

KS3/4 Foundation Writing Skills Course

In order to make a good start at IGCSE and IB, students need strong foundation writing skills. They will be tested both on their ability to write about what they have read, and also to produce original writing for a range of audiences and purposes.

This course will give learners an opportunity to understand what these skills are, and to experiment with applying them. By the end of the course, students will have a full set of writing skills which they can apply in any context – both classroom and exam.

The skills included on this course meet the requirements for both IGCSE and IB MYB expectations.

Skills covered:

- Understand audience, purpose and form
- Overview of mark schemes and how writing is tested
- Review rules and construct well-structured paragraphs
- Review sentence types and construct a range of varied sentences
- Review spelling rules of common patterns
- Understand the importance of planning
- Understand and plan whole text structure for original writing
- Learn about basic story structure and apply this to own original writing
- Learn about rhetoric and apply persuasive writing techniques
- Learn how to write an argument/discursive essay
- Learn about and practise using a basic academic essay structure
- Learn about terminology used when writing about literature
- Learn about PEE and use it to analyse the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
- Review spelling, punctuation and grammar

| Lesson | topic | content |
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| 1 | Introduction to foundation writing skills | Audience, purpose and form Overview of mark schemes and how writing is tested Writing activity |
| 2 | Paragraphs | Review rules and construct well-structured paragraphs |
| 3 | Sentences | Review sentence types and construct a range of varied sentences |
| 4 | Spelling | Review spelling rules of common patterns |
| 5 | Essay Writing Skills | Where to begin How to plan an essay |
| 6 | Punctuation review | Review and correct basic errors to make your writing accurate |
| 7 | Essay Writing Skills | How to structure an essay PEEL paragraphs |

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| 8 | Creative Writing | Learn about basic story structure and apply this to own original writing Show not tell |
| 9 | Grammar | Review verb tenses and other grammar points |
| 10 | Essay Writing Skills | Language and quotations |
| 11 | Writing to argue | Learn how to write an argument/discursive essay |
| 12 | Writing to Persuade | Learn about rhetoric and to apply persuasive writing techniques |
| 13 | Spelling Punctuation and Grammar | Building on accuracy – how to use SPaG to make your writing lively |
| 14 | Essay Writing Skills | Understanding assessment criteria and proofreading |
| 15 | End of Course review | Spelling Bee Types of questions Timed practise |