

Course Start

Course Start is independent learning you need to complete as a fundamental part of your introduction to the course. It should take you approximately 5 hours to complete.

Course Name	IB English and World Literature
How this Course Start fits into the first term of the course	<i>The Sorrow of War</i> is one of the texts on which you may choose to be examined at the end of year one
How will my Course Start learning be used in lessons?	In the first 2-3 weeks, we will use the work you prepare on the text to generate discussion and to begin to develop skills necessary for the first year of the course. It will form the basis of the first half term's learning.
Course Start learning objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To read and summarise Bao Ninh's <i>The Sorrow of War</i> • To interpret and analyse the ways in which Ninh presents global issues in <i>The Sorrow of War</i>. • To evaluate the presentation of themes and global issues in Ninh's <i>The Sorrow of War</i>
Study Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation skills - to consider what you think <i>The Sorrow of War</i> is about • Analysis skills - To analyse the techniques used by Ninh to convey themes and ideas • Evaluation skills - to think about why Bao Ninh presents the ideas in his novel in the way he does - what is he trying to make us think about?

Expectations for: IB English and World Literature

Our specification is: IB Diploma

What this course involves

Completing Planned Study (independent learning) of 2 hours (Higher Level) and 1 hour (Standard Level) per week.

Writing tasks (structured analysis and essay-writing)

Reading texts, analysing and evaluating authorial choices

Completing oral IA task (end of year one)

Preparing presentations based on independent research and presenting to class

Practising group discussion - preparation of openings for seminar-style classes

Developing independent learning skills (e.g. time management, preparing for each week's lessons, completing learning tasks outside lessons)

Preparing a Higher Level essay for external examination (Higher Level only)

IMPORTANT

Dear IB Student,

Below you will find a table of texts which we will be studying to begin our English and World Literature course. You will need to purchase these, ready for the first term.

If you have chosen to study English and World Literature at Higher Level, you will need to buy those marked as **HL and SL**, in addition to those marked **HL ONLY**. If you have chosen to study English and World Literature at Standard Level, then you will only need to buy those marked as **HL and SL**.

Please ensure that you obtain the exact edition stated below and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (esc@varndean.ac.uk)

We're very much looking forward to meeting you all in September.

Best wishes,

Ellie Cook - Programme Leader, IB English and World Literature

TEXT	LEVEL	Publication details	Photo
The Sorrow of War <i>* See Course start task below</i>	HL and SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publisher: Vintage Classics; Reprint edition (17 Oct. 1994) ● ISBN 10: 074939711X ● ISBN 13: 9780749397111 	
Paying The Land Joe Sacco	HL and SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publisher: Metropolitan Books ● SKU: SONG1627799036 ● ISBN: 9781627799034 	
Selected Poems Sylvia Plath	HL ONLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publisher: Faber & Faber; Main edition (3 Mar. 2003) ● Edited by: Ted Hughes ● ISBN-10: 0571135862 <p>(NB. The later correct edition has a different photo on the cover!)</p>	
Dart Alice Oswald	HL and SL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publisher: Faber & Faber; Main edition (6 May 2010) ● ISBN 10: 0571259332 ● ISBN 13: 9780571259335 	
The Bluest Eye Toni Morrison	HL ONLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publisher: Vintage; 1st edition (4 Mar. 1999) ● Paperback: 172 pages ● ISBN 10: 0099759918 ● ISBN 13: 9780099759911 	

International Baccalaureate World Literature Course Start Task



The Sorrow of War (1990)

Bao Ninh

1. Obtain a copy of the novel, read it and keep a journal containing summaries of each section (you may decide what constitutes a section)
2. Write a page (minimum 500 words) answering **one** of the following questions:
 - a. How, and to what effect, does the novel present ideas about conflict?
 - b. In what ways is this a novel about identity?
 - c. Write about the significance of magic/fantasy/fiction in the novel

(Use evidence from the text to support your ideas)

3. In addition to the work on *The Sorrow of War*, please spend some time thinking about a current global issue of your choice. Write a paragraph or two about this and be ready to share ideas on it.

(Examples of global issues are: climate change, migration, homelessness, poverty, refugees, conflict, war etc.) Think about subjects that are in the news at the moment.