



MAY 2020 COHORT FAQS

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT CONCERNS

What is going to happen with all of my Internal Assessments?

Every single student has submitted the Internal Assessments for these subjects in the May 2020 Session: French B, Spanish *ab initio*, History, Economics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math HL, Math SL, and Math Studies SL. At this point, TMS teachers are adding their comments as they apply the respective rubrics or marking schemes. In these subjects, you can consider your IAs complete.

How will my Language & Literature FOA be selected for the Internal Assessment?

The Internal Assessments for Language & Literature include your best FOA and the IOC. In November, the IOCs were completed, and recently, you undertook another FOA. Your Language & Literature teacher will determine your strongest FOA to add it to your existing IOC. The teacher might reach out to you for consultation in their selection process.

What if I have not yet performed my final TOK Presentation?

Some of you have yet to deliver your final TOK Presentation with the accompanying PPD. Your TOK teacher will contact those students who have not yet submitted this compulsory part of the TOK grade, and instead of a live performance, you will submit an audio-visual product with the appropriate references.

How will Visual Arts students exhibit their work to reflect their two-year journey as artists?

The IB has shared with all World Schools that the communal setting for an art exhibition will present potential health challenges to the students as well as their audiences. Instead, the IB has indicated that students can photograph their work as individual pieces for electronic upload. In no way does the display format or the exhibition format influence the grade. Visual Arts teachers and moderators grade the digital images with the Visual Arts assessment criteria. Presently, TMS has issued a new date of April 22nd for the IB Gallery Night, but this is a tentative proposal given the fluctuating circumstances of the COVID-19 concerns in our community. Also, as much as TMS wants to include all IB artists in the school in the annual celebration of the visual arts, the priority is the DP 2 cohort.

How has the IB adapted its dates for IA submissions amidst the global COVID-19 situation?

The IB has responded to recent health concerns around the world in a transparent and robust manner. New due dates have been published so that all IB World Schools can meet external IB deadlines without compromising the health of their stakeholders or the academic achievements of their students. These new dates will permit our Language & Literature, Theory of Knowledge, Visual Arts, and CAS teachers to collect student work in a timely and considered manner. The IA deadline for these subjects and components of the TMS Diploma Program is Thursday, April 30th.



FINAL IB MOCK ASSESSMENTS ON MANAGEBAC

Will the scheduled Papers on ManageBac be occurring?

Many of your teachers have published dates for full IB Papers in their respective subjects in order to give you one last mock examination experience before your May session. Teachers will now adapt to the virtual format of course delivery and completion; they will inform you about upcoming assessments. Some of your mock Papers might become take-home examinations while others might transform into alternative formats. Regardless, these Papers have one goal: to enhance your performance for the May session. TMS teachers already have a series of grades from IB Papers to establish Predicted Grades. As you finish your course work in each subject, teachers will be in regular contact about upcoming tasks to support your testing potential.

At all times, you must uphold the integrity of the TMS Academic Honesty Policy.

UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

What assessments will be due before our last day of school on April 24th?

Teachers will inform you by way of Google Classroom and/or ManageBac about your academic responsibilities in their classes. Even though you are not physically in a classroom, you are still a participant in the learning. You must be present at the scheduled time of your class, and you are expected to submit all assigned work. Many teachers will focus on practice IB examinations as well as Ministry tasks to complete their full assessment of your knowledge and understanding of the course material. Up until your last day of April 24th, you should be prepared to be a committed learner who undertakes all assignments to the best of your ability.

At all times, you must uphold the integrity of the TMS Academic Honesty Policy.

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

How do the upcoming changes to the delivery of Diploma courses influence External Assessments?

TMS teachers have collected all External Assessments from the May 2020 Cohort. The following External Assessments have been uploaded to the IB: Theory of Knowledge Essays and TK/PPF, Extended Essays and EE/RPPF, and finally, the Language & Literature portfolio and 1/L&LWT. Students have completed these tasks for the purposes of their coursework.

THE MAY EXAMINATION SESSION 2020

What is the status of the May 2020 Examination Session?

The circumstances of the global situation with COVID-19 have forced the IB to declare no examination session for any of the May 2020 candidates. Despite this mandatory response to a worldwide challenge, the IB has declared that **all successful candidates will receive credits for their Courses and/or Diploma.**



In order to be able to give these credits for the students worldwide, on Friday, March 27, the IB informed all of its World Schools how it planned to proceed with the assessment and recognition of student work.

The IB will use the following, with the utmost diligence, to determine final grades:

- **Internal Assessments;**
- **External Assessments;**
- **Predicted Grades;**
- **the historical IB assessment data from TMS as an individual World School; and,**
- **the comprehensive assessment data of IB World Schools in previous Examination Sessions.**

INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS [IAs]

- All students undertake an IA in each of their IB Courses as well as Theory of Knowledge. In all IB World Schools, the subject teacher works with students to initiate and develop this self-directed or self-produced task. Then, the teacher must submit the achieved IA grade for each student according to the rigour and requirements of the marking instrument. The IB requests a random sampling of the IAs in a given course for moderation or inspection.
- This year, the IB demands that the **IAs for each student in every Course as well as Theory of Knowledge must be uploaded to the IB for assessment purposes.** This year, the IB has implemented a comprehensive approach to the examination of all IA work.
- The TMS cohort has submitted nearly all of its IA work with the exception of a few TOK Presentations and the Visual Arts uploads that typically come later in the Grade12 year. Teachers are marking or have marked the IAs, and **TMS will be able to submit all IA tasks without any difficulty because of the well-placed timelines and due dates.** Students and teachers both are to be congratulated for this teamwork.

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS [EAs]

- Certain courses have what are termed EAs, and these go directly to an external examiner for evaluation even though TMS teachers also predict grades for them. At TMS, the EAs include the Extended Essays, the TOK Essays, and the Language & Literature Portfolios.
 - **All supervisors, teachers, and students deserve congratulations because every single EA has already been uploaded to the IB for the attention of the world's expectant examiners.**

PREDICTED GRADES [PGs]

- One month before the IB Examination Sessions, the IB requests what are termed “Predicted Grades” for all Courses and Components related to the IB Diploma. Teachers issue their judgment on the academic level of the Extended Essay and the Theory of Knowledge tasks (A through E), and they also have to induce a final achievement grade



(0 through 7) for each Course on the basis of ongoing and regular engagement with IB assessments and the associated rubrics.

- PGs are only possible because teachers have seen a range of developing skills as well as a pattern in achievement scores to become entirely familiar with student progress and success. Further, the careful placement of IB Mock Examinations provides teachers with particular insight into student performance because these mimic the eventual formal Examination Sessions. At TMS, Grade 12 students undertook their Mock Examinations in December before Winter Break, and teachers and counsellors used these grades to better inform their understanding of each student's academic achievement level. TMS Teachers are well-placed to give Predicted Grades for their students.

TMS IB DATA

- This year, the IB will be consulting the historical depth of each World School's data. Although unusual, this practice is not unprecedented. The IB has alternative methods to calculate student achievement scores when examinations are not possible as a result of civil unrest or some such unexpected disruption.
- Having guided ten IB cohorts through their Courses and Diplomas, TMS has a decade's worth of data attesting to the accuracy of the faculty's grading for the Internal Assessments, External Assessments, and Predicted Grades. Every August at the start of a new school year, the TMS faculty does a statistical analysis of IB Results to highlight successes and to inform teaching approaches and student learning. Across Internal Assessments, External Assessments, and Predicted Grades, the faculty has proven to be excellent in its precise judgment of student performance.
- In the school's first Five-Year Review as an IB Diploma World School, the visiting IB Evaluation Team had nothing but commendations for TMS, and one area highlighted in the summary report was the school's integrity in its academic rigour, honesty, and accuracy.

IB PROVINCIAL, NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL DATA

- The IB will also consult its vast and comprehensive pool of student achievement data since 1967 to ensure a rigorous process for the calculation of final grades.

THE TMS GALLERY NIGHT

One of the undeniable pinnacles of the IB Diploma Program at TMS, the annual art exhibition shares with our community the creative output of our artists over their two years of exploration, ideation, and experimentation.

This year, our young IB artists will upload their artwork to the IB electronically, but the planned Gallery Night will not be possible as a result of the necessity to put public well-being first.

Ms. Neff and the school administration will work with the Visual Arts students to provide them with every support so that they upload their artwork to the IB in a timely and assured manner. Further information will be shared with the DP Art students in the coming days.



THE GRADE 12 MINISTRY GRADES

The Ontario Ministry of Education requires a culminating activity worth 30% of the overall grade to be completed in the last six weeks of a course. Traditionally, the Grade 12 students at TMS have substituted the IB May Examinations for these culminating activities.

With the cancellation of the IB May Examinations, we now lack a culminating activity for our graduates. To prepare them for university and to capture their learning at the end of their high school journey, we will create some form of replacements for the IB Examinations. Please await this announcement and for the purpose of planning, these culminating activities will take place during the May DP Exam period.

THE LAST DAY OF FORMAL CLASSES FOR GRADE 12 STUDENTS

The last day of attendance for our seniors will remain Friday, April 24th.

ROSE CEREMONY

Each year, TMS celebrates its graduates with the rest of the student body through a Rose Ceremony in which the Grade 11s and siblings write and deliver speeches about each Grade 12. As a result of current events, we do not know whether we will be able to hold this event at the school. If the current school closure is still in effect, the school will organize a virtual celebration instead. Please stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for your patience as we waited for direction from the IBO. We are truly very well placed in terms of meeting the requirements as set by them and we are considering ourselves very fortunate that both students and teachers had met all the deadlines, and the school and building closures are not impacting our ability to provide IB with all the components that they require.

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