

St. Gerald's College

-Transition Year English Programme-

Duration: Full school year

General Aims:

- to broaden the students' understanding of the world through literature / film
- to encourage and foster reading and appreciation of the written word
- to encourage students' confidence in oral and written expression
- to develop skills of critical analysis and in making a presentation

General Objectives:

- to identify features of style within texts
- to experiment with narrative voices
- to write a range of short stories / personal responses
- to develop and widen their tastes in reading
- to examine characterisation and to experiment with characterisation in their short story writing
- to collaborate with other students creatively
- to draft and re-draft written work
- to analyse a writer's technique and explore themes and attitudes within a text
- to read and analyse persuasive material ie. bias in newspapers and respond critically to advertising
- to experiment with use of dialogue in story writing

Teaching and Learning Strategies:

- Class discussion / Peer discussion
- Individual and group reflection
- Note taking
- Peer assessment
- Debate/walking debates
- DEAR - promote independent reading
- E-learning (eportfolio)

***Throughout the year, teachers will vary their planning to incorporate Reading, Oral Presentations, Types of language and the written word into their programmes.**

1. THE TYPES OF LANGUAGE:

AIM:

- Provide students with a clear understanding of the five modes of language and develop communication and literacy skills. There are five main classifications of language used across the syllabus. These will be experienced and put into practice by the students.
 1. The language of information
 2. The language of argument
 3. The language of persuasion
 4. The language of narration
 5. The aesthetic use of language

OBJECTIVES:

- Students will become familiar with the different types of writing through interaction with the different modes of writing (those samples are at the teacher's own discretion)
- Students will learn to identify tactile, aural, and visual imagery within samples of writing.
- Students will be given the opportunity to practice the language of argument and persuasion in making speeches in front of their class and through inter class debates.
- Encourage students to practice their writing skills – focus on narrative writing and the language that is needed to tell a good story.

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METHODOLOGY:

- Students are given a general understanding of the concept of modes of language and their use. Students are asked to approach different extracts and develop the ability to analyse texts in order to define common factors.
 - Students will develop their critical writing
 - Vocabulary developed
 - Sentence structure and paragraph building will be stressed.
 - Students choose mode and produce typed 'Perfect' piece. Teacher selects best pieces or extracts compiles and students upload work to eportfolio.
 - Students are exposed to language genres – given handouts of stories by various authors.
 - Debating
 - Group work and feedback
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2. THE BASICS OF COMPARATIVE STUDIES / FILM STUDIES

AIM:

- To enable the student to understand the technical aspects of film making.
- To introduce the student to the different parts of the Comparative Studies course.
- To demonstrate the power of moving pictures to entertain, inform, influence and tell a story.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand how films impart their messages through cinematography, music, dialogue, editing
- To be able to identify movie genres: classic, modern, masterpieces etc...
- To encourage the student to recognise themes that are incorporated in the film(s) studied.
- To give an awareness of the cultural context of the piece.
- To allow the student express views and opinions on the general vision of the movie studied.

WORK COMPLETED:

- Classification of the student's favourite movies.
- To choose different seminal scenes from a variety of films and to demonstrate how they were constructed / the director's role, acting, production design, camera angles etc...
- To write a movie review

METHODOLOGY:

- Discussion / Debate
- Use of ICT
- Think / Pair / Share

ASSESSMENT:

- Students will be asked to write a piece examining their knowledge of the technical aspects of movie making in relation to a movie studied.
 - Students will be asked to write a Film Review and post it to their e-Portfolio site.
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3. THE MECHANISMS OF WRITING:

AIM / OBJECTIVE:

To practice and improve the following aspects of a written piece:

- Punctuation
 - Full Stops
 - Commas
 - Apostrophes
 - Inverted Commas
 - Nouns / Pronouns
 - Prepositions / Conjunctions
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