

## Grade 9/MYP-4 Phase 3 English Language Acquisition

In grade 9 Phase 3, we have “Abilities and Opportunities” as our first unit. For this unit, we focused on a teenager named Michael Oher who became a successful football player despite his disadvantageous background. Students found out about the opportunities that led to his success.

They also thought about the barriers that they overcame in the past. They posted their answers on an interactive website.

The screenshot shows a vertical scroll bar on the left. There are four text boxes with student reflections:

- Top-left (blue border): "The biggest barrier prevented you from being successful is fear in our body because we think "what if i fail?" and its blocks our way to being successful."
- Top-right (purple border): "talking english in 3 grade but then i learned to speak english and then years later in 5 grade i forgot to speak english but then i learned again"
- Bottom-left (yellow border): "I dont have patience soo much"
- Bottom-right (green border): "In the primary school i want to fastest kid in the school but my friend doruk was a big obstacle . Because he is the fast kid in the school"

***Student reflections on abilities and opportunities: What were the biggest barriers that prevented you from being successful at something you wanted to? What do you think caused these obstacles?***

We, then, discussed about our needs in life with “Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs.” Before they learned anything about Maslow’s theory, I wanted them to think about “what we need for a good life”. We created a word cloud together with their answers.



### What do we need for a good life?



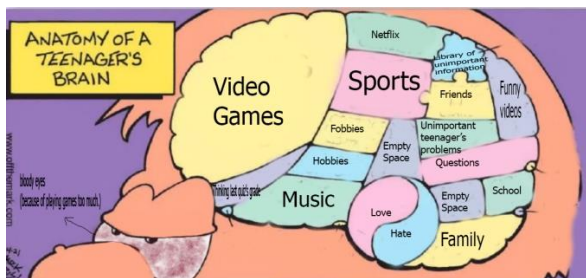
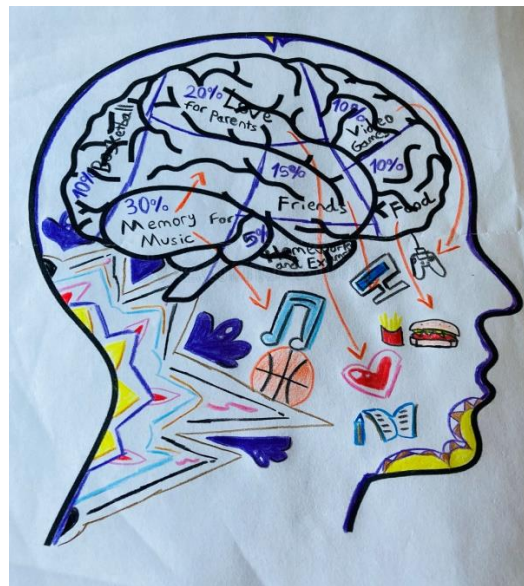
***Student reflections on abilities and opportunities: What do we need for a good life?***

## Grade 9/MYP-4 Phase 4 English Language Acquisition

The first unit of the year is on “Happiness and Fulfillment” so we spend a lot of time looking into topics like:

- What makes us happy? What makes us unhappy?
- What as a society do we value?
- Does money buy happiness?
- Can happiness be learned or achieved?
- Does talking about unhappiness affect us?
- How does social media affect our happiness?

Students really enjoy talking about Turkish society as a whole and how Turkish society views happiness. Additionally, we talk about things we go through as teens and how that affects our mental state. All of these topics lead up to our first novel, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is about a teen who struggles with his own identity and happiness as he joins a new school outside of his usual environment. To this extent, we complete the following activity by looking at a cartoon of a teenager’s brain and then creating our own rendition of what we as teenagers go through.



## Grade 9 (MYP-4) Phase 5 English Language Acquisition

Our first unit is entitled “Belonging” and we are looking into the concepts of identity and belonging through our own and immigrants’ life experiences. We explored Ireland’s “[Belonging Project](#)” which tries to get locals to see immigrants as individuals and not as “others”, and we listened to different immigrants talk about their experiences of belonging. We have also begun reading the play “Master Harold”...and the boys by Athol Fugard, which explores the concepts of identity and belonging in 1950s Apartheid South Africa. Students have explored places and groups they belong to, their feelings about not belonging, and things that would represent home and belonging to them if they moved away for university.

**If I were to go abroad I would either a picture of my mother to remind me of her or a Turkish flag or both.**

I would bring my classical guitar with me. For I, have been playing that instrument for over 8 years and I believe that it has been carved into my very Identity.

I would bring a seashell from Antalya to college with me because it reminds me of the times I've spend with my grandparents and basically my whole family. Every time I look at those seashells it reminds me of my family and the fun we had in the holidays. Also Antalya is one of my favourite places in Turkey so I would like to remember Antalya when I look at the seashell.

**I WOULD BRING MY LUCKY BRACELET WITH ME BECAUSE IT REMINDS ME OF MANY THINGS WHICH ARE REALLY MEANINGFUL TO ME.**

If I had to immigrate to another country, I would probably take a few postcards which has some pictures of different cities in Turkey to remind me of it. I would look at them every time I miss my country.

If I am going to go abroad for university in Canada, I think I would bring my team's jersey. I would bring it with me because it reminds me my memories in our practices and my memories with my teammates.

**I would probably bring my phone because i would have pictures from Turkey and would have the phone numbers of my friends and family in Turkey. So if I got homesick I could just look at old pictures or talk to the people I miss.**

If i would immigrate to America for university, I would bring my family photo because I feel that I belong to them. Also it would help me remember them and see them.

**If I had to go abroad for college I would bring one of my childhood photos so I can remember my childhood in Turkey.**

**IF I WERE GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY AFTER GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL, I WOULD TAKE MY FAVOURITE TURKISH COOKBOOKS BECAUSE I ENJOY BROWSING COOKBOOKS AND MAYBE I WILL TRY TO COOK THEM FOR MY FRIENDS.**

I would bring my rollerskates and my favorite board game, Cluedo. I would bring my rollerskates because I skate with my friends while chatting at least once a week and I have many memories rollerskating in beautiful places so that if I ever skate anywhere else, I would remember those happy moments. And Cluedo is usually the game we play when we want to spend time together as a family so it would remind me of my family no matter where I am.

**The object I brought was Turkish delight. It is a soft candy that tastes amazing. I brought it because it reminded me of my home back in Turkey. We ate some almost everyday and I loved them.**

If i would go to abroad for university i would bring a photo of Turkeys flag . I would want to remember my country and i think that it would remind me of Turkey so when I miss my country I could just look at that photo and remember my happy memories there.

**If I were to leave Turkey and go abroad, I would take with me my grandma's painting of our summer house because it is my favourite place in the world and i would like to remember it.**

I would bring an Evil Eye necklace because its most common around turkey so it kinda represents turkey as well as reminding me of my family because my parents used to make me carry one around. I broke it.

***Student reflections on identity and belonging: If you moved to another country for university, what object would you take?***

## Grade 10 /MYP-5 Phase 4 English Language Acquisition

In grade 10 Phase 4, we have “What is your *ikigai*?” as our first unit. For this unit, we focused on the concept of *ikigai* which refers to one’s purpose in life in Japanese. Students tried to define the ideal work in their mind which would help them find their own *ikigai*.

### Define the "ideal" work life in your mind.



We continued with some relatively new concepts of working such as freelance and flexible working hours. They expressed their stance on the changing conditions of working life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century through an opinion essay. Below is one of the opinion essays:

#### “Having flexible working hours is the most important aspect of a good job.”

Most people describe a good job as being comfortable and affordable. I both agree and disagree with this idea. Have advantages in both direction. Although the flexible working hour is attractive, I think it has some disadvantages. At the same time, working at home can bore you after a while.

Many people see working from home as a better opportunity. I also agree with some aspects with the idea of working at home because it saves time off the road and also offers the opportunity to work comfortably. Saving time off the road saves you more time. Working comfortably is good for people because you avoid many things like stress.

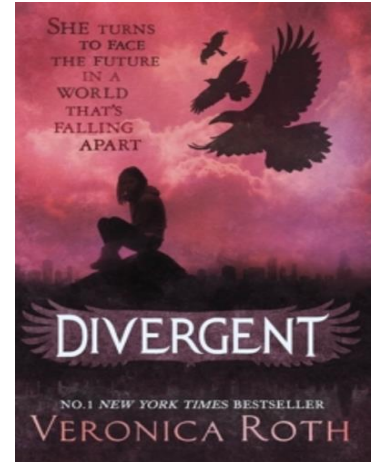
Even though people choose to work comfortably, there are some downsides to this. For example, constantly working from home can prevent you from concentrating on your work. In addition, your motivation may decrease or your desire to work may be lost due to the inability to socialize and communicate with your friends at work.

To summarize, both have advantages and disadvantages. it leads to some things in two choices. Whichever you choose, you will be deprived of some things.

***Student reflections on one’s purpose in life (ikigai): What is your definition of an ideal work? What do you think about the changing conditions of working life in 21<sup>st</sup> century?***

## Grade 10 /MYP-5 Phase 5 English Language Acquisition

In our first unit “My identity is my brand”, we are investigating how changing contexts and points of view affect our identity. Over the first few weeks, we have learned about brands, branding methods, logos and slogans and have researched how similar products are advertised by different companies. We also began reading “Divergent” by Veronica Roth and are learning about literary devices like foreshadowing, metaphors, similes, character analysis and setting. Using the dystopian society in “Divergent”, we will look at how factions brand themselves through the use of manifestos, slogans, symbols and logos. We will then create our own faction and brand it as a way of communicating that faction’s identity.



### TASK 1

Consider 2 Facebook pages for companies that you like, or search for 2 Facebook pages for different companies that have a brand which you are familiar with. These can be food or clothing companies, or any other company with a recognizable brand.

- Identify the key features of each FB page
  - Brand name, brand logo, brand promise, brand personality, brand promise
- Explain how branding is used. Focus on the language that is used. What kind of words can you identify?
- How do the words help to brand the product?

#### Literary Analysis: SYMBOLS

Abnegation	Amity	Candor	Dauntless	Erudite
				
				
endurance, stability, permanence, to be grounded and connected with the earth	represents the entire natural world, without soil there is no food, no life.	represents clarity and truth, fragility but also protection and strength	a metaphor for pain, fuel for the fire, daring, bravery, burning, consuming	life, transcendence of the earthly condition

## Grade 10 / MYP-5 Language and Literature

The first unit of the year is on “Language and Perspectives” so we spend a lot of time looking into topics like:

- What is culture?
- What is a belief system?
- What is point of view?
- How do people express their perspectives?
- How are belief systems formed?
- What kind of practices define a community/culture?
- When is language used to exclude/include?

Students explore different perspectives and look for different ways of looking at concepts and issues. These topics lead up to our first novel, *Things Fall Apart*, which pictures pre-colonial life in the southeastern part of Nigeria and how it was transformed with the arrival of Europeans during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. To this extent, we discuss the claims and questions below:

**1.Change is destructive.**

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

Can you think of a time when a major change destroyed something important in your life? Explain.

Can you think of a time when a major change improved your life? Explain.

**2.Religion restricts behavior.**

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

Can you think of a time when religion kept you from doing something you wanted to do? Explain.

Can you think of a time when religion made your life better? Explain.

**3.Social order demands conformity.**

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

Have you ever felt the need to go along with what others are doing? Explain.

Have you ever rebelled or felt like rebelling against what others demand of you? Explain.

**4.Being a man is difficult.**

What is your definition of manliness? Explain.

What pressures do men feel more strongly than women? Why do they feel these pressures? How might they react to them?

**5.Fear is destructive.**

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

Has fear ever kept you from doing something you wanted to do? Explain.

Have you ever overcome any fears in your life? What would have happened if you hadn't? Explain.

**6.It is a son/daughter's duty to carry on family traditions.**

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

What traditions will you carry on from your family? Explain.

What family traditions will you leave behind? Explain.

In addition to these, students do research on the topics below in groups and prepare online posters:

1. Life of Chinua Achebe(How he came to write the novel Things Fall Apart)
2. Colonialism in Nigeria(What was life like before the Europeans arrived and how it changed after their arrival.)
3. White Man's Burden by Rudyard Kipling(The purpose of colonial writers)
4. Igbo Culture(Social life, norms and values of the society)
5. History of Nigeria(18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century)

## Chinua ACHEBE

### EARLY LIFE & CHILDHOOD

Chinua was born Albert Chinualuogu Achebe in the Igbo village of Ọgburn on 16 November 1930.

His father was Isaiah Okpara Achebe, a teacher and evangelist.

And his mother was Janet Anweke Ụzowuluwa, leader among church women and vegetable farmer.

His family was traditional and all of his other 5 siblings had names that had traditional meanings.

He started University of Ibadan which is the first University of Nigeria.

connected to **EDUCATION Worldwide** and then Government College Umuahia.

### HIS FAMILY


He was married to Christiana Chinwe Okoli

**HE HAD TWO SONS**

- Josephine Achebe
- Chidi Chika Achebe

**AND TWO DAUGHTERS**

- Nwando Achebe
- Chizelo Achebe




## white man's burden

**THE AUTHOR HIMSELF**  
*Joseph R. Kipling*

Birth: 30 December 1865, Bombay  
Death: 18 January 1936, London-England

He was an English short-story writer, poet, and novelist chiefly remembered for his celebration of British imperialism, his tales and poems of British soldiers in India, and his tales for children. He received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907.

**WHITE MAN'S BURDEN: what is it?**  
Written by Rudyard Kipling at 1899, A poem about the Philippine- American war. It was first published in 'the times (London)' ( February 4 1899) and then in 'the New York sun' (5 February 1899).



**THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR**

OMER CAN BATYARA  
ZELDA J. JUDAN  
DEEN NAJ SONGOR  
DEEN ICHSEL  
SIE GOVCE

**Bibliography:** Stewart, John L.M. "Rudyard Kipling." *Britannica*. [www.britannica.com/photography/Rudyard-Kipling](https://www.britannica.com/photography/Rudyard-Kipling). 08/06/2020.

## COLONIALISM IN NIGERIA

Colonialism is defined as control by one power over another state or people. It occurs when a power imposes a political system that differs from economic, political and governmental, given to the indigenous. Modern colonialism dates in the age of discovery with Portugal claiming a small territory in North America.

Nigeria was a British colony from 1842 until 1960. The British Empire imposed their religion, language and their education system on the colony.

After the 1940s the Nigerian people fought for independence and the British rule, when a Nigerian youth movement emerged in 1945 and in 1946 in the formation of the National Congress.



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## HISTORY OF NIGERIA

9000 B.C. - Creation of oldest currently known artifacts and stone-dwelling, agricultural society occupied by farmers, including Yoruba ancestors.

1482 - Beginning of European contact on the Atlantic coast.

1767 - British slave traders establish factories on the Calabar coast.

1807 - Slave Trade Act: Britain prohibits subjects from trafficking in slaves.

1851 - Treaty between Great Britain and Lagos.

1861 - Lagos Treaty of Cession: British annexes Lagos, with status of Crown Colony.

1880 - The conquest of Southern Nigeria by the British began.

## Igbo Culture

**Who are the Igbo?**  
The Igbo are the second largest tribe in Nigeria.

**Language**  
Although the Igbo people speak many languages, the primary one is Ibo.

**Religion and Beliefs**  
The Igbo people believe in one creator called 'Chike' (Chenged) or 'Chikwe'. There is also a strong belief of spirits.

**Calendar of Igbo**  
After a baby is born, its umbilical cord is buried beneath a tree. They believe that if the child is successful, the tree will give monetary.

**Calendar of Igbo**  
Igbo Igbo - The Igbo Calendar  
1 week = 7 days  
1 month = 3 weeks  
1 year = 12 months  
1st Mo: Nwasi (1st) - Market Day

**Clothing**  
The traditional attire worn by men are called *ntama*, while women wear dresses similar to the dowry. Women add skirts to their gowns to show their wealth and status and the number of skirts they have.