

In PLMGS(S), we aim to develop our students into confident and articulate speakers, avid readers and creative writers. To achieve this, we provide the environment and create platforms whereby our students will constantly be challenged to reach for higher and better standards. Opportunities abound via many channels from the academic area to the co-curricular / enrichment activities and numerous learning journeys (both overseas and local).

We adopt multi-pronged strategies and approaches to develop the mastery of the language. Our programme considers the differing students' abilities, interests and needs. There are many opportunities to learn in both formal and informal settings. From giving speeches in class to drama and debates, our students learn to speak confidently and clearly in public.

The students apply the 21st century skills of communication, critical and creative thinking and collaboration in their lessons and various oral presentations in class as well.

The students' effective use of the English language is achieved through a strong foundation and rich language for all. The department adheres closely to this approach in the teaching of English, using the EL Syllabus as a guide.

Pedagogical Focus

To better engage students and to develop critical thinkers of the 21st century, the department incorporates Reciprocal Teaching and Paul's Wheel of Reasoning in its curriculum, so as to help students become skilled readers, enhancing their understanding of texts and issues of interest.

Assessment

For teaching to be effective, teachers will identify and monitor students' changing needs, abilities and interests so that they can modify or adapt their teaching methods to help students and provide them with opportunities to act on the feedback to improve their learning.

Teachers will align assessment with the aims and learning outcomes in the syllabus. The students will be assessed formally and informally using different modes of assessment so that a wide range of skills, learner strategies, attitudes and behavior can be developed, and the items and structures can be learned. The assessment tasks will take into account different student strengths and weaknesses and, hence, different learning outcomes.

The range of assessment modes and tasks include:

- Informal tests and quizzes
- Performance assessments that assess students' skills in carrying out an activity, e.g. staging a role play or giving an oral presentation

- Portfolios consisting of students' written work, multimedia productions, and learning logs / journals, which record students' reflections
- Student profiling, through the use of checklists and classroom observations by teachers or through self-evaluation by students
- Teacher-student conferencing on a written product in order to help students make improvements

English Secondary 4 Express / Secondary 5 Normal (Academic)

Sec 4 Express Paper No: 1184				
Paper	Description	Marks	Weighting (%)	Duration
1	<p>Writing</p> <p><u>Section A: Editing</u> Candidates identify and edit grammatical errors in a short written text.</p> <p><u>Section B : Situational Writing</u> Candidates write 250-350 words on a given situation which will involve viewing a visual text.</p> <p><u>Section C : Continuous Writing</u> Candidates write 350-500 words on one of four topics set.</p>	<p>70</p> <p>(10)</p> <p>(30)</p> <p>(30)</p>	35	1h 50min
2	<p>Comprehension</p> <p><u>Section A</u> Candidates respond to questions based on Texts 1 and 2, one of which is a visual text.</p> <p><u>Section B</u> Candidates respond to a variety of questions based on Text 3 which is a narrative or a recount.</p> <p><u>Section C</u> Candidates respond to a variety of questions based on Text 4, a non-narrative text, and write an 80-word response to a summary writing task.</p>	<p>50</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(20)</p> <p>(25)</p>	35	1h 50min

Sec 4 Express Paper No: 1184				
3	Listening	30	10	About 45 min
	<u>Section A</u> Candidates respond to a variety of listening tasks based on a number of audio recordings which the candidates will hear twice.	(22)		
	<u>Section B</u> Candidates listen to an audio recording and do a simple note-taking exercise. Candidates will hear the recording only once.	(8)		
4	Oral Communication	30	20	About 20 min (including 10 min of preparation time)
	The two parts in this paper may be thematically linked.			
	<u>Part 1: Planned Response</u> Candidates plan and deliver a response to a video clip and accompanying prompt presented on a computer screen.	(15)		
	<u>Part 2: Spoken Interaction</u> Candidates engage in a discussion with the Examiners on a topic based on the same video clip.	(15)		
	Total	180	100	

English Secondary 4 Normal (Academic)

Sec 4 Normal (Academic) Paper No: 1190				
Paper	Description	Marks	Weighting (%)	Duration
1	Writing	70	35	1h 50min
	<u>Section A: Editing</u> Candidates identify and edit grammatical errors in a short written text.	(10)		
	<u>Section B : Situational Writing</u> Candidates write 180-250 words on a	(30)		

Sec 4 Normal (Academic) Paper No: 1190

	<p>given situation which will involve viewing a visual text.</p> <p>Section C : Continuous Writing Candidates write 250-400 words on one of four topics set.</p>	(30)		
2	<p>Comprehension</p> <p>Section A Candidates respond to questions based on Texts 1 and 2, one of which is a visual text.</p> <p>Section B Candidates respond to a variety of questions based on Text 3 which is a narrative or a recount.</p> <p>Section C Candidates respond to a variety of questions based on Text 4, a non-narrative text, and write an 80-word response to a summary writing task.</p>	<p>50</p> <p>(5)</p> <p>(20)</p> <p>(25)</p>	35	1h 50min
3	<p>Listening</p> <p>Section A Candidates respond to a variety of listening tasks based on a number of audio recordings which the candidates will hear twice.</p> <p>Section B Candidates listen to an audio recording and do a simple note-taking exercise. Candidates will hear the recording only once.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>(22)</p> <p>(6)</p>	10	About 45min
4	<p>Oral Communication The two parts in this paper may be thematically linked.</p> <p>Part 1: Planned Response Candidates plan and deliver a response to a video clip and accompanying</p>	<p>30</p> <p>(10)</p>	20	<p>About 20min</p> <p>(including 10 min of preparation time)</p>

Sec 4 Normal (Academic) Paper No: 1190				
	prompt presented on a computer screen. <u>Part 2: Spoken Interaction</u> Candidates engage in a discussion with the Examiners on a topic based on the same video clip. with the examiners on a topic based on a visual stimulus.	(20)		
	Total	180	100	

English Secondary 4 Normal (Technical)

Sec 4 Normal (Technical) Paper No: 1195				
Paper	Description	Marks	Weighting (%)	Duration
1	<p>Writing</p> <p><u>Section A: Editing</u> Candidates edit grammatical errors in a given text.</p> <p><u>Section B: Situational Writing</u> Candidates write a text of at least 180 words. A stimulus text, which may include visuals, will be provided.</p> <p><u>Section C: Continuous Writing</u> Candidates write a text of at least 120 words on one of two topics set.</p>	<p>70</p> <p>(10)</p> <p>(30)</p> <p>(30)</p>	30	1h 20min
2	<p>Language Use and Comprehension</p> <p><u>Section A: Language Use</u></p> <p>Part 1: Modified Cloze I Candidates complete a cloze passage testing vocabulary.</p> <p>Part 2: Modified Cloze II Candidates complete a cloze passage testing grammar.</p> <p><u>Section B: Reading Comprehension</u></p>	<p>80</p> <p>(10)</p> <p>(10)</p>	40	1h 20min

Sec 4 Normal (Technical) Paper No: 1195

	<p>Part 3: Comprehension I Candidates answer questions on a narrative or a recount.</p> <p>Part 4: Comprehension II Candidates answer questions on non-narrative texts, one of which includes visuals.</p>	(10)		
		(30)		
3	<p>Listening Candidates complete a variety of listening tasks.</p>	20	10	About 45min
4	<p>Oral Communication The two parts in this paper are not thematically linked.</p> <p><u>Part 1: Reading Aloud</u> Candidates read aloud a short text, presented on a computer screen.</p> <p><u>Part 2: Spoken Interaction</u> Candidates engage in a discussion with the Examiners on a topic based on a visual stimulus.</p>	40	20	About 20min (including 10min of preparation time)
	Total	190	100	