed above uploaded via IBIS no later than **7 May/7 November**.