De La Salle Honors English 1 Challenge Test

Where: DLS Hofmann Center
Who: Incoming DLS Freshmen Interested in Honors English 1
What: A Written Assessment Based on a Specified Prompt

The De La Salle English Department will sponsor a written placement test for qualification into Honors English 1. The written response will be reviewed by members of the department and considered as additional context for their preparedness. The members will also consider a student's HSPT scores, middle school grades, and teacher recommendations.

Students will be granted an hour to develop a response to an open prompt. They will be asked to create a thesis as part of the development of a multi-paragraph essay in answer to the prompt. The department will be assessing the writing based on the following criteria:

1. The establishment of a clear and thoughtful thesis statement that is substantiated by examples in the body of the essay
2. Sophistication of vocabulary and syntax
3. A focused response aligned with the assigned prompt
4. Development of a clear and coherent argument
5. Creativity and depth of thought

Students will be writing by hand on lined paper. Students need only bring a pen or pencil. The prompt and corresponding lined paper will be provided by the school. Please feel free to reach out to Alexandra Stevenson, the English Department Chair, with any questions at stevensona@dlshs.org.