

**IB Language A: Literature (HL)
Summer Reading Assignment for Rising Juniors
2024-2025**

WELCOME TO IB LITERATURE! I am SO EXCITED that I get to teach you IB Literature next year! I look forward to having the opportunity to truly dive into some fascinating, wonderful works of literature. The Language A: Literature (HL) course aims at “developing an understanding of factors that contribute to the production and reception of literature.” If you have any questions, you may email me at rboshell@mcpss.com, but please be aware that I do not check work email regularly during the summer. Because of that, it may take several days to get a response. Happy summer!

Summer Assignment Requirements and Deadlines

All students enrolled in IB English 11 (Language A: Literature [HL]) for the 2024-2025 academic year are expected to complete each part of the summer assignment. The summer reading assignment for IB English 11 is due to Mrs. Boshell in TurnItIn on Friday, August 16, 2024. However, students may submit their completed summer assignment to TurnItIn on or before the first day of school (Wednesday, August 7, 2024) for 10 bonus points.

TurnItIn Class ID: 43753042	TurnItIn Enrollment Key: Lit11
------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Joy Luck Club Summer Reading Assignment

1. Read *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan.
2. You will be assessed with an objective paper-and-pencil test at the beginning of the school year.
3. You will complete a dialectical journal using the template provided and submit to TurnItIn (Summer Assignment Part 1).
4. You will complete a course concept chart using the template provided and submit to TurnItIn (Summer Assignment Part 2).

The Joy Luck Club Dialectical Journal (25 Points)

DIALECTIAL JOURNAL PROCEDURE

- As you read, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of the chart (ALWAYS include page numbers!!).
- In the right column, write your response to the text in no fewer than 3 sentences (ideas/ insights, questions, reflections, analysis, and comments).
- Some examples of things you can consider as you select and reflect upon passages:
 - Characterization – Analyze details or dialogue the author uses to build his characters.
 - Connect – Make a connection to your life, the world, or another text.
 - Predict – Anticipate what will occur later in the text based on what is in the passage.
 - Literary Device – Analyze the author’s craft using literary terminology.
 - Reflect – Think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense—not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
 - Theme – Determine the author’s overall message about some aspect of life through a close reading of a passage.
 - Mood/ Tone – Determine the mood or tone of a scene and explain how that might be important.

DIALECTIAL JOURNAL DIRECTIONS: Use the modified template below to create a dialectical journal for *The Joy Luck Club*. You must have A MINIMUM of two passages PER CHAPTER. Upload your document to Summer Assignment Part 1 in TurnItIn.

Passage from the Text	Page #	Response
“Put your selected passage here.”	#	Type your commentary here.

CHOOSING PASSAGES FROM THE TEXT

Look for quotes/ passages that seem significant, powerful, thought-provoking, or puzzling. For example, you might choose passages that:

- Include effective and/or create use of stylistic or literary devices;
- Remind you of your own life or something you've seen before;
- Showcase structural shifts or turns in the plot;
- Makes you realize something you haven't seen before;
- Showcase examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols, or motifs;
- Have confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary;
- Have events that you find surprising or confusing;
- Include passages that illustrate a particular character or setting.

***The Joy Luck Club* Course Concepts Chart**

DIRECTIONS

Complete entries for each of the Course Concepts listed on the chart below. For each Course Concept, you will construct a bullet-point list of relevant links to that concept found within *The Joy Luck Club*. You must have A MINIMUM of two links PER CONCEPT. Upload your document to Summer Assignment Part 2 in TurnItIn.

Concept	Relevant Links to Text
Identity	
Culture	
Creativity	
Communication	
Perspective	
Transformation	
Representation	

IB LANGUAGE A: LITERATURE (HL) COURSE CONCEPTS EXPLAINED

Identity – When reading texts, students will encounter and interact with a multiplicity of perspectives, voices, and characters/ It is usual when reading and interpreting a text to assume that the views are to some extent representative of the writer's identity. However, the relationship between an author and the different perspectives and voices they assume when they write is frequently complex, and this makes the concept of identity an elusive one. The figure that emerges from the reading of various texts by the same author adds to the complexity of the discussion. Conversely, the ways in which the identity of a reader comes into play at the moment of reading a text are equally central to the analysis of the act of reading and interpretation.

Culture – The concept of culture is central to the study of language and literature. It raises the question of how a text relates to the context of its production and reception, and to the respective values, beliefs and attitudes prevalent in them. This concept also plays an important role with regard to the relationship that is established between an individual text and the writing tradition preceding it. The application of this concept to the study of a text should prompt reflection on the extent to which it is the product of a particular cultural and literary context and how it interacts with it.

Creativity – Creativity plays an important part in the experience of reading and writing. The concept is fundamental to analyze and understand the act of writing, and the role that imagination plays. When applied to the act of reading, creativity highlights the importance of the reader being able to engage in an imaginative interaction with a text, which generates a range of potential meanings from it, above and beyond established interpretations. Creativity is also related to the notion of originality and to the question of the extent to which it is important or desirable in the production and reception of a text.

Communication – The concept of communication revolves around the question of the relationship that is established between a writer and a reader by means of a text. The extent to which writers facilitate communication through their choices of style and structure may be an aspect to analyze in this exploration. The writer may also have a particular audience in mind, which may mean assumptions have been made about the reader's knowledge or views, making communication with some readers easier than with others. Alternatively, the amount of cooperation that a text demands from a reader for communication to take place, and the readiness of the reader to engage is also important as a topic for discussion. Even with cooperative readers, the meaning of a text is never univocal, which

makes the concept of communication a particularly productive, and potentially problematic one in relation to both literary and non-literary texts.

Perspective – A text may offer a multiplicity of perspectives which may, or may not, reflect the views of its author. Readers have also their own perspectives, which they bring to their interaction with the text. This variety of perspectives impacts on the interpretation of a text and, therefore, deserves critical attention and discussion. The fact that the acts of reading and writing happen in a given time and place poses the additional question of how far the contexts of production and reception have influenced and even shaped those perspectives.

Transformation – The study of the connections among texts constitutes the focus of one of the three areas of exploration, namely intertextuality: connecting texts. The complex ways in which texts refer to one another, appropriate elements from each other and transform them to suit a different aesthetic or communicative purpose are evidence of the importance of transformation in the process of creating a text. Additionally, the act of reading is potentially transformative in itself, both for the text and the reader. Different readers may transform a text with their personal interpretation. The text, on the other hand, can have an impact on the reader, which potentially might lead to action and to the transformation of reality.

Representation – The way in which language and literature relate to reality has been the subject of much debate among linguists and literary theorists across time. Statements and manifestos by writers have made claims about this relationship, which range from affirming that literature should represent reality as accurately as possible to claiming art's absolute detachment and freedom from reality and any duty to represent it in the work of art. Irrespective of such a discussion, the concept is a central one to the subject in connection with the way in which form and structure interact with, and relate to, meaning.