

## Language and literature glossary

Term	Definition
<b>Conventions</b>	<p>Linguistic conventions: spelling, grammar and punctuation, sentence structure, paragraphing and format.</p> <p>Literary conventions: a set of rules that most writing follows. It can include structure and format.</p> <p>Visual conventions: structures, features, layout and design elements of visual text. It can include the use of colour, texture, line, shape and form, symbolism, sound effects and music, body language, special effects, costume, camera angles and movement.</p>
<b>Creator</b>	The person(s) responsible for the creation of an oral, written or visual work.
<b>Critical literacy</b>	The ability to question, challenge and evaluate the meanings and purposes of texts. The skills to compose, respond to, analyse and evaluate written, spoken, visual and multimedia texts from various perspectives. It involves an understanding of the ways in which values and attitudes are communicated through language, including how subject matter, point of view and language embody assumptions about issues such as culture, gender and ethnicity.
<b>Critical stance</b>	A perspective or point of view taken by a reader or viewer. It involves the reader or viewer questioning the position presented in a text and developing his or her own ideas in response to the text.
<b>Forms of expression</b>	Ways and modes of expressing oneself; for example, through poetry, prose, music, art and social media.
<b>Formatting</b>	The intentional choice and use of font, style of letters and words and use of space, for example, to arrange or present text in a particular way and for a particular purpose.
<b>Genre</b>	<p>Genre refers to a style, category or type of literature that can be further categorized into fiction and non-fiction.</p> <p>Types of non-fiction include:</p> <p><b>Autobiography:</b> an account or history of a person's life, written or told by that person. Often written in narrative form.</p> <p><b>Biography:</b> a written account of another person's life.</p> <p><b>Essay:</b> a short literary composition that reflects the author's outlook or point. A short literary composition on a particular theme or subject, usually in prose and generally analytic, speculative or interpretative.</p> <p><b>Informational text:</b> most often dealing with an actual, real-life subject. This genre of literature offers opinions or conjectures on facts and reality. This includes biographies, history, essays, speech and narrative non-fiction.</p>

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Genre (continued from previous page)	<p><b>Narrative non-fiction:</b> information based on fact that is presented in a format that tells a story.</p> <p><b>Speech:</b> an oral expression of one's thoughts or emotions, generally delivered in the form of an address or discourse.</p> <p>Types of fiction include:</p> <p><b>Drama:</b> the genre of literature of which the subject for compositions is dramatic art in the way it is represented. This genre is stories composed in verse or prose, usually for theatrical performance, where conflicts and emotion are expressed through dialogue and action.</p> <p><b>Fable:</b> a story about supernatural or extraordinary people usually in the form of narration that demonstrates a useful truth. In fables, animals often speak as humans that are legendary and supernatural tales.</p> <p><b>Fairy tales or wonder tales:</b> a kind of folktale or fable. Sometimes the stories are about fairies or other magical creatures, usually for children.</p> <p><b>Fantasy:</b> the forming of mental images with strange or other worldly settings or characters; fiction that invites suspension of reality.</p> <p><b>Folklore:</b> the songs, stories, myths and proverbs of a person or "folk" that were handed down by word of mouth. Folklore is a genre of literature that is widely held, but false and based on unsubstantiated beliefs.</p> <p><b>Historical fiction:</b> a story with fictional characters and events in a historical setting.</p> <p><b>Horror:</b> a form of fiction in which events evoke a feeling of dread in both the characters and the reader.</p> <p><b>Legend:</b> a story based on fact, but that also includes imaginative material. It is often based on a national or folk hero.</p> <p><b>Mystery:</b> a genre of fiction that deals with the solution of a crime or the unravelling of secrets. Anything that is kept secret or remains unexplained or unknown.</p> <p><b>Mythology:</b> a type of legend or traditional narrative. This is often based in part on historical events, which reveal human behaviour and natural phenomena by its symbolism; often pertaining to the actions of the gods.</p> <p><b>Poetry:</b> verse and rhythmic writing with imagery that evokes an emotional response from the reader. The art of poetry is rhythmical in composition, written or spoken.</p> <p><b>Realistic fiction:</b> a story that can actually happen and is true to real life.</p> <p><b>Science fiction:</b> a story based on impact of potential science, either actual or imagined. Science fiction is one of the genres of literature that is set in the future or on other planets.</p> <p><b>Short story:</b> fiction of such briefness that is not able to support any subplots.</p> <p><b>Tall tale:</b> a humorous story with blatant exaggerations and swaggering heroes who do the impossible with an air of nonchalance.</p> <p>[<a href="http://genresofliterature.com/">http://genresofliterature.com/</a>]</p>

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<b>Grammar</b>	<p>The set of rules governing how words and their component parts combine to form sentences.</p> <p>In MYP language and literature, grammar encompasses word order, sentence structure, parts of speech, morphology and phonetics, as applicable to the language.</p>
<b>Incremental descriptors</b>	<p>1–2 = limited attempt; minimal; rarely.</p> <p>3–4 = satisfactory; some; occasionally.</p> <p>5–6 = substantial; most of the time; usually; considerable.</p> <p>7–8 = excellent; clear; effective; sophisticated; high degree of; thorough; perceptive.</p>
<b>Internal monologue</b>	A type of monologue that exhibits the thoughts, feeling and associations passing through a character's mind.
<b>Language of instruction</b>	The language in which the majority of a school's curriculum is delivered. A school can have more than one language of instruction.
<b>Literature</b>	The definition of literature varies between different cultures and languages. In most cultures, literature includes poetry, prose (short stories and novels), mythology and drama. Additionally, in some cultures, literature also includes autobiography, biography, graphic novels, travelogues, satires, essays, letters, literary non-fiction, speeches, oral traditions, screenplays, film and television programmes, such as drama series. MYP language and literature can include all of the above, and schools need to determine what constitutes literature within the context of their language course(s).
<b>Meaning</b>	Sometimes referred to as "message", it includes "layers of meaning", nuance, denotation, connotation, inference and subtext.
<b>Multiliteracies</b>	<p>Engaging with text in multimodal ways to construct meaning.</p> <p>Multiliteracies provide a bridge between the real-life texts of the community and school texts, and encourage a real-world, interdisciplinary approach to learning through the use of disciplined knowledge. Using a multiliteracies approach enables students to understand, use and critically evaluate the multimodal texts of the current generation. These complex texts incorporate elements of linguistic, visual, spatial, audio and gestural design.</p>
<b>Multimedia</b>	Those texts that use more than one medium; for example, combining visual media, such as words and images, with sound. Television, the internet and developments in computer and digital technology have resulted in multimedia texts becoming increasingly rich and complex. Multimedia texts now generally feature moving images, sophisticated and complex graphics, and interactivity. Examples of multimedia texts include texts delivered on CD-ROM and DVD, music videos, cartoons, video games and internet texts.
<b>Multimodal</b>	Comprising more than one mode. A multimodal text uses more than one mode to communicate meaning. Examples of multimodal texts include films and computer games.

Term	Definition
<b>Oral communication skills</b>	These can include, for example, pronunciation, intonation, tone, pitch, inflection, pace, pausing, voice control, volume, projection, body language, gesture and eye contact, as applicable to the language being studied.
<b>Oral response</b>	A literary composition (usually an essay) on a single subject that is composed with the intent that it will be delivered orally, rather than in written form.
<b>Organizational Structure</b>	Organizational or text structures involve understanding and applying knowledge of how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (for example, a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole. Common types of organizational structures or patterns include chronological, compare and contrast, order of importance, sequence, spatial, cause and effect, description, problem and solution
<b>Parody</b>	A text that imitates another work or an author, with the intention to mock and/or attempt humour.
<b>Pastiche</b>	A work that demonstrates an imitation of another author's style, or a work that demonstrates an imitation of multiple authors' styles.
<b>Positioning/ Influence</b>	Positioning: how readers/viewers are influenced by texts.  Influence: how one text influences another. A text can be reworked to take the original meaning and create a new one.
<b>Presentation style</b>	The form of a text and the conventions used in a particular text type. It includes visual considerations of the text and goes beyond organizational to consider aesthetic and functional elements.
<b>Pronunciation</b>	Clarity of articulation, not accent.
<b>Purpose</b>	Also referred to as "intent", "intention" or "author's choices".
<b>Register</b>	The use of tone, pace, volume, pitch, inflection, fluency/fluidity, vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure that give the correct degree of formality appropriate for the specific context and audience. In some languages there will be more levels of register than just "formal" and "informal".
<b>Response to literature</b>	Meaningful personal interactions with texts that show genuine understanding and analysis.
<b>Style</b>	The creator's choices with regard to all aspects of the text, in the way various literary and non-literary features have been used to create certain effects for different purposes and audiences.
<b>Stylistic choices</b>	Creators make choices about what they are going to describe and how to describe it in order to create effect.  This umbrella term encompasses literary and non-literary features: linguistic devices (rhetorical, syntax, repetition); literary devices (symbolism, metaphor, simile); and visual devices (colour, texture, symbolism, foregrounding).

Term	Definition
<b>Supportive tools</b>	Examples of supportive tools in Objective B (organizing) include quotations, citations, bibliographies, tables, graphs, footnotes, references, italicizing, underlining, table of contents, appendices, labels, headings, outlines, superscripting and subscripting. (These were previously referred to as “critical apparatus”.)
<b>Terminology</b>	The language used for analysing texts. It includes terms such as plot, theme, tone, characterization, setting, symbol, screenplay, masthead, byline and close-up.
<b>Text</b>	For the purposes of MYP language and literature, a text may be written, oral or visual, and non-literary or literary. It can be distinguished from “work” as this will imply a complete work of literature.
<b>Text types</b>	Different forms of written, spoken and visual text, for example, descriptive, narrative, expository, argumentative and anecdotal.
<b>Transitional devices</b>	Structures, systems or words used to connect and organize ideas, with the effect of guiding the reader through a text. What is considered as appropriate structure or convention will be dependent on the language.
<b>Viewing and presenting</b>	Interpreting or constructing images and multimedia in a variety of situations and for a range of purposes and audiences. Students should demonstrate their understanding of the ways in which images and language interact to convey ideas, values and beliefs.
<b>Visual text</b>	Any text that includes an image or a series of static or moving images, for example, a sign, symbol, poster, brochure, CD or book cover, newspaper article with pictures, website, film, TV programme, PowerPoint® presentation.
<b>World literature</b>	In the MYP, this refers to literature from different parts of the world, cross-cultural works and/or works in translation.