Dear IB Full Diploma Candidate,

On behalf of the entire department, we’d like to welcome you to writing your Extended Essay for English. In the meantime, you do have some very important work you must complete, and the sooner you do so, the better off you will be.

First, you are expected to bring the following with you to your **first supervisor conference:**

1. the primary text or texts you wish to study

2. Steps 1 and 2 completed from the proposal form (see next page for instructions)

3. any other relevant information, sources, or questions you may have

Before the **second supervisor conference** Part 3 needs to be completed.

Please be aware that the English EE timeline is quite front-loaded in terms of the work and number of hours you must devote to the process. This is absolutely necessary because the English EE, more than others, relies so heavily on your skills as a reader and literary critic. It is very important that you take these due dates and assignments seriously so that we may ascertain that the text and topic are appropriate for you.

Begin with the form on the next page. Please take the appropriate time to complete the form, as indicated in the directions provided. In the interim, please feel free to contact your supervisor with any questions you have. We look forward to working with you on the English EE!

Sincerely,

The English Department

**English EE Research Question Proposal Form**

Directions: Please type answers to the following questions. Be specific, providing as much insight as possible. This document will serve as the centerpiece of your first interview.

Part One: To help you succeed, we must quickly establish that you know enough about the text and show an enthusiasm for writing an English EE. Please address *two* of the following that we can begin discussing **at our first conference**. **This should be about 1 to 1.5 pages, double-spaced**.

1. Tell us why you chose to write in this subject matter and on this text specifically.

2. What issue or issues does the author/poet explore that compel you to explore this work or these works further, and what does the author/poet have to say about those issues?

3. What about the author’s style interests you? Provide specific examples.

4. Discuss a particular literary or figurative language device that you feel this author uses particularly well. What is it, and why do you find its use significant?

5. Avoiding plot summary, discuss another topic that intrigues you. Provide effective insight.

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Part Two: In order to continue a thoughtful discussion that can lead you to the best possible research question as quickly as possible, you are required to T4 approximately thirty pages of your primary text for **your first conference**. You will need to purchase your own copy of the text, if you have not already done so. **Please T4 the first ten pages of the text; please T4 the last ten pages of the text; and finally, choose a middle section for your final ten pages**. We are looking for a quality T4. Work on this in conjunction or with the intention of complete part three, below.

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Part Three: Your final task is to develop a very rough initial question. Successful English EE questions follow a predictable pattern comprised of four specific elements: TAG, a qualifier (yellow), a specific device/pattern/image (green) and the device’s function/purpose/possible effect (purple). See the examples below, with elements highlighted:

* To what extent does the motif of illogicality in Lewis Carroll’s *Adventures in Wonderland* emphasize the complexities of the adult world?
* To what extent does JK Rowling use blood as a complex literary device in the Harry Potter series to demonstrate the negative impact of racism?
* How do Jeanne DuPrau and Lois Lowry, in their respective novels *The City of Ember* and *The Giver,* use a motif of light and color to display an undertone of hope?

Having completed parts 1 and 2, construct a question of your own **to discuss at your second meeting**. The following list for each section should help you piece together a working question. Don’t worry about it being perfect yet, but make sure it’s something you want to explore and have confidence in.

Qualifier Device/Pattern/Image Function/Purpose/Possible Effect

how, why, motif, symbol, metaphor, illumination or emphasize of theme/topic

to what extent, sound devices, type of imagery, compare/contrast X and Y

in what way(s) personification, irony, suggest A, B, and C

 characterize, conflicts, explore the complicated topic of X

 specified pattern or dominant produce a hierarchy of effects

 image upend traditional beliefs regarding X

Write your formalized answer to this question here or on another sheet of paper, and bring in to discuss: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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