

## ENGLISH LV A

You have chosen to embark on literary studies in our school, for which I commend you and bid you welcome! Over the course of the next two years, you will discover new facets of the English-speaking world and its many cultures, while at the same time consolidating and enhancing your command of the English language.

The examination you are preparing for (ENS) is selective and presents numerous difficulties. But it is also a stimulating challenge which you will need to meet, and in-so-doing, you will develop analytical skills enabling you to understand and enjoy more types of literature. You will also practice the methods and techniques of translating literary texts in the correct manner. Over the course of the two years, we shall examine literary works from different periods and of different natures (from poetry to theatre, from excerpts from novels to full-length short stories, to name but a few), and discover the social, political, historic and literary contexts they belong to. Emphasis will be placed on works from the United Kingdom in the first year, and on those from the United States in the second.

A sound knowledge of English grammar is required, together with a good level of vocabulary. You should therefore dedicate some of your time before the start of the year to revising the basics of grammar and by reading as much as possible in English. You are also expected to regularly keep in touch with events happening in the English-speaking world. Listening regularly to news bulletins and reading the international press in English is an absolute must. You must also have some knowledge of key historical events and know some of the major figures from the British and American cultures, and also be able to situate places geographically. Where translation is concerned, you should familiarize yourselves with translation techniques and have a good command of the French language, since your expression in French is considered when grading the examination.

To help you reach these ends, you should consult the following sources and purchase the appropriate books:

### COMPULSORY BOOKS:

- Grellet Françoise, *Literature in English*, Vanves: Hachette supérieur, 2015, 8<sup>th</sup> edition.
- English language dictionary: *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (this is the ONLY edition which is allowed by the ENS for the examination).
- Josselin-Leray Amélie, Roberts Roda et Bouscaren Christian, *Le mot et l'idée 2, vocabulaire thématique*, Paris: Ophrys, 2021, ISBN 13: 978-2-7080-1573-9

RECOMMENDED BOOKS (some of which are available at the university library and/ or in our school library):

- Chuquet H., Paillard M., *Analyse linguistique des problèmes de traduction anglais – français*, Paris : Ophrys, 1989
- Bouscaren J., *Linguistique anglaise – initiation à une grammaire de l'énonciation*, Paris : Ophrys, 1991
- Souesme J-Cl., *Grammaire anglaise en contexte*, Paris, Ophrys, 2004
- Khalifa J-Ch., *La syntaxe anglaise au concours – théorie et pratique de l'énoncé complexe*, Paris : Armand Collin, 1999
- Mayer et al., *Anglais khâgnes*, Paris : Atlande, 2013
- Maserati et al., *L'anglais en Hypokhâgne/ Khâgne, approche méthodologique*, Paris : Ellipses, 2020.

You are also expected to consult the following websites as often as possible to keep yourselves up to date on events in the English-speaking world/ around the world:

- BBC: <https://www.bbc.com>  
(News from Britain and around the world. There are also podcasts to help with oral comprehension and to improve your accent)
- The Telegraph: [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)  
(One of the quality British newspapers which deals with all aspects of society)
- CNN: [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)  
(Although an American channel, much of the focus is on international events)
- Fox News: [www.foxnews.com](http://www.foxnews.com)  
(Again, an American channel, with more focus on the USA)
- USA Today: [www.usatoday.com](http://www.usatoday.com)  
(A New York based American newspaper)

Your course is dense and will require you to conduct a lot of research on your own. It is up to you to prepare your own vocabulary lists and to make sure that all assignments are prepared and handed in on time. You will also be required to undertake oral work (from short news presentations at the beginning of each class to full-length oral presentations with visual aids), meaning that you should also work on phonology/ phonetics. Finally, a collection of translation texts will be provided at the beginning of each semester, and there will be one translation each week corrected in class. These texts should be prepared beforehand, using only the tools allowed by the ENS (*AI is NOT allowed when preparing translation texts, or in any other type of preparation*).

It is necessary to place orders for the compulsory books as soon as you can, since orders may take a long time to arrive. You are expected to be in possession of these materials at the start of lessons.

Looking forward to seeing you in September and wishing you a pleasant (studious) break,

Mr. George James CLIFF.