

2NDE BFI

Summer Reading for the rentrée 2025

Ce cours est organisé exactement comme un cours d'anglais dans un pays anglophone. Les élèves de cette section seront traités comme s'ils étaient des élèves anglophones : ils seront en immersion totale dans la langue anglaise, écrite et parlée. Nous ne travaillerons pas la grammaire ; les élèves sont censés travailler leur anglais spontanément en lisant, en écrivant, etc. Nous avons conscience qu'un temps d'adaptation, parfois difficile, sera nécessaire aux élèves pour s'habituer à ces exigences, mais les résultats en valent la peine.

Les élèves de cette section doivent être motivés. Ils doivent être prêts à travailler dur, et apprécier lire, écrire, et parler en anglais. Ils auront un examen sur My Antonia à la rentrée, et après on va travailler le livre ensemble en cours.

Cette année, l'examen évaluera les capacités des élèves à lire de la poésie, des pièces de théâtre et des textes de prose en anglais, ainsi qu'à rédiger des analyses littéraires en anglais sur ces œuvres.

This course is run exactly like an English course in an « anglophone » country. Students in this section will be treated as if they are anglophone students, meaning that they will be fully immersed in spoken and written English. Time will not be taken to explain grammar, students improve their English naturally and in the best way possible through reading, writing, and immersion. While we realise it will take students some (perhaps difficult) adjustment time to get used to such high expectations, the results are worth it.

Students in this section must be **motivated**. They must be willing to **work hard**, and they must **enjoy** reading, writing, and speaking in English.

This year's exam will evaluate the student's ability to read poetry, plays, and prose in English and to write literary analysis responding to these works in English.

THIS SUMMER, the 2nde **students must:**

- Buy and read the book My Antonia in the original English
 - I recommend version available on amazon.fr that can also be ordered at your local book seller
 - https://www.amazon.fr/My-%C3%81ntonia-Willa-Cather/dp/1435172965/ref=sr_1_7?_mk_fr_FR=%C3%85M%C3%85C5%BD%C3%95%C3%91&dib=eyJ2IjojMSJ9.NXb12q8CmK24JpXI0X8DR1XZuTpoipvIRdNy77LmwKpCqvyCLlpW6nmyK_oQeRXnDmKzXsanzlGeSeftEfrjDeMS3KmPgoQOWAAcVs-sgIhMDLcNY7fEhJT
- After reading the novel, review it for the test on the book at the rentrée
- Review grammar and spelling if need be
- You can go to the International Section Blog throughout the summer for updates!
<http://internationalsection.edublogs.org/>
- OPTIONAL: Read a second book of their own choosing from the « Suggested Additional Reading » and do an interview on your reading of the book for extra credit (5 extra points on their first DS)

When students return to school in September, they **will be tested** on their summer reading, on their ability to write about the summer reading, and their grammar. **Students with insufficient marks will not be permitted to enter the International Section.** We suggest, therefore, that students take their summer work seriously.

OBLIGATORY READING:

My Antonia by Willa Cather

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL READING:

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

1984 by George Orwell

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Bless Me Ultima by Rudy Anaya

Dracula by Bram Stoker

Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe by Edgar Allan Poe

Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut

Sherlock Holmes Selected Stories by Arthur Conan Doyle

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

(Before selecting a book, use the internet to look up what each book is about to find one that interests you!)

TIPS FOR READING:

- If you can, buy a copy of the book and WRITE IN IT. I know this sounds scary, but it's good for you. Come up with your own notation system. For example: circle words you don't know, underline quotations that you like, « star » important passages, put « question marks » next to passages you don't understand. Use different colors. INTERACTING with your book will help you to understand it.
- Do NOT look up every single word you do not know in the dictionary. You will become too overwhelmed. Read first for basic understanding, and mark down (underline, mark the page) the words you don't know. Try to guess the meanings of the words based on the context, and if you can't MOVE ON. When you have finished a chapter, go back and look up a few of the words you marked (not ALL of them!).
- DO NOT watch a movie or TV version of the book. I repeat, DO NOT. If you are having trouble understanding, look up a summary of the book to give you an idea of what you are looking at, but do not rely on the internet/films to understand. If YOU do not do the work to understand, there is no way you will improve your English.