

A-Z FOR ENGLISH B

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY AND PRACTICE ACTIVITIES
ORGANIZED BY TOPIC FOR IB DIPLOMA

English B

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Elemi
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Studying English B at IB Diploma

The IB English B Diploma programme is a rigorous and challenging language acquisition course which helps develop your linguistic skills as well as your inter-cultural understanding.

How this resource can help you

Studying English B as part of the IB Diploma programme involves a substantial amount of time for independent study and you may need additional support from your teacher, friends, or other resources. Of course, your teacher and friends may not always be available, particularly when it comes to acquiring, learning, and using a broad range of language and vocabulary across a variety of different topics.

This book aims to help you by providing a core of vocabulary and language organized by the themes and topics you will be studying as part of your IB Diploma.

- There are five broad themes (sections 1–5 in this book). Each theme has been divided into topics, and each topic is then further divided into sub-topics. These are organized along the following lines:
 - individual words together with useful verbs and verb collocations (ie words which are often used in combination). Note that these verbs are listed in the infinitive form.
 - idiomatic language and phrases on the topic which you are likely to meet and need as part of your studies.
- Each sub-topic also includes valuable vocabulary practice activities (eg on nuance and shades of meaning) to help you build your vocabulary in both spoken and written English. These activities also make suggestions for articles and podcasts for further reading and listening.
- Section 6 provides you with more generic language to help with the preparation of your individual oral assessment. At SL, you will engage in a conversation with your teacher which includes you describing a visual stimulus, like a photo. HL students will take part in a conversation related to an extract taken from one of the literary works studied as part of the course.
- Section 7 provides you with a guide to different text types, summarizing the features and style of language you will typically find when working with different texts in English.
- Generally, the language you are given in this resource is in standard register. Words and phrases which reflect more idiomatic language are described as such.
- Note this is **not** a comprehensive list of topical language and you are encouraged to acquire a broad range of vocabulary. If your teacher gives you additional words, or through your own reading you come across suitable language, you might choose to write it into this book, so it becomes more like a personal vocabulary book for you.
- When studying the language for each section in this book, remember that there may be useful and relevant vocabulary in another section. By cross referring between the different sections, you may find opportunities to blend the language from different themes and sub-topics. This is another way in which you can personalize the language for your own needs.

We wish you the best on your learning journey and, of course, the greatest success in your exams!

Manuel, Silvana, and the team at Elemi

D Subcultures

- cultural identity** (noun) Components such as ethnicity, nationality, traditions and so on; what an individual or group is represented by.
The interpretative dance was an expression of his cultural identity, which is why he tried so hard to perform it flawlessly.
- cultural assimilation** (noun) Where a minority group or culture takes on the values, beliefs, and behaviour of another group.
An immigrant stops feeling like an alien when he is culturally assimilated and has adopted, adapted, and adjusted to the new culture.
- counterculture** (noun) A set of values and beliefs which are different from the rest of society. A reaction to the established culture.
In society, a counterculture doesn't necessarily need to be antagonistic to be dominant, just a by-product of a rich environment.
- the dominant culture** (phrase) The ruling/more significant culture in a society.
A dominant culture can sometimes alienate or segregate other minor groups, be it intentionally or not.
- expat community** (noun) A group of people who originate from the same country or place and are living in the same area in a new country or place.
I was really worried about moving to a new country, but the expat community has been very welcoming.
- third-culture children** (noun) Young people who are brought up in a culture that is different to their country of origin or to their parents' culture.
With an increasing number of third-culture children in the community, it is no surprise that we are becoming a more diverse society.
- distinctiveness** (noun) Uniqueness or individuality which makes something or someone different to others.
Fashion is one of the best ways to assert your distinctiveness.
- to juxtapose** (verb) To compare, or to put side by side.
It is really interesting to juxtapose different cultures, in order to understand what they have in common, along with what makes them unique and different.
- tribe** (noun) A group of people who have something in common or who behave in the same way.
Urban tribes' customs vary from culture to culture.
- sense or feeling of belonging** (noun) To be totally comfortable and happy in a place or within a group.
He felt a real sense of belonging when he joined the local history club.
- connection** (noun) Something a person or group has in common with another person or group.
They got on with each other so well because they had so many connections.
- unique** (adj) The only one of its kind.
People are in a constant search of qualities that make them distinct, being unique is part of our inherent nature.
- to label** (verb) To describe someone in a particular way, which can be seen as unfair or untrue.
Labelling somebody because of clothes, habits, or culture does not take into account that this person is somebody who is constantly changing and developing.
- ignorant** (adj) Lacking knowledge, education and/or awareness.
Her ignorant comments lost her the respect of many people who support the educational reforms.
- tolerance** (noun) The ability to accept ideas or positions different to your own without having to agree with them.
No amount of tolerance can withstand continuous unabashed discriminatory slurs.
- rebellious** (adj) Something that is deliberately done to undermine or insult, usually a reaction to a set of rules or norms in a society.
The students were involved in a rebellious protest about the new regulations last week.



to adjust to a different set of values (verb)

To adapt to and adopt a different set of values or to learn to fit with them.
Creating a family and adjusting to a different set of values is not an easy task for any young couple.

xenophobic (adj)

Relating to prejudice or distaste directed at people from other nationalities or countries.
His xenophobic comments do a disservice to the community he tries to represent through his opinions.

to alienate (verb)

Forced segregation or isolation of an individual or group through superficial, offensive, or damaging reasons.
Through insensitive practices and commentaries, they started to alienate a group of individuals who just wish to work hard.

clique (noun)

An exclusive group of individuals who share tastes and ideas and do not usually welcome newcomers to the group.
High schools usually have various different social cliques for teenagers to find a sense of belonging.

to isolate (verb)

To separate a person, group, or place from others so that they/it remains alone.
Communities all around the world were forced to isolate because of the pandemic; ensuring the world must do away, hopefully temporarily, with some traditional close-contact traditions.

peer pressure (noun)

When a person feels forced to do something they wouldn't choose to do because other people are doing it.
He only went to the party because of peer pressure, otherwise he wouldn't have been there.

to marginalize (verb)

To treat individuals, groups, identities, concepts, and so on as insignificant or worthless.
Isolated communities tend to marginalize outsiders or people who don't comply with their ways.

Vocabulary practice

1 These verbs and phrases are made up of synonyms and opposites (or antonyms). Look carefully at them:

to hide *to create* *to make a secret known* *to keep out of sight*
to forge *to reveal* *to divulge* *to conceal*

i) Find a synonym and an opposite of the verb *to disclose*.

Verb	Synonym	Opposite
to disclose		

ii) Look at the remaining verbs/phrases in the list again. Now put them into three pairs of synonyms.

Verb	Synonym

2 Fill the gaps in the following passage. Use the words from the glossary (above) to help you.

Some artists love to remain secretive and _____ their true identity. In fact, for some, like English graffiti artist Banksy, you could argue that the mystery of who he is is a large part of his success. He is entirely anonymous. We don't know his real name. He's worked to _____ his very own identity, and through his artwork and political messaging, we all have our own image of who he is. We all love mystery, of course, but he might have to give up this anonymity and _____ his identity, so that he can claim copyright and ownership of his work. But will this enigmatic person truly reveal who he is – or will he simply _____ an entirely new identity.

3 Match each word on the left with a synonym on the right.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| i) ignorant | be in agreement with |
| ii) dissimilitude | being different |
| iii) divergence | not similar |
| iv) to side with | isolate |
| v) alienate | uneducated |

4 Share, think, and discuss these quotes with your classmates.

“Clothes will disguise a fool, but his voice will give him away.”
Unknown proverb

“Tell me whom you love, and I’ll tell you who you are.”
Old African proverb

“Every culture, or subculture, is defined by a set of common values, that is, generally agreed-upon preferences. Without a core of common values, a culture cannot exist, and we classify society into cultures and subcultures precisely because it is possible to identify groups who have common values.”
Kenneth E Boulding

“I am one of the writers who wish to create serious works of literature which dissociate themselves from those novels which are mere reflections of the vast consumer cultures of Tokyo and the subcultures of the world at large.”
Kenzaburo Oe

5 These articles will help you to expand your vocabulary when discussing and writing about subcultures. Share, discuss, and think about these articles with your classmates:

“Am I rootless, or am I free? Third culture kids’ like me make it up as we go along.”
 Ndela Faye
The Guardian, 9th March 2016

CALIFORNIA VAPING: THE NEW SUBCULTURE.
 Owen Bennett Jones
BBC News, Los Angeles, 6th April 2015

Inside the secret world of Millennial subcultures
 Tim Boyd
Financial Review, 24th January 2020

Experiences

A Leisure activities

recreation (noun)	An activity done for enjoyment; this can be a sport, hobby or interest. <i>It's good to factor in time each week for recreation as well as studying.</i>
amateur (noun/adj)	A person who does a sport or hobby for enjoyment and is not paid to participate. <i>As an amateur boxer, Sam went running daily to maintain his stamina.</i>
professional (noun/adj)	A person who is gifted at a sport or skill and is paid to play the sport or use their skills as a job. <i>Lara never imagined she'd be good enough to become a professional swimmer.</i>
to cope with (verb)	To deal successfully with something difficult. <i>Playing lots of sports and running regularly helps me cope with the stress of my studies.</i>
motive (noun)	A reason for doing, or desire to do, something. <i>Her motive for playing football was to join a team and make friends.</i>
self-realization (noun)	Reaching your potential. <i>He felt a big sense of self-realization after he won the player of the season trophy.</i>
satisfying (adj)	To fulfil a pleasure, desire or need. <i>Exercise helps to reduce stress and can be a satisfying release from work or study.</i>
contributor (noun)	A person who assists someone with something in a particular way. <i>As the player with the most goals that season, Smith was a huge contributor to the team's success.</i>
boost (noun)	An improvement or increase. <i>Getting a new pet improved her well-being significantly; being able to play with him during her spare time was a huge boost to her morale.</i>
therapeutic (adj)	Something that contributes to a person's wellbeing, generating a good effect on the body and/or mind. <i>After a few tai chi sessions which were good therapeutic physical exercise, she started to improve significantly.</i>
diversion (noun)	An activity that allows people to be distracted from stressful or tedious things. <i>Going kayaking is one of our favourite diversions, especially when we have a heavy workload to cope with.</i>
amusement (noun)	Something humorous, enjoyable or funny. <i>Listening to your cousin's stories about the rugby tournament was such an amusement.</i>
idle (adj)	A person who is lazy or a machine that is not used for purpose. <i>Maria didn't understand why such expensive machines were installed at the gym and then left idle.</i>
to ease (verb)	To reduce the degree of an unpleasant situation. <i>She decided to ease tension by engaging in some relaxing yoga sessions.</i>
to unwind (verb)	To relax, usually after having done something stressful or difficult. <i>She loved to go for a walk along the beach to unwind after a long day.</i>
break (noun)	Time out from doing something else for a longer period of time. <i>He granted himself a long break from his work in order to focus on his studies.</i>
respite (noun)	A period of rest. <i>Sanjay couldn't play in the team for six weeks because the physiotherapist said he needed respite to recover from his knee injury.</i>
breathing space (noun)	A short break from an activity or situation before coming back to it. <i>The thunderstorms allowed some breathing space for the rugby players to rest and consider their tactics for the next match.</i>



time to kill (phrase)

A fixed amount of time in between events or activities with no general purpose, other than to wait for something to take place, which can therefore be used to do something unexpected.

We have some time to kill before the tournament, want to go get some lunch?

spare time (noun)

Time that a person has available to do what they wish to do and not what they're obligated or expected to do.

I guess I have some spare time in my schedule to go to that yoga class.

**'rest and relaxation'
(or R & R)** (noun)

An undefined period of time dedicated to de-stressing.

Liv couldn't wait to get to the health spa for some well-deserved R & R.

at your convenience (phrase)

To do something at a time that suits you which does not interfere with anything else you are doing.

Sure, we can meet tomorrow at your convenience. I'm free most of the day anyway.

Vocabulary practice

1 Each word on the left can be followed by a word on the right. Match them up. (Use each word only once.)

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| i) spare | needs |
| ii) cope | with |
| iii) therapeutic | game |
| iv) response | time |
| v) satisfy | moment |
| vi) satisfying | session |

2 Match the two parts of the sentences to find proverbs.

- | | |
|--|--|
| i) (Albanian proverb)
A life of leisure | what we repent at leisure. |
| ii) (Chinese proverb)
To be for one day entirely at leisure | but honesty can wait a fair leisure. |
| iii) (German proverb)
We do in haste | and a life of laziness are two different things. |
| iv) (Danish proverb)
Deceit is in haste | and repent at leisure. |
| v) (Dutch proverb)
Marry in haste | is to be for one day an immortal. |

3 Here are some useful articles. Read, think about, and discuss these with your classmates.

Morning run or evening walk? Here's the science on the best time of the day to exercise.

Gretchen Reynolds

The Irish Times, 1st February 2021

Ten Unusual Museums Around the World

Hindustan Times, 26th January 2021



Human ingenuity

A Entertainment

- celebrity** (noun) A person who is very well-known and easily recognized by the public due to their fame.
As a celebrity, she enjoyed great perks and fame that others could only dream of.
- starlet** (noun) A young actress who hopes to become a leading actress when she is older.
As a starlet, she played some minor roles in low-budget series.
- famous** (adj) A person who is known by many, often worldwide.
She was a young starlet who dreamed of one day being a famous leading lady.
- stardom** (noun) The state in which one is recognized as being a famous celebrity.
Thanks to his stardom, he was able to help those in need through charities and sponsorships.
- performance** (noun) A piece of entertainment such as a play, a presentation, dancing, or singing.
During their performance, they considered using a crane and various stunt doubles to perform high-risk stunts!
- stunt** (noun) A difficult feat requiring skill and daring. Actors are sometimes replaced by trained professionals called 'stunt doubles' for dangerous stunts in movies.
Even though he got injured performing his last stunt, he refused to use a stunt double and was ready to try again.
- extravaganza** (noun) An elaborate piece of entertainment or production.
A performance like this was to be expected, an "over-the-top" extravaganza that included tigers and daring acrobatics.
- spectacle** (noun) A notable or unusual piece of entertainment.
Seeing the show go so badly wrong was quite a spectacle!
- to broadcast** (verb) To transmit through streaming, television, radio, etc.
The band's performance was broadcast to every corner of the world in a midnight stream that dazzled audiences.
- pantomime** (noun)
1 A stage play, usually based on a children's story, told in a comical way with lots of visual humour and often including music and dancing. Pantomimes are often performed at Christmas.
The family went to see the pantomime, Aladdin, at the Empire Theatre as a Christmas treat.
2 An event or situation that is extremely comical or ridiculous.
The removal firm made such a mess of packing the van that it became a pantomime to watch!
- musical** (noun/adj)
1 (noun) A stage play or film that tells a story which develops through song and dance as well as dialogue.
Lea thought she didn't like musicals, until she saw The Greatest Showman.
2 (adj) Someone or something that is tuneful.
Her musical humming could be heard in the background during the rehearsal, which annoyed the director.
- drama** (noun)
1 A television series, film or play that is characterized by a plot involving serious conflict, tone, or subject matter.
The high-school drama about an impoverished teen won several awards at the film festival.
2 An event or situation that is highly emotional.
It was a real drama when we thought Jack was missing. Turned out he was asleep the entire time!
- melodrama** (noun) A television series, film, or play that is characterized by a plot involving everyday events which can sometimes be over exaggerated for effect.
Her play proposal could be considered a melodrama that deals with the struggles of a secretary, plagued by the horrors of answering calls and filling memos.
- melodramatic** (adj) Someone or something that overreacts to a given situation or overexaggerates an emotion.
Whilst the performance was enjoyable, we thought the lead actor was very melodramatic in the wedding scene.

comedic (adj)

Someone or something that is funny.

The famous actress guest starred in the comedic episode about spiders with party hats.

episodic (adj)

Something that happens in small parts (or episodes) such as a television or book series.

Last year we started reading an episodic saga of pirate adventures. We can't wait for the next book to be released!

fictional (adj)

Books, shows, plays, or characters that are created by a writer and are not real.

Some fictional characters can be more memorable than real people.

paparazzi (plural noun)

Photographers who stalk celebrities to get photos of them without their permission or prior arrangement.

The actors didn't leave the hotel for three days because of the paparazzi waiting outside.

glamour (noun)

An appealing attractive quality that makes people or things seem exciting or interesting.

She had always wanted to be an actress because of the glamour of Hollywood.

escapism (noun)

Doing an activity to escape reality or routine.

She lost herself in video games as a form of escapism to run away from her obligations.

to binge-watch (verb)

To watch most or all of a television series or box set in one session.

He decided to binge-watch two seasons of his favourite show in one night!

box set (noun)

The complete collection of all episodes or series of a television show or all instalments of a film collection.

Her only plan that weekend was to watch the box set of her favourite crime drama.

Vocabulary practice

1 Look at these groups of words. Find the odd one out.

i) musical ballet auditorium pantomime

ii) ball soap operas TV serial sensational programme

iii) social gathering sleepover stardom get together

iv) distraction dissatisfaction recreation amusement

v) broadcast talk show cartoon podcasts

2 Pair up the words on the left with the words on the right to make phrases to describe somebody who loves partying or is very sociable.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| i) pleasure | goer |
| ii) social | animal |
| iii) party | butterfly |
| iv) party | seeker |

3 These are quotes about entertainment. Share, think and discuss these quotes with your classmates.

"I find television very educational. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book."

Groucho Marx (American comedian)

"I still get wildly enthusiastic about little things... I play with leaves. I skip down the street and run against the wind."

Leo Buscaglia (American author)

B Artistic expression

expression (noun)	The way a person conveys their emotions, opinions, or feelings. <i>Her artistic expression was mired in controversy after she featured some disturbing art pieces in the exhibit.</i>
artistic (adj)	Relating to creative expression. <i>One could argue that his artistic genius comes from many years at work, travelling around the world and learning about different cultures.</i>
technique (noun)	A way of doing something or the style in which an artist usually approaches their work. <i>His technique of blending light and shade made his paintings popular with so many people.</i>
audience (noun)	A group of individuals gathered to watch someone speaking or performing. <i>The audience enjoyed the show from home because of the lockdown, with the same enthusiasm as if they were there on set!</i>
to stage (verb)	To put on an event. <i>They decided to stage the performance in the atrium of the building, in order to ensure an outdoor experience and be able to properly practise social distancing.</i>
prop (usually plural props) (noun)	An object used by performers in a play or film. <i>Among the props used in their performance, there was even a rubber duck!</i>
ornate (adj)	Something that is beautifully and intricately decorated. <i>The stage was set with ornate gold coloured decorations that made it look like a real palace ballroom.</i>
artistry (noun)	Great skills possessed by a person as an artist or performer. <i>She showcased a level of artistry in her routine that the judges had not seen in many years.</i>
exhibition (noun)	A show for the public to attend featuring artwork, photographs or other media put together under a theme or from one artist. <i>Last week's highlight was an exhibition featuring modern works of art by up-and-coming artists.</i>
installation (noun)	A piece of art, a sculpture, a photograph or other piece of work in display in a museum or gallery. <i>Jane spend all day arranging the new installations and was excited for the exhibition to open to the public.</i>
iconic (adj)	A very famous or popular representation. <i>Some of the most iconic works of art can be seen at the Louvre in Paris.</i>
script (noun)	The written words for a play or performance. Actors memorize their lines from the script. <i>Some of the most famous lines from the movie were not in the original script, in fact they were improvised by the actor.</i>
repertoire (noun)	The music, songs, plays, roles, etc that a performer usually specializes in. <i>He included special songs for the anniversary concert which weren't in his usual repertoire.</i>
muse (noun)	A source of profound inspiration. <i>My dad always said that while painting, my mother was his muse.</i>
to embody (verb)	To represent a quality, idea, or belief. <i>Her paintings were modern in style but still embodied the beliefs of her ancestors.</i>
idealistic (adj)	Someone who believes in positive outcomes, despite other people's doubts. <i>Despite numerous setbacks, he remained an idealistic activist against climate change.</i>
recognition (noun)	Admiration and respect in acknowledgement of your achievements. <i>After their first exhibition, showing their radical new art style, they gained a lot of recognition and praise.</i>
memorable (adj)	Something to be remembered or worth remembering. <i>Last night's performance was a memorable addition to their impeccable track record when it comes to live shows!</i>

influential (adj)	Something that has a great effect over someone or something. <i>As an influential content creator, he devoted his free time to campaigning against racism through his work.</i>
rehearsal (noun)	A practice or run through of a performance in a private setting in order to make improvements or changes. <i>The disaster of their last rehearsal didn't deter them, and they gave a memorable performance.</i>
endorsement (noun)	Support for something or someone. <i>With the foundation's endorsement, they were able to collect enough money to put on the free concert they had been planning.</i>
rating (noun)	A measure of the quality or success of something. <i>Even though the ratings confirmed their worst fears, subsequent shows ensured the popularity of the play against all odds.</i>
review (noun)	A written report giving the opinion of the writer about something such as a play, show, or film. <i>The reviews of the new play were so good that all performances sold out the next day!</i>
recommendation (noun)	A piece of advice or a suggestion to do something. <i>His latest film is top of the list of recommendations for what to watch this week.</i>
troupe (noun)	A group of performers. <i>Hearts fluttered as the dance troupe came on stage for one last time.</i>

Vocabulary practice

1 Look at these groups of words. Find the odd one out in each group.

- i) ornate, extravaganza, musical, spectacle
- ii) cast, troupe, band, starlet
- iii) idealistic, celebrity, famous, stardom
- iv) repertoire, prompt, rehearse, glamour
- v) installation, ornate, recommendation, prop

2 Complete the phrases (below) with these words. You can use the same word more than once. (If you need help, search online, and/or ask your teacher.)

art blank justice picture

- i) A _____ paints a thousand words.
- ii) Fine _____
- iii) A _____ canvas
- iv) Poetic _____
- v) State of the _____
- vi) In the _____
- vii) _____ for art's sake.
- viii) Get the _____
- xi) The _____ of war.
- x) The big _____

3 Explore and enjoy. Share, think about, and discuss these articles with your classmates.

SCOTTISH MUSIC INDUSTRY WARNS IT HAS BEEN LEFT 'ON THE BRINK OF COLLAPSE'
 Brian Ferguson
The Scotsman, 26th April 2021

Oscar ratings drop to an all-time low with unwatchable show
 Lauren Sarner
The New York Post, 26th April 2021

G Urban and rural environment

urban (adj)	In relation to towns and/or cities. <i>Urban development planning takes careful consideration of the possible effects on the environment.</i>
urbanism (noun)	The character of life in cities and the study of what is needed in urban societies. <i>Through the great feats of urbanism, some have the luxury of living in great sprawling cities with many amenities and safety.</i>
urbanized (adj)	To include all the components of an urban area, such as buildings, factories, offices, etc. <i>Urbanized regions of the country have reported power outages due to the terrible storm.</i>
suburb (noun)	Residential area on the edge of a city or large town. <i>Many people envy those living in the suburbs since they have easier access to open spaces and can often work from home.</i>
infrastructure (noun)	All the components and systems that allow a city to function, such as transport, power supply, etc. <i>A city's infrastructure is dependent on the proper management and maintenance of its services.</i>
transport (or transportation) network (noun)	A system made up of roads, train tracks, and services such as airplanes, ferries, etc. for the movement of people or goods. <i>One of the best things about living in a big city is the excellent transport networks.</i>
to rely on public transport (or transportation) (verb)	To depend on and make significant use of the network of buses, trains, trams, metro, etc. <i>Many young people living in rural areas have to rely on public transport to meet friends until they learn to drive.</i>
rush-hour traffic (noun, idiom)	Increased number of vehicles on the roads at peak (busy) times of day when people are travelling to or from their place of work. <i>If we don't leave early enough, we'll get caught in the rush-hour traffic.</i>
traffic jam (noun)	When vehicles on the road come to a standstill or are moving very slowly. <i>He was late for work and missed the meeting because he'd been stuck in a traffic jam.</i>
pedestrianized (adj)	An area or zone where vehicles of any kind are not permitted. <i>Many streets in the centre of town are now pedestrianized in an effort to improve air quality and reduce pollution.</i>
municipality (noun)	A self-governed city or town. <i>The municipality was completely against the new national laws proposed by the government and decided not to implement them.</i>
inhabitant (noun)	A person that resides in a particular place. <i>The inhabitants of the municipality were in favour of the new national laws proposed by the local government.</i>
neighbour (noun)	A person that lives close by. <i>Many British people feel that the pandemic made their relationships with their neighbours much stronger.</i>
neighbourhood (noun)	Different residential areas surrounding one's home, with distinct characteristics. <i>Our neighbourhood has become safer since the municipality increased security operations in the area.</i>
metropolitan (adj)	In relation to a large city. <i>The metropolitan area has seen plenty of growth after the influx of resources from international investors.</i>
inner-city (adj)	The oldest and usually poorest central area of a city. <i>Efforts are being made to restore the inner-city to some semblance of its former glory.</i>
poverty (noun)	Extremely lacking in money and possessions, being in the poorest state possible. <i>Many rural communities are in danger of suffering from extreme poverty if government investment doesn't start soon.</i>

rural (adj)	In relation to the countryside and more modest living, away from large cities. <i>Rural areas all share a wonderful rustic feel that give them their charming aspect.</i>
rural exodus (noun)	The departure of (mostly) young people from the countryside to find jobs and homes in towns and cities. <i>The rural exodus is making it increasingly difficult for rural farmers to find reliable labourers for tasks such as harvesting.</i>
teleworking (noun)	Working from home and making use of the telephone, a computer, virtual meeting software, etc. rather than meeting people face-to-face. <i>Teleworking became so common during the pandemic that many people now understand that they can live further away from their work and only go into the office a few days each week.</i>
second home (noun)	An additional house often for use on the weekend or for holidays, usually in the countryside or by the sea. <i>Sadly, the increasing number of second homes in coastal areas has pushed up the price of housing for local people.</i>
rustic (adj)	Having a simple and rough appearance, very characteristic of a rural environment. <i>Her rustic farmhouse in the countryside is a lovely getaway from the busy streets of the metropolitan area.</i>
countryside (noun)	A large area of land that is used for farming or left as it is naturally. <i>The countryside is teeming with wildlife and beautiful sights.</i>
townspeople (noun)	Residents from a particular town. <i>The townspeople were appalled by the new taxes imposed on them.</i>
agriculture (noun)	The work of farming. <i>Most of the ancient world depended on agriculture as their primary means of subsistence.</i>
agrarian (adj)	Relating to farmers, farming and that way of life. <i>Her agrarian lifestyle ensured that she lived her final years in relative peace and tranquillity in the countryside.</i>
farmland (noun)	Land used to rear animals or grow crops. <i>They still had plenty of farmland that was not being used, so they decided to diversify and use a field as a campsite.</i>
commercial crops (noun)	Plants that are grown and harvested in large amounts on farms to sell for profits. <i>Commercial crops can be a great source of income for farmers.</i>
subsistence crops (noun)	Small amounts of plants that are grown and harvested by a farmer and are used to feed themselves and their families. <i>Families in many developing countries rely on subsistence crops as a means of survival.</i>
pastoral (adj)	Something that is typical of traditional countryside life and/or landscapes. <i>Many people enjoy living in rural areas because of the beautiful pastoral views.</i>
outback (noun)	A very isolated rural area, usually in reference to large desert regions of Australia. <i>Resources are hard to come by in the outback during dry seasons.</i>
remote (adj)	Very far away. <i>The remote, outlying settlements seem very alien to the inhabitants of the inner-city.</i>
idyllic (adj)	Extremely beautiful and tranquil. <i>This idyllic countryside is the result of many years of preservation and protection of these spaces.</i>



1 Find the odd one out in each group of words.

- i) cosmopolitan, metropolitan, suburban
- ii) bustling, sparse, village
- iii) picturesque, charming, decayed
- iv) townsfolk, megapolis, hometown
- v) infrastructure, amenities, sprawling

2 These idioms and phrases all relate to the urban and rural environment. Use the words below to complete the idioms and phrases. (Use each word only once.)

nowhere hive ivory chaff water street

- i) Live in an _____ tower.
- ii) Separate the wheat from the _____
- iii) In the middle of _____
- iv) A _____ of activity.
- v) That's _____ under the bridge.
- vi) The man in the _____

3 Read the following proverb and quote. Think about their meanings and then discuss them with your classmates.


“A great city, a great solitude.”

Proverb

“Our admiration of the antique is not admiration of the old, but of the natural.”

R W Emerson

4 Listen to this radio report in which people discuss similarities between urban and rural communities. Make notes about the similarities and differences people mention then share your opinions with your classmates. You can listen to the report and read a transcript on the NPR website.



Urban And Rural Americans Have More In Common Than They Might Think
 NPR website (npr.org)
 12th November 2020





Language for the oral assessment

A Describing a photo or image (SL)

There are plenty of words we may use to describe a picture and its components. To help you in your descriptions for the oral assessment, remember that:

- Descriptions must make good use of all your senses to ensure you don't miss anything. So think about what you see and also what you *feel* when looking at the image.
- Images are metaphors; they show somebody's point of view. This means that an image may often go beyond the initial superficial meaning, and end up showing more than what is visually presented at first glance.

Here are some examples of words and phrases that will help you describe any photo or image perfectly.

First/general impressions of the photo/image

It's a photo about ...	At first glance, it looks like ...
Your attention is immediately drawn to ...	I saw/observed/noticed straightaway the ...
The picture deals with the theme of ...	The photo/drawing/image is possibly about the topic ...
The general impression we get here is that ...	This drawing clearly illustrates ...
What I see first in the picture is/are ...	First of all, I saw the ... in the image
This illustration indicates the theme of ...	It's landscape format (<i>ie it's longer along the top and bottom than the sides</i>)
This photo suggests the photographer is ...	It's portrait format (<i>ie it's longer along the sides than the top and bottom</i>)
The scene takes place in/at ...	In the photo, you can see/make out ...
It looks like the photo was taken ...	I imagine this photo dates from ...

In this picture, we can see a lion looking towards the sky.

The picture clearly shows a crocodile stalking his prey, waiting for the perfect moment to strike.

There are a couple of children playing with a bunch of toys, in what seems to be a very large playground.

There are some people walking around the plaza, being looked at by a group of tourists from a tour bus, almost as if they were looking at animals in a safari. I can deduce this from the expressions on their faces and how many of them are taking pictures.

Describing the picture in more detail

Position

In front of/at the front of the image/in the foreground	Between the ...
Behind the .../at the back of the picture/in the background	Half-way down, I can see ...
On the left of .../on the left-hand side	In the bottom right/bottom left, there is a ...
On the right of .../on the right-hand side	In the top right/top left, there is a ...
On the top half .../in the top part .../on top of ...	Opposite the ...
In the upper part ...	Next to the ...
Underneath the.../under the .../below the ...	Between the ...
In the lower part .../in the lower half ...	On closer analysis, you can see ...
In the upper part .../in the upper half ...	A more detailed look makes me think that
In the middle of the image ...	Assessing it in more detail/a more thorough assessment ...

I can see that in front of the store, the woman appears to be waiting for someone.

Behind the dumpster, there appears to be a couple of discarded shoes.

On the left-hand side, there is a bright blue balloon flying away from the hands of a little girl.

While on the right-hand side, there's a pony with some colourful ribbons eating some hay, showing the peaceful atmosphere of life in the countryside.

On top of the fridge, there are a bunch of old magazines covered in dust.

In the lower part of the picture, the sea seems calm and inviting.

While in the upper part of the picture, the sky seems menacing, as if a storm is coming!

Between the trees, there are a couple of foxes chasing a rabbit, which in my opinion links to sharing the planet and how people who are perceived as 'weak' get chased off.

What the photo/image depicts

This picture depicts ...

The photographer is trying to communicate/show us that ...

It looks like ...

This photo could be a metaphor for ...

This reminds me of .../I'm reminded of ...

I think it's/I don't think it's ...

It seems (to me) that ...

This picture/scene/illustration seems to show ...

I guess that the ...

This picture speaks to me because ...

What I find interesting/surprising/shocking is ...

In the background of the picture, there is a beautiful sunset that makes the sky look like it's on fire!

While in the foreground, there is a beautiful beach full of people who seem to be having a good time. I'm reminded of the 'leisure activities' sub-theme and how everyone gets along nicely.

Next to the old woman, there's a cute little dog with a bright pink collar, apparently trying to jump on her lap as she sits. This reminds me of how humans instil some of their identity into their pets, as an extension of their own personality.

Making cultural links

It seems clear that this photo is taken in ...

I would suggest that this image takes place in ...

In my opinion, this is typically American.

I would definitely guess that this is a typical scene in ...

This shows a celebration/custom/tradition that is typically English ... because we can see ...

I think this is taken in ... owing to the fact that/ because of ...

The ... we can see indicates that this is in ...

From what I know/have read/have experienced/have seen, this illustrates a custom ...

Like/similar to/parallel to/comparable to ...

Unlike/in contrast to/contrary to/different to ...

A guide to text types

Here is a summary of the typical text types you will explore as part of your IB Diploma English B studies. This summary provides you with information such as:

- what the features of each text type are
- the intended purposes of them
- and the type of language they use.

Understanding these elements of different text types will enable you to produce work that is appropriate in a wide range of situations and contexts, and for a variety of audiences.

Note: It's important to remember that both the context and the audience should be presented to you beforehand either in the exam question or by your teacher, depending on the type of work you're asked to produce.

Text type	Text features
Article (newspaper, magazine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must include a headline/title that should be engaging to the reader.• Main lead paragraph must include most of the relevant information to catch the reader's attention.• Focuses on facts and opinions to convey the information presented.
Blog	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should focus on first-person narration of events.• Title should be catchy and interesting.• Should be engaging and relevant to the intended audience.• Use of common techniques such as rhetorical questions, invitations to comment, etc.
Brochure, leaflet, pamphlet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must include a title that should be engaging or interesting to the reader.• May include lists of features, bullet points, etc, to persuade the reader.• Should include various forms of contact information.• Usually, these texts include illustrations or elements of graphic design (although these are not evaluated in Paper 1).
Diary (private)/ journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should focus on the first-person narration of events.• Makes use of emotion to express feelings and ideas about events.• Generally composed of various entries to string together a set of events in different temporal instances.
Informal email/ letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will maintain focus on addressing a specific person or group.• Should have an appropriate greeting and send-off.• Should begin by contextualizing the topic of the email for the recipient.• Mostly intended to establish a friendly exchange between the participants.
Formal email/letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will maintain a clear focus on addressing a specific person or group.• Should address the recipient by their formal title (eg Mr, Ms, Dr, etc)• Should have appropriate formal greetings and send-offs.• Should begin by contextualizing the topic of the email for the recipient.
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should have an engaging title that is relevant to the argument to be presented.• Should include a clear introduction, stating the point to be addressed; a body detailing the elements of the topic and the arguments to be made; a proper conclusion that links all the elements presented in a clear closure.

Purpose	Language
<p>Designed to inform the reader in an exploration of a particular topic. This could range from major events to restaurant recommendations.</p>	<p>Depending on the audience and context, the main goal is to inform the reader. So, the register should generally be formal or semi-formal. Easy to understand by the audience and engaging enough to keep them interested.</p>
<p>Blogs are mainly used to entertain, inform through experience, express opinions, etc. It's always important to remember that this could potentially be read by plenty of people interested in the topics and opinions you present.</p>	<p>Seeing as these are your own thoughts on the matters presented, language should mostly be semi-formal or informal. Blogs are intended to converse with others and get their feedback and opinions on what you're showing them.</p>
<p>Intended to inform or promote something. Usually organized in a way to catch the reader's attention and persuade them to engage in some form with the source.</p>	<p>Depending on the audience and context, the main goal is to inform the reader and persuade them. So the register should generally be formal or semi-formal. Text should be easy to understand by the audience and engaging enough to grab their attention and convince them of something, whether that is to buy, visit, support, etc.</p>
<p>Designed as an outlet to recollect and explain certain events through emotional descriptions and very personal opinions. Journals differ by the fact that they are usually more focused on a sort of 'log' of events and what occurred in them. They generally lean less on emotional components and more on descriptions. Journals might also be intended to be public, as opposed to diaries which are intended to be private.</p>	<p>Seeing as these are your own thoughts on the matters presented, language should mostly be semi-formal or informal. Focus on feelings and emotions, reacting to different events.</p>
<p>Intended to engage with the recipient. Expressing opinions, ideas, advice, etc.</p>	<p>Should generally use informal language, seeing as the recipient is a known acquaintance. Intended to converse and establish an exchange of opinions and thoughts.</p>
<p>Intended to engage with the recipient in a respectful manner. Presents a very specific statement, opinion, complaint, etc. Personal emotions should not be the focus. Focus should be placed on achieving the intended outcome of why the message is being written.</p>	<p>Should use formal language. Seeing as the recipient might not be known, or is in an important position, he/she must be addressed respectfully and in a serious manner.</p>
<p>This text type is intended to analyse, explore, or discuss a specific topic, using facts and well thought out argumentation.</p>	<p>The language used should be formal or semi-formal. The intended audience should be educated people who understand the presented information and are able to make sense of the presented arguments; therefore, the information should be presented in a coherent, logical, and well-organized manner.</p>

