



International
Baccalaureate

Intro to the Extended Essay

Sand Creek High School

THE EXTENDED ESSAY

What are your concerns?

What is your mindset?

Your resilience and success depend on
YOU and *YOUR* mindset!

HOW DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE EE?

You are *finally* getting an opportunity learn
more about something you have ALWAYS
been passionate about!

“The biggest hurdle that students face in the timeline is summer break. Many (if not most) people do little or nothing over the summer. When fall comes, not only is there a lot of work to be done on the Extended Essay, but there is also the senior year IB workload, PLUS college applications, essays, etc. I definitely procrastinated a little more than I should have and spend many long, caffeine-induced nights transcribing, researching and writing. Avoid this at all costs.”

Nathan Taber, Survive the IB

Nature of the EE

An ARGUMENT based on INDEPENDENT research/investigation on a topic chosen by the student

- required for IB Diploma
- externally assessed, contributing to points toward the IB Diploma
- Chosen from a list of DP Subjects OR is based on a Global Theme (World Studies EE)
- Presented as a formal piece of scholarship that is 2000-4000 words
- result of approximately 40 hours of work
- concluded with a viva voce - concluding interview

WHAT IT IS NOT?

- It is NOT a review of the literature.
- It is NOT a book report or plot summary.
- It is NOT everything you ever learned about your subject.
- It is NOT your opinion, your thoughts, or your beliefs.

Know the Criteria!

Criterion A: Focus and Method (6 marks)

**Criterion B: Knowledge & Understanding
(6 marks)**

Criterion C: Critical Thinking (12 marks)

Criterion D: Presentation (4 marks)

Criterion E: Engagement (6 marks)

TOTAL possible points: 34

Know the Criteria!

Criterion A: Focus and Method

- Paper has a clear and focused purpose
- The research question is clearly stated and focused.
- Methodology if the research is complete.

Criterion B: Knowledge and Understanding

- Source materials relevant, reliable and used effectively
- Knowledge is clear and coherent
- Subject-specific terminology and concepts are accurate and consistent

Criterion C: Critical Thinking

- The research is appropriate to the research question and its application is consistently relevant.
- The research is analysed effectively
- Conclusions is effectively supported by the evidence.
- This reasoned argument is well structured and coherent

Know the Criteria!

Criterion D: Presentation

- The structure of the essay clearly is appropriate to the argument and subject
- Layout expectations have been met
- The structure supports understanding the extended essay.

Criterion E: Engagement

- Reflections on decision making and planning are evaluative and include specific reference to the student's research process.
- Communicate a high degree of intellectual and personal engagement
- Demonstrates authenticity, intellectual initiative and/or creativity in the student voice

Mark Bands

▪ 29–34	Excellent	A
▪ 23–28	Good	
	B	
▪ 16–22	Satisfactory	C
▪ 8–15	Mediocre	
	D	
▪ 0–7	Elementary	
E		

Diploma Points Matrix

	TOK/ A	TOK/ B	TOK/ C	TOK/ D	TOK/ E
EE/A	3	3	2	2	Failin g
EE/B	3	2	2	1	Failin g
EE/C	2	2	1	0	Failin g
EE/D	2	1	0	0	Failin g
EE/E	Failin g	Failin g	Failin g	Failin g	Failin g

Failing Condition for the Diploma

- If you fail to submit an EE.
- If you write an EE but fail to meet with your supervisor.

If you fail the EE or TOK, you

WILL NOT

earn the Diploma.

Getting to the Research Question

S-T-Q

Subject....

Topic....

Question....

Getting to the Research Question

- Choose a SUBJECT
- Choose a TOPIC within that subject
- Choose a narrow RESEARCH QUESTION that will focus your research and argument.

First Steps

Dates are below for supervisor/topic/question are current ESTIMATES

- Choose a SUBJECT (by October 27)
- Choose your supervisor
(by November 10)
- Choose a TOPIC within that subject
(January 12)
- RESEARCH QUESTION (February 16)
- OUTLINE (April 13)

Subject

- Pick a subject in a course you are taking
- Pick a subject in which you have ***genuine*** interest
- Pick a subject you are
 - familiar with
 - good at, and/or
 - want to pursue
- Pick a subject you are able to understand
- Pick a subject that will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about what you are passionate about

ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT AN ISSUE?
PICK WORLD STUDIES

Interdisciplinary (World Studies) EE

The process varies slightly - You DO NOT pick a subject.

1. First identify an issue of global importance
2. Next - pick one of the following Global Themes, that deals with that issue:
 - Language, Culture and Identity
 - Science, Technology and Society
 - Equality and Inequality
 - Conflict, Peace and Security
 - Health and Development
 - Economic and/or Environmental Sustainability
1. Pick TWO subjects that are relevant to your issue
2. identify a local manifestation of the issue of global importance
(*meaning you are looking at that global issue in a specific location like Haiti, Thailand, Amsterdam, Egypt, Rio de Janeiro, etc.*)
3. FOR EXAMPLE - The Role of Twitter in the Arab Spring (Tech & society, Egypt) OR The Impact of Foreign Aid in Haiti (Equality, Haiti)

Top 10 Extended Essay Subjects by Candidate Count-- Results by Percentage

Subject	A	B	C	D	E	TOTALS
History	7%	22%	41%	28%	2%	13,291
English A	13%	25%	41%	20%	1%	6,175
Biology	8%	21%	38%	28%	5%	4,029
Psychology	6%	18%	37%	33%	6%	3,818
Economics	11%	26%	40%	21%	1%	3,144
Physics	6%	16%	40%	34%	4%	1,955
Chemistry	11.5%	24.5%	41%	21%	2%	1,581
Mathematics	9%	17%	40%	27%	7%	1,162
Spanish B	22.5%	32%	34%	11%	.5%	411
French B	26%	34%	27%	12%	1%	334

What to expect from your EE Advisor

1. Advice and guidance
2. Encouragement and support
3. To answer your questions about topics, questions, criteria
4. To read and **comment** on ONE draft of your EE - *they will NOT edit the draft*
5. Confirms authenticity
6. Viva Voce - *concluding meeting*