

IB Learner Profile of January: Thinkers

Definition: We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

A *thinker* can:

- work to solve problems independently.
- imagine many solutions to a question or challenge.
- make good decisions and can predict the outcomes of their actions.
- think creatively and critically.

Parent Connection: How can parents help to develop students who are THINKERS at home?

- ❖ Encourage your student to try to think of solutions to problems independently.
 - ❖ Pose different real-life problems and questions to your child: "I'm not sure how to arrange the glasses so they can all fit in the cupboard.", "I wonder how much the groceries will cost."
 - ❖ Ask your student questions when they are working on a problem: "Do you have any ideas about how we might begin?", "How can we do this differently?", "I had never thought of that. Tell me more about it.", "What other ways can we show that?", "Why do you think that?", and/or "How did you figure that out?"
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FIVE Diploma Programme (DP) terms parents need to know:

- ❑ **The full IB diploma** - The IB diploma is a globally-recognized qualification awarded to students who fulfill all required components of the two-year IB Diploma Programme (DP). To receive the full IB diploma, students must 1) take three higher level (HL) and three standard level (SL) courses and exams, 2) complete the DP core requirements, and 3) be awarded a minimum total score of 24 out of 45 possible points.
- ❑ **Higher level (HL)** - HL courses are taught over two years and include a rigorous study of the course material. These courses allow students to explore areas of interest within the subject in greater depth when compared to SL.
- ❑ **Standard level (SL)** - SL courses ensure students are exposed to a range of disciplines that they might otherwise opt out of. These courses are designed to be taught over two-years, with some exceptions. SL exams are slightly shorter compared with HL exams.
- ❑ **IB exam results** - IB exams, regardless of whether they are HL or SL, are graded between 1-7, with 1 being the lowest and 7 being the highest level. Many schools and universities describe IB exam levels as IB exam scores, however, each of the seven grade levels offer a detailed description of student performance and understanding.
- ❑ **Learner profile** - The IB learner profile is a list of traits that the IB wishes to nurture in its students. These traits are centered around international-mindedness, inquiry, and reflection.

Taken from "15 IB diploma terms parents need to know." *News from around the IB community*, 8 Nov. 2017, blogs.ibo.org/blog/2017/11/08/ib-terms-explained/.