

Introduction to the Extended Essay

For Parents/Guardians

What is the Extended Essay?

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The Extended Essay, or EE, is an independent academic writing project on a topic chosen by the student

The essay has a **4000 word maximum**

There are also **3 reflections** that are completed at different stages throughout the research and writing process

IB recommends students spend approximately **40 hours** on the EE.

At WL, the EE process runs from December of 11th grade to November of 12th grade.

What are the aims of the EE?

The aims of the extended essay are for students to:

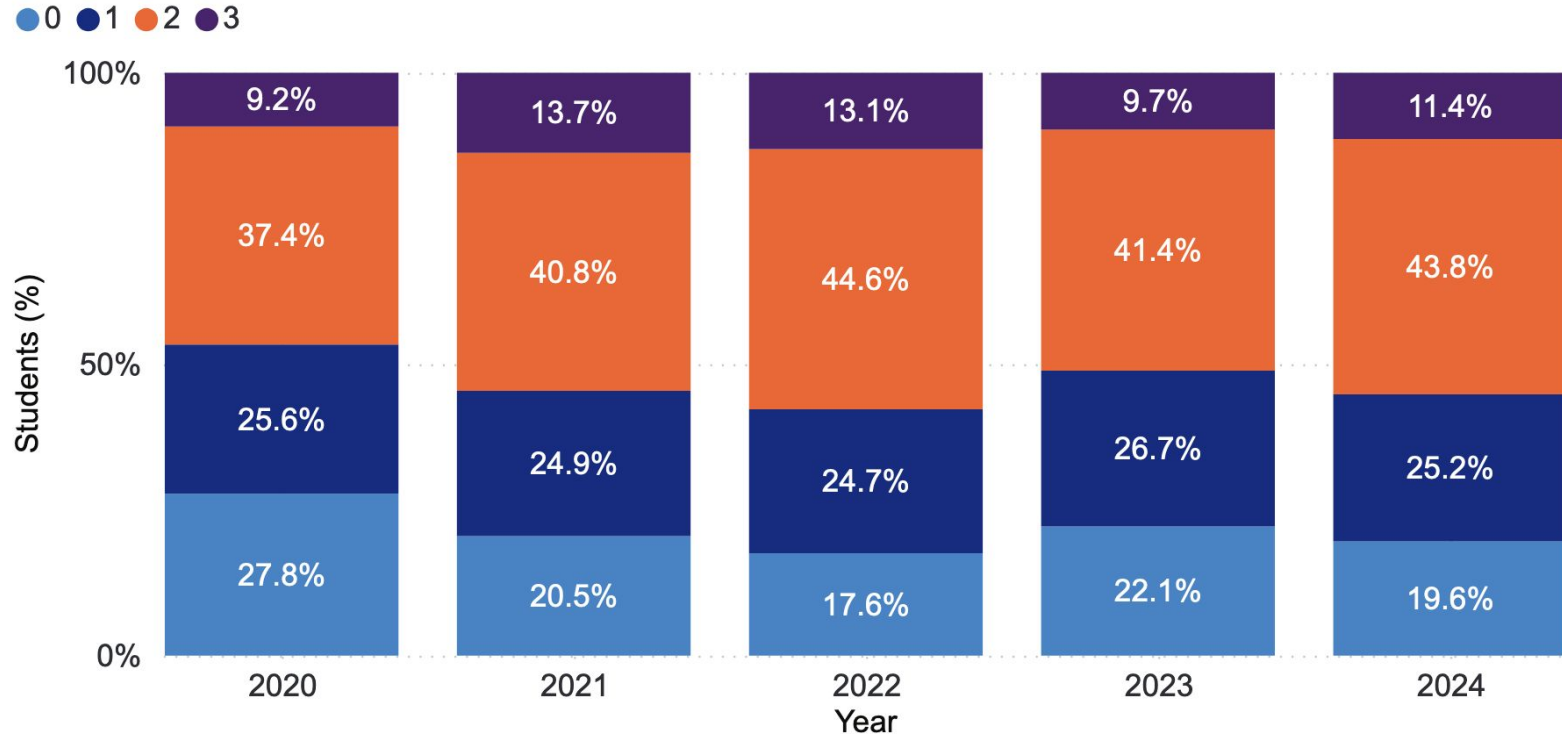
1. Engage in independent research with intellectual initiative and rigor
2. Develop research, thinking, self-management and communication skills
3. Reflect on what has been learned throughout the research and writing process.

Global results - May 2024

DP diploma results - core points

Core points -
combination of
TOK & EE
results

Distribution of core points



Class of 2024: Global EE Scores

Grade distribution percentage by subject group

— — Result	Grade awarded					
Subject group	A	B	C	D	E	Total
STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE	14.7%	27.2%	39.7%	17.2%	0.7%	99.4%
LANGUAGE ACQUISITION	14.7%	24.1%	40.1%	19.9%	0.4%	99.1%
INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES	9.5%	24.9%	40.7%	22.7%	1.3%	99.1%
SCIENCES	8.2%	32.4%	45.1%	13.3%	0.4%	99.5%
MATHEMATICS	8.7%	29.1%	46.0%	15.3%	0.2%	99.3%
THE ARTS	13.6%	20.5%	37.4%	24.7%	2.4%	98.7%
INTERDISCIPLINARY	10.3%	24.4%	42.7%	19.6%	2.0%	99.1%
Total	10.9%	26.4%	41.2%	19.6%	1.0%	99.2%

How is it supervised?

- Students are expected to work **independently**.
- Each student will be assigned an **EE Supervisor** who will provide **3-5 hours of advice and support** throughout the process. Communication between student and supervisor is a mix of informal check in conversations and 3 formal meetings. The **student is expected to be the initiator of these discussions**.
- **Mr. Peters** provides additional support in role as EE Coordinator.
 - Provides timeline of checkpoints to help students stay on track in the process
 - Offers various help sessions
 - Available for support and questions.
- Students in **Core/TOK** this year will also have class time devoted to the EE process.

When is this due?

The final version of the EE and the 3 required reflections are due in the **Fall of 2025**.

Between now and then there will be various due dates for research, outlines, partial drafts, and reflections.

Due dates for these checkpoints, as well as small assignments related to the EE process, will be in **Canvas**.

Managebac will be used for submitting a variety of documents during the process as well as the final EE file.

How is it assessed?

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The EE is graded based on 5 criteria:

Criterion A: focus and method	Criterion B: knowledge and understanding	Criterion C: critical thinking	Criterion D: presentation	Criterion E: engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic• Research question• Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context• Subject-specific terminology and concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research• Analysis• Discussion and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structure• Layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process• Research focus
Marks	Marks	Marks	Marks	Marks
6	6	12	4	6

Total marks available: 34

What can students write about?

While they have a great deal of freedom in selecting a topic, all essays **must fall under one of the available IB subjects** and should be in a subject that student is studying.

It is **HIGHLY** recommended that students write their EE in a subject they are studying in school. For example, if a student is not taking Psychology, it does not make sense to choose that subject area as they will be unfamiliar with important content, terminology, and research methods.

What are the IB Subjects they can choose from?

— — —

Group 1:

Language and Literature (English)

Group 2:

Language Acquisition

Group 3:

Business Management, Economics, Geography, Global Politics, History, Digital Society, Philosophy, Psychology, Social & Cultural Anthropology, World Religions

Group 4:

Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Design Technology; Physics; Sports, Exercise & Health Science

Group 5:

Mathematics

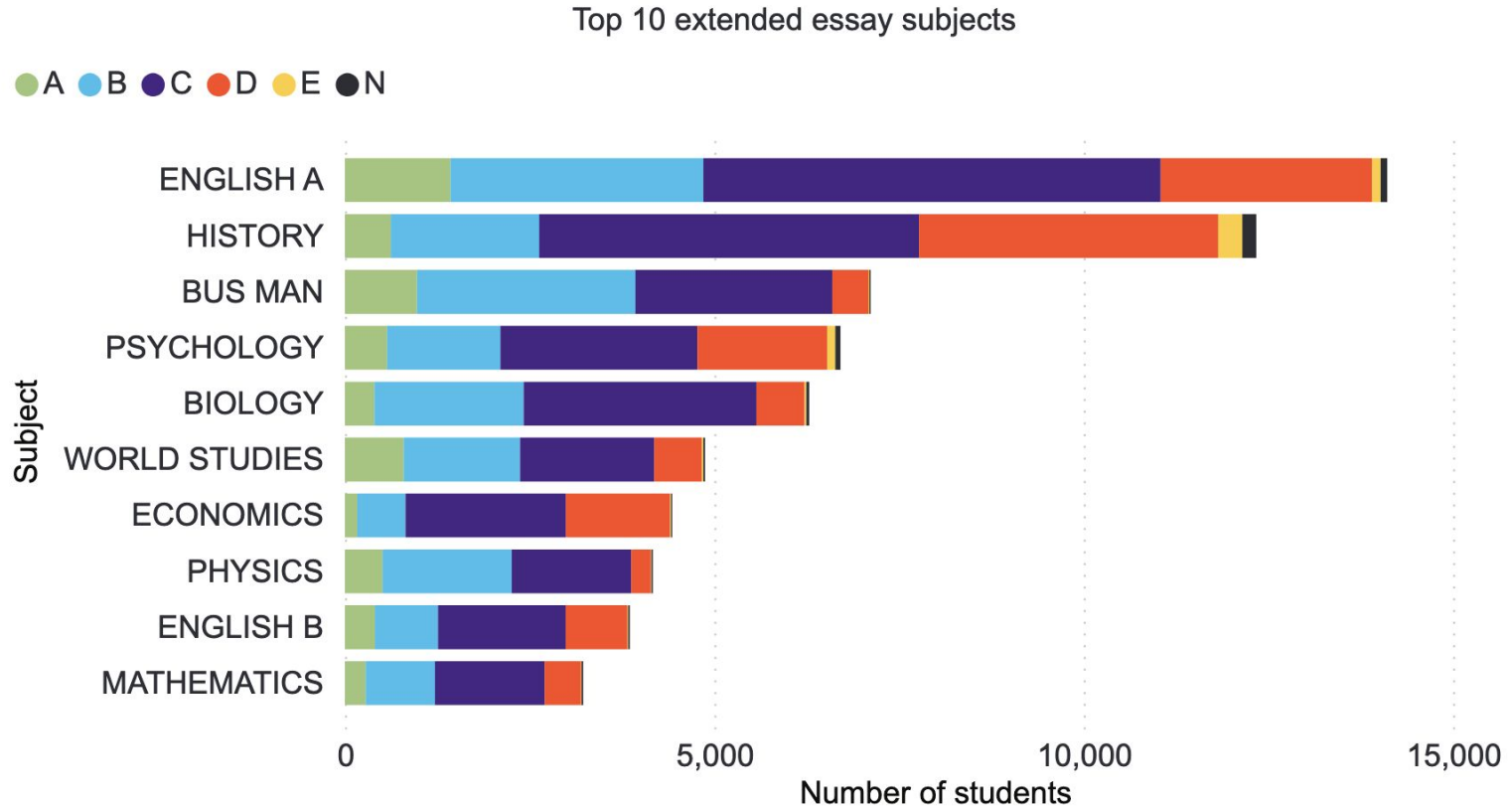
Group 6:

Dance, Film, Music, Theater, Visual Arts

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Environmental Systems & Societies, Literature & Performance, World Studies

May 2024: Global - Top 10 extended essay subjects



Where can you find information about the different subjects?

All students have been enrolled in the [Class of 2026 EE Canvas Course](#)

The Subject Guides and Rubrics Page on the EE Canvas Course has links to the guide and the specific rubric for each subject.

There is also plenty of helpful information in the course, including a timeline and additional EE resources.

What can you do as a parent?

___ Be supportive

Ask questions

Check the [subject guides](#) in Canvas. Everything students need for success is there.

Be aware of major deadlines: For example, on **January 22** students will be submitting their EE proposal, indicating their chosen topic and preliminary **research question**

By **May 1**, students will have written approximately 2000 words (8 pages)

EE Timeline at WL

— — — **Dec-Jan:** Initial research, EE Proposal, Supervisor matching and first meeting, First reflection

Feb-March: Continued research, EE Outline, Optional check ins with supervisor

April-May: Partial draft of approximately 2000 words submitted, Second required meeting and second reflection, Continued Research, **Status Check**

Summer: Finish research and writing

September: Final rough draft due, Meeting with supervisor

Oct-Nov: Making final revisions, Final EE due, Final meeting with supervisor (viva voce), Third reflection

The EE is a unique chance to do research on something that is interesting or meaningful to each student!

I hope they will take advantage of the opportunity!



Please reach out if you have any questions!
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