



## Decoding The New IBDP Chinese A Syllabus

**Author: Mandy Hu, NTK Chinese teacher**

Among many other international exams, the IBDP undoubtedly plays a leading role and is an important step for students to get into elite universities worldwide. As an important IBDP exam, Chinese A has attracted more and more test-takers in recent times. This in turn creates fiercer competition among students taking the exam. With significant changes in the IB syllabus comes increasing difficulty in attaining high scores.


Without doubt, the new syllabus presents an even greater challenge to students. Although many students study Chinese as their first language, they still struggle to obtain a satisfactory result in the Chinese A exam. This is either due to insufficient exam preparation or the difficulty of the IBDP Chinese A exam itself. Since students lack the necessary knowledge of the new syllabus and an understanding of the exam, their stress and worrying prevents them from attaining a satisfactory score. For example, in the literature section of the exam, students are required to demonstrate mastery of the analysis techniques for poetry and drama works, comment on the writing and expression techniques used in Chinese and Foreign Literature, and have a thorough understanding of the text types and terminologies. For the cultural part, students need to display up to date cultural knowledge, decode the expression techniques and cross-cultural meanings behind the text and images, and make use of their creativity to express how they understand the nature of society.

We have a wealth of experience in preparing students for the IBDP Chinese A exam, and we realize that students are generally not sufficiently prepared for the exam. As a result, they do not know how to tackle textual analysis, and are unable to understand even the basic meaning of the text or master the skills required to correctly understand the question. We also found that many students have never received systematic training and lack the necessary literary appreciation and test-taking techniques. The IB marking system is also unknown to them. Thus, it's easy to understand their fear and trepidation towards the IBDP exam.

We recommend that students who are aiming for a high score in the IBDP Chinese A exam start preparing during their IBMYP studies. Only by gradually building their Chinese foundation and accumulating as much literary and cultural knowledge as possible at this early stage can they hope to excel in the real exam. For this purpose, NTK has designed IB Chinese A courses to provide as much training as possible to our students. Our professional teachers are not only specialists in the subject matter, but also receive regular training as the curriculum evolves. With our excellent understanding of the IB Chinese syllabus, we hope to help students build a solid Chinese foundation, learn to appreciate and understand different text types particularly with regards to essay writing, and build their Chinese language and literature knowledge step by step. We also hope to equip students with the appropriate test-taking strategies for IBDP Chinese A, and thus give them the preparation needed to attain high scores.



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