



The Extended Essay An Overview

Student Training
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Nature of Extended Essay

- Required for IB diploma eligibility
- Externally assessed by IBO evaluators
- Roughly 3,500-4,000 words in length
- Chosen from current subjects and preferably a current focus of study
- Total assessment points 0-36, of which a grade between an A to E is awarded
- Represents 40 hours of work
- Topic agreed upon with mentor

Nature of Extended Essay (cont.)

- Involves collegiate level, critical research
- Mentor meetings totaling 4+ hours
- Apply analytical and evaluative skills, terminology toward subject matter
- Mentor submits a predicted grade and a mentor's report to the IBO
- Concludes with the *viva voce* interview
- EE demands a “diverse range of sources”



Aims/Assessment Objectives

- Plan carefully, leading up to proposed topic
- Develop a thoughtful research question
- Gather, interpret, present, and argue information as it pertains to subject area
- Use the correct vocabulary and argumentative style according to the demands of the subject
- Apply analytical and evaluative skills in the subject chosen

Mentor's Role

- Uses knowledge in subject area to provide advice and guidance to students
- Helps define/refine research question
- Aids in the research process
- Reads and comments generally on content of rough draft
- Submits a predicted grade to the IBO
- Conducts the *viva voce* with student
- Reports plagiarism, if suspected

Your mentor should...

- Spend 3-5 hours with you
- Work to ensure you've created a great research question
- Advise you on where to find materials
- Verify your sources
- Help troubleshoot when you are stuck
- Read your rough draft and discuss it at a conference
- Conduct a *viva voce* conference at end

Your mentor should NOT...

- Conduct research for you
- Tell you what sources to use
- Write any comments on your rough draft
- Give specific advice on how to improve your draft
- Correct bibliographies or citations
- Chase you down for meetings
- Re-teach you concepts in the subject matter you should already know

Responsibilities of the Student

- Choose a topic of interest and invest the time into your research question
- Observe and follow all EE regulations, both general and specific
- Meet RHHS/mentor deadlines
- Communicate with your mentor!
 - Attend meetings
 - Ask for help
 - Address emerging issues
 - Be honest and open!

Combined Role: The Iceberg Model



7/8 = Research Phase

Student & mentor **work together** to:

- Explore and discuss ideas
- Locate appropriate resources
- Discuss readings and ideas
- Develop a suitable research question
- Supervisor monitors research progress
- Represent 3-5 hours of work

1/8 = Writing Phase

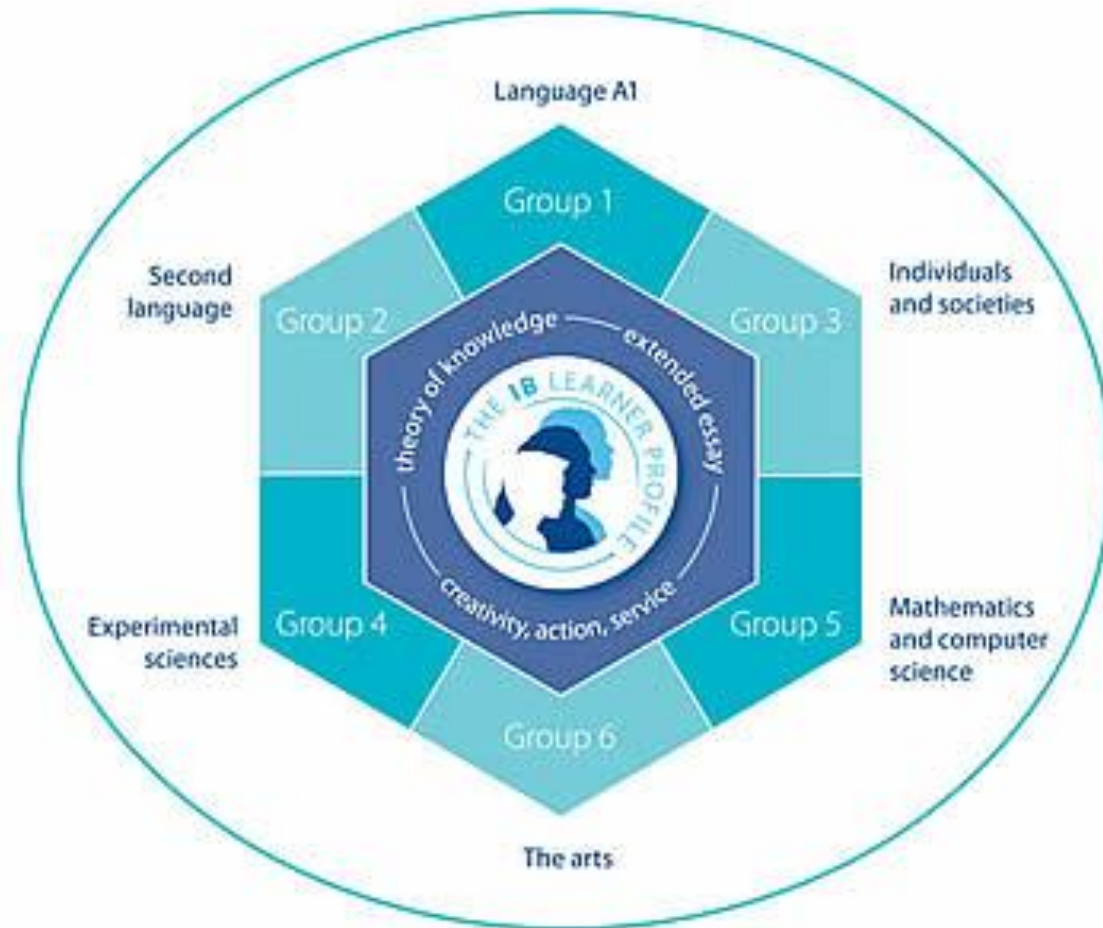
Student works independently in summer and fall to:

- Write complete draft
- Organize writing
- Revise and create final draft of essay after conferences with mentor
- Prepare the final EE

The Diploma Programme



The Diploma Programme



Subject-Specific Areas

Where Can RHHS Students Write Their EEs?

Group 1 (English)	Biology*	Visual Arts
Group 2 (Spanish)*	Chemistry*	Film
Group 2 (French)*	Physics*	Theatre
Classical Greek/Latin	Mathematics*	Set Design
Geography	Economics	Music
History	Psychology	Dance
World Religions	Politics	Design Technology
Social & Cultural Anthropology		Philosophy
Environmental Systems & Societies		Business & Management
Peace & Conflict Studies		
Computer Science		
Information Technology in a Global Society		

*These subjects require teacher approval for student selection.

Extended Essay Criteria

A	Research Question	2
B	Introduction	2
C	Investigation	4
D	Knowledge/Understanding	4
E	Reasoned Argument	4
F	Apply Analysis & Evaluation	4
G	Appropriate Language	4
H	Conclusion	2
I	Formal Presentation	4
J	Abstract	2
K	Holistic Judgment	4
Total Points		36

Extended Essay Grade Boundaries

- A 29 – 36 (work of an excellent standard)
- B 23 – 28 (work of a good standard)
- C 16 – 22 (work of a satisfactory standard)
- D 8 – 15 (work of a mediocre standard)
- E 0 – 7 (work of an elementary standard)

The diploma points matrix

May 2015 onwards

		Theory of knowledge					
		Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D	Grade E	No grade N
Extended essay	Grade A	3	3	2	2	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade B	3	2	2	1	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade C	2	2	1	0	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade D	2	1	0	0	Failing condition	Failing condition
	Grade E	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition
	No grade N	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition	Failing condition

Changes from *The diploma points matrix (May 2010 - November 2014)*:

- B + C combination now results in 2 additional points (previously 1 point).
- A + E combination now results in zero points and a failing condition (previously 1 point).

How did we fare last year?

A	1 Design Technology
B	4 English, 2 History
C	1 Business Management
D	3 Biology, 6 History, 1 Music
E	0

* No student received a “failing condition” based on the EE.

Next Time...

- The EE Subject Groups in Depth
- Subject Preferences
- Mentor Selection

Until then...

...keep a running list of questions for me!