

IB SL II
Summer Assignment
2019

For your summer assignment in IB SL II, please complete the following two parts:

Part 1: Written Assignment Revision and *The Elements of Style*, by William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White

This classic writing reference will help you write with clarity and sophistication. Find an hour or two this summer to read Strunk and White's advice.

Next, print out a copy of your Written Assignment and Reflective Statement. On this hard copy, you should mark up any revisions you will make to improve this essay. Your revisions should include at least five references to *The Elements of Style* and address any comments/suggestions from Ms. Rogers.

Example:

~~I believe that~~ Mahfouz uses the character Said Mahran and his involvement with the Sheikh and mosque to show how he uses people to his own advantage. Throughout the book, Mahran goes to Sheikh Ali a few times to seek guidance, but ~~I believe that~~ he only goes to him because he is in a situation where he has no home and goes to him for “a superb place for hiding” (Mahfouz 74). ~~Not one time in the book~~ does he go to the Sheikh for appreciation ~~despite the fact that~~ Mahran's father was deeply involved in that community prior to his death.

Omit
Needless
Words
(page 23)

Part 2: *How to Read Poetry Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster + 10 poems

“No literary form is as admired and feared as poetry.” It is my hope that reading *How to Read Poetry Like a Professor* will make our first unit of study a little less intimidating!

Find a published poet who has many poems available for you to read, either in print or online. If you're not too familiar with poetry, start with *Poetry 180*, a collection of 180 different poems (<http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/p180-list.html>). Find a poem you like and read more of that poet's work. You should read at least 10 poems by your chosen poet. ***If you choose to revisit a poet from your English 10 poetry project, keep in mind that the level of analysis expected for IB SL II is much higher.*

Read chapters 1-8, 12, and 15 in *How to Read Poetry*. Re-read the 10 poems by your chosen poet and annotate based on what you've read in *How to Read Poetry* (example on the next page). This can be typed or handwritten.

Example:

“Letter Beginning with the First Line of Your Letter” by Stephen Dobyns

Discursive poem

Here the weather remains the same. Constant summer sun. When was the sky anything but blue? In the harbor park, boys on bikes plague lovers and the pink-eyed dogs of the elderly. Across the water, freighters take on cargo. From another shore, I envy each destination. Since you are not here, I think of you everywhere; wherever they are going they must be going to you. We were like fat people in old cartoons who could barely kiss for all their mortal baggage; like holiday travelers who have missed their trains, are stranded in a European station surrounded by wicker baskets, belted trunks. We had such baggage. It increased and became such a mountain that we lost each other behind it, until our voices grew distant and we returned to writing letters. Whose baggage, whose mistakes, who cares now? Listen, I am thirty-six, I have lived in many cities and within me it is raining. The deliberate ocean repeats and repeats. Empty life-guard stands, paper cups and plastic spoons, the folded green cabanas - all mark the deserted beaches of the heart. Water drips from colored pennants, glistens on the black taxis on the esplanade. In the empty ballroom of a beach hotel, someone is practising the piano. In sitting room and parlors, guests turn the pages of their magazines, look at rain on window panes, look at watches, look at the closed door of a dining room from which they hear the rattle of dishes and silver, of tables being set. Listen, from such a place I am writing you a letter. Again and again, I try to put down a few words. As day and sky dissolve in sheets of gray, the sea repeats your name to the pock-marked sand.

Tone of desperation- questioning

Reminisces about the past, thinking of this person constantly (emphasized by line breaks)

Physical barrier (their body mass)

Emotional barrier

Resigned- doesn't think there is anything left to do

Pleading

Beach resort in the rain
Extended metaphor
Physical/emotional distance

Water drips, glistens- quiet and still

"Look at..." repetition- tedious, waiting

"Rattle of dishes... tables being set"
activity and noise just outside of the scene- exclusive

ugliness
