

A stack of several books is shown, with a bright red apple resting on top of the stack. The books are slightly out of focus, and the apple is the most prominent object. The background is a light, solid color.

**S.4**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**INTRODUCTION**

# S.4 English Language

- **Core part**
- **Elective part:**
  - **Learning English through Drama**
  - **Learning English through Short Stories**
  - **Learning English through Workplace Communication**

# Time Allocation for Compulsory and Elective Parts

	Percentage of lesson time (Approximate number of hours)
<b>Compulsory Part</b>	75% (305 hours)
<b>Elective Part</b>	25% (100 hours) (around 34 hours per elective)

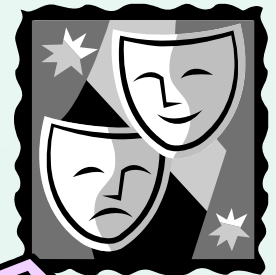
S.6

	Elective Part

→ **Compulsory Part**

S.5

S.4



## 3 electives will be offered:

- ❖ Learning English through Drama (S.4 2<sup>nd</sup> Term)
- ❖ Learning English through Short Stories (S.5 1<sup>st</sup> Term)
- ❖ Learning English through Workplace Communication (S.5 2<sup>nd</sup> Term)

**Assessment**

HKDSE exam (85%)

School-based Assessment (15%)

**Paper 1: Reading**

20% (1 ½ hours)

**Paper 2: Writing**

25% (2 hours)

**Paper 3: Listening  
and Integrated  
Skills**

30% (2 hours)

**Paper 4: Speaking**

10% (about 20 minutes)

**School-based Assessment (SBA)**

15% (for school candidates only)



# Paper 1: Reading

- **3 graded sections:**
  - **Part A: COMPULSORY** (10% of total subject marks)
  - **Part B Section 1: easier**
  - **Part B Section 2: more difficult**

Sample paper

## Remarks:

Students may choose either Section 1 or Section 2 (10% of total subject marks).

Candidates attempting Part A and Section 2 will be able to attain the full range of possible levels, while Level 4 will be the highest level attainable by candidates attempting Part A and Section 1.



# Paper 1: Reading

- In Paper 1, you are expected to:
  - ✓ understand and interpret the purpose and meaning of a broad range of texts
  - ✓ identify the main theme and key details of a broad range of texts
  - ✓ identify the contextual meaning of words and phrases
  - ✓ interpret the tone and mood of a writer
  - ✓ distinguish and evaluate views, attitudes or arguments in fairly complex texts
  - ✓ understand the use of a range of language features in fairly complex texts
  - ✓ interpret, analyze, select and organize ideas and information from various sources



# Paper 2: Writing

- **Part A:**  
**short, guided writing (200 words)**
- **Part B:**  
**longer, more open-ended writing based on one of the eight modules in the Elective Part (400 words)**

Sample paper



# Paper 2: Writing

- In Paper 2, you are expected to:
  - ✓ write texts for different contexts, audiences and purposes with relevant content and adequate supporting details
  - ✓ convey meaning using varied vocabulary, linguistic devices and language patterns appropriately and accurately
  - ✓ plan and produce coherent and structured texts with ideas effectively presented and developed
  - ✓ write texts using appropriate tone, style and register and the salient features of different genres
  - ✓ draft and revise written texts

# Paper 3: Listening and integrated skills



- Three graded sections:
  - Part A: **COMPULSORY** (15% of total subject mark)
  - Part B Section 1: easier
  - Part B Section 2: more difficult

Sample paper

## Remarks:

Students may choose either Section 1 or Section 2 (15% of total subject marks).

Candidates attempting Part A and Section 2 will be able to attain the full range of possible levels, while Level 4 will be the highest level attainable by candidates attempting Part A and Section 1.



# Paper 3: Listening and integrated skills

- In Paper 3, you are expected to:
  - ✓ understand and interpret the purpose and meaning of a range of spoken texts
  - ✓ identify the key details of a range of spoken texts
  - ✓ interpret speakers' feelings, views, attitudes and intentions
  - ✓ understand speakers with a range of accents and language varieties in speech delivered at a moderate pace
  - ✓ understand the use of a range of language features in fairly complex spoken texts



# Paper 4: Speaking

- **Part A Group Interaction**

Preparation: 10 minutes

Discussion: 8 minutes per group of four candidates (6 minutes per group of three)

- **Part B Individual Response:** one minute per candidate

**Sample paper**



# Paper 4: Speaking

- In Paper 4, you are expected to:
  - ✓ express information and ideas (e.g. personal experiences, feelings, opinions, imaginative ideas and evaluative remarks) with suitable elaboration
  - ✓ convey meaning using a range of vocabulary and language patterns appropriate to the context, purpose and audience
  - ✓ establish and maintain relationships/spoken exchanges using formulaic expressions and appropriate communication strategies (e.g. making an appropriate opening and closing, negotiating meaning, making suggestions, using appropriate degrees of formality)
  - ✓ produce coherent and structured speeches with ideas effectively/clearly presented and developed
  - ✓ pronounce words clearly and accurately
  - ✓ use appropriate pace, volume, intonation, stress, eye contact and gesture to support effective communication

# School-based Assessment (SBA)



## Part A (10%)

## Part B (5%)

### Group interaction

(write up some comments and personal reflections, and then take part in a discussion with classmates on the texts they have read/viewed)

### Individual presentation

(make an individual presentation and respond to your teacher's questions)

based on the module in the Elective Part of the curriculum

Over the course of three years, you need to read/view at least one each from the following four texts

The assessment will be based on the student's **ORAL** performance.

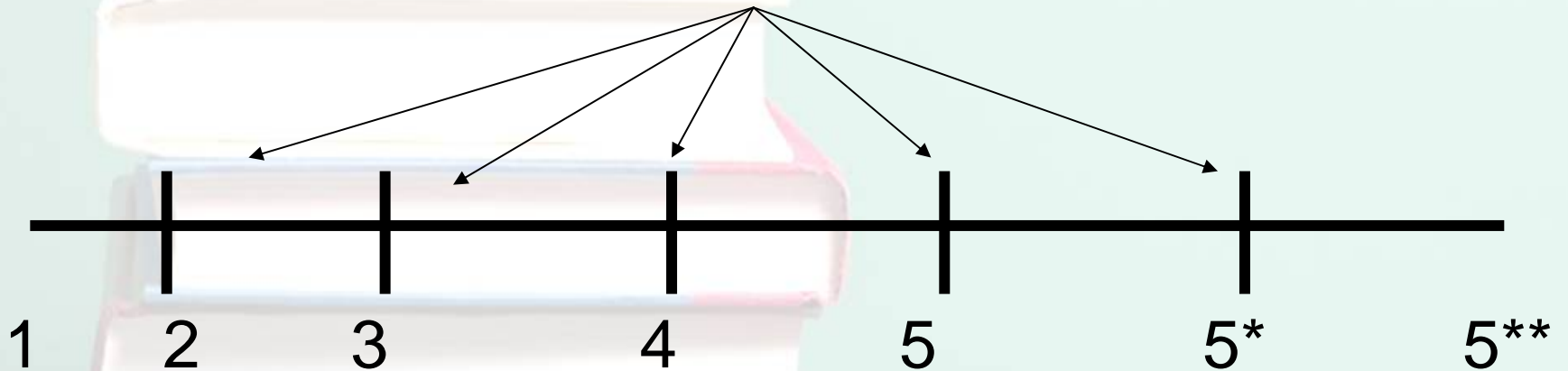
Print fiction

Print non-fiction

Non-print fiction

# Standards-referenced Reporting

Cut scores



Level 5\*\* is the highest; Level 1 the lowest