ENTRANCE EXAMINATION – IB 1 ENGLISH B HL CANDIDATES: SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading Comprehension

The candidate will have to read the text and answer ten questions verifying their comprehension of this text. The candidate is expected to be able to:

a) Prove the understanding of the message: the main ideas conveyed by the text;

b) Find an appropriate synonym or antonym for the word(s) selected from the text;

c) Recognise major figures of speech in the text, e.g. metaphors, similes, repetitions, euphemisms, hyperboles;

d) Spot and form major parts of speech from the word(s) selected from the text, e.g. a noun from a verb, an adjective from a verb;

e) Identify basic vocabulary and spelling differences between British and American English.

2. Use of English

The candidate will have to transform or paraphrase the sentences given so that their meaning would remain the same. In order to complete this task, the candidate will have to use the words in bold without changing their forms. The candidate is supposed to be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the following linguistic phenomena:

a) Modal verbs;

b) Passive voice;

c) Conditional clauses;

d) Concessive clauses;

e) Unreal past structures;

f) Infinitives, participles, and gerund;

g) Reported speech;

h) Emphatic inversion;

i) Intensifying adverbs.

3. Writing skills

The candidate will have to write a short essay where they will respond personally to the stimulus text provided. The candidates will have to :

a) agree or disagree with the stimulus text, yet they can take a more balanced approach;

b) take a convincing and coherent approach to the stimulus text by supplying a logical, well-structured, and effective response;

c) support their argument with relevant and engaging evidence, using some cohesive and stylistic devices;

d) use a wide range of vocabulary, including idioms, as well as both simple and complex sentences;

e) deliver a personal response that should consist of 300 – 400 words.

The End! ☺