

## KIST DP Course Descriptions 2011-2012

**Group:** Group 1

**Level:** HL/SL

**Subject:** English A Language and Literature

**Grade:** 11

**Unit Number:** 1

**Unit Title:** Language in a Cultural Context

**Approximate Duration:** More than three months

**Key Concepts:**

How does the reader shape the meaning of a text?

How are our understandings of texts affected by their various historical, social and cultural contexts?

**LP Link:** Inquirer

**TOK Link(s):**

Specific cultural and reading practices play a central role in the way we generate the meaning of a text. As these practices change, over time or from place to place, the meaning we ascribe to a text

**Description of the Unit:**

This unit constitutes part 1 of the four part course.

Students will learn how to: Analyse how audience and purpose affect the structure and content of texts. Analyse the impact of language changes and also to demonstrate an awareness of how language and meaning are shaped by culture and context. They will also begin to develop a comparative writing style to prepare them for Paper 1 of the exam.

Students will aim to produce two items for internal assessment - one oral and one written. As part of their summative assessment students will also produce four comparative commentaries (HL) or textual analyses (SL) and two essays.

**Key Knowledge/Skills Addressed:**

Gender (inequality, constructions of masculinity and femininity) Sexuality (its construction through language)

Language and communities (nation/region, subcultures) Language and the individual (multilingualism/bilingualism, language profile/identity)

Language and power (linguistic imperialism, propaganda) History and evolution of the language (disappearing and revival languages, Creoles)

Translation (what is added and what is lost) Language and knowledge (science and technology, argot and jargon) Language and social relations (social and professional status, race) Language and belief (religious discourse, mythology) Language and taboo (swearing, political correctness)

**Main Summative Assessment of the Unit:** DP Oral Assignment