

## English Language

### Preparation for the NSS

#### 1. The Senior Secondary English Language Curriculum

The senior secondary English Language curriculum consists of a Compulsory Part and an Elective Part.

- 1.1 In the Compulsory Part, teachers are encouraged to continue with what they do at junior secondary level, i.e. delivering the learning content by way of the task-based approach to language learning. They will apply the organising structure of Modules, Units and Tasks to facilitate the learning and teaching of the four language skills, grammar, communicative functions, vocabulary and text-types. As noted in section 2.3.2, it is suggested that up to 75% (approximately 305 hours) of lesson time be allocated to the learning and teaching of the Compulsory Part.

Below is a list of suggested modules and units for senior secondary level:

- Getting along with Others
- Study, School Life and Work
- Cultures of the World
- Wonderful Things
- Nature and Environment
- The Individual and Society
- Communicating
- Technology
- Leisure and Entertainment

- 1.2 The Elective Part includes a range of extension modules which reinforce different aspects of English Language learning. The Elective Part takes up about 25% (approximately 100 hours) of lesson time. It serves the purposes of adding variety to the English Language curriculum, broadening students' learning experience and catering for their diverse needs and interests.

The proposed modules in the Elective Part are categorized into the following two groups:

#### Language Arts

- Learning English through Drama
- Learning English through Short Stories
- Learning English through Poems and Songs
- Learning English through Popular Culture

#### Non-Language Arts

- Learning English through Sports Communication
- Learning English through Debating
- Learning English through Social Issues
- Learning English through Workplace Communication

(Reference: [http://www.edb.gov.hk/FileManager/EN/Content\\_5999/eng\\_lang\\_final.pdf](http://www.edb.gov.hk/FileManager/EN/Content_5999/eng_lang_final.pdf))

## 2. Curriculum Planning

2.1 'Learning English through songs and poems' is made the theme of the English department in this new school year. Singing contests and choral speaking competition will be held in all forms to motivate students' interest in learning language arts.

2.2 Our school has joined the school-based English Language Support Scheme run by the EDB for 2007-2008. The project is to enhance the Interface between the Junior Secondary and the 3-year Senior Secondary Curricular through promoting the learning and teaching of Language Arts. There will be professional support services from the EDB task force working closely with all S1 English teachers to develop a school-based curriculum.

## 3 Strategies

3.1 Enhancement courses and foundation courses will be run for high ability achievers and low ability students respectively to help cater for learners' differences.

3.2 Our school applied for the grant of English Enhancement Scheme last year and a grant of 2.67 million was approved. Teachers' professional development workshops with focuses on language arts and non-language arts electives will be conducted in the coming successive 6 years as scheduled in the budget. Language literacy programmes will also be organized for junior form students to give them a sound foundation to prepare for the subject areas in the NSS curriculum.

3.3 An English Enrichment Handbook is published and distributed to help familiarize students with the vocabulary and expressions, for example, classroom language, irregular verbs, and names of extra-curricular activities. It is hoped that by exposing students to more daily-life and relevant vocabulary and useful expressions, students' learning skills can be enhanced.