

GENERAL PAPER IN NANYANG JC

WHAT IS GENERAL PAPER (GP)?

General Paper aims to develop in students the ability to think critically, to construct cogent arguments and to communicate their ideas using clear, accurate and effective language. General Paper encourages students to explore a range of key issues of global and local significance and provides students with a good foundation to thrive in a fast-changing world. At the end of the course, students should have a broader understanding of the world, and be ready to meet the challenges of higher education and the workplace of the future.

Candidates are tested on two papers. Paper 1 (Essay) and Paper 2 (Comprehension) will be taken at separate sittings on the same day.

Adapted from Singapore Examinations & Assessment Board GP Syllabus:

<https://go.gov.sg/alevelgpnew>

HOW IS GP TAUGHT IN NYJC?

READING

Over the two years, topics including *Education, Arts & Culture, History, Media, Globalisation, Environment & Energy, Science & Technology, Politics & Governance, International Relations* and *Economics* will be covered. Reading packages with relevant notes will direct your child's focus to key issues in each topic. In addition, tutors would also be giving your child news articles, comprehension passages and other relevant materials at appropriate junctures to deepen his understanding of various issues.

CRITICAL THINKING & DISCUSSION

A successful GP student is a critical thinker, one who questions and discerns what he reads or hears. Your child will be required to participate actively during class discussions, challenging his tutor's or peers' opinions and defending his own. He will be given opportunities to conduct his own research for presentations and essays throughout the year to develop him into an independent learner. There will also be regular discussions and talks on current issues by teachers and invited speakers.

WRITING

The ability to communicate ideas using "clear, accurate and effective language" is one of the key requirements of the GP syllabus. Writing assignments will be given regularly to train your child to handle the demands of both papers.

ASSESSMENTS

Consistent effort is necessary in order to score well in General Paper. All homework and class tests will prepare your child for the formal assessments and will contribute towards the computation of marks at the end of the year for promotion to JC2.

Date	Assessment	Weightage
Term 2 25 May	Common Test (P2)	15%
Term 4 23 Sept	End-Of-Year Exam Full Paper (P1 & P2)	65%
	Continual Assessment: Class Tests, Written Assignments, Group-based Research Project, Class Participation etc.	20%

GROUP-BASED RESEARCH PROJECT

This aims to hone your child's research skills and deepen his understanding of various issues which would be vital to the quality of his response for essay questions as well as the Application Question in Paper 2. Your child will also do a group presentation of the project during tutorials. The deadline for this assessment is 27 March 2023 (T2W2).

Useful Websites

These links provide current and general knowledge that will help your child in GP and other subjects.

Newspapers & General Knowledge

- The Guardian - <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>
- The Straits Times - <http://www.straitstimes.com/>
- BBC - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>
- The New York Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/>

Periodicals and Opinion

- The Atlantic - <https://www.theatlantic.com/world/>
- Foreign Policy - <https://foreignpolicy.com/>
- The Economist Online - <http://www.economist.com/>
- TIME - <http://time.com/>

Language Resources

- Grammar Bytes - <https://chompchomp.com/menu.htm>
- Purdue Online Writing Lab - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Videos & Other Resources

- TED Talks - <http://www.ted.com/>
- PBS documentaries - <http://www.pbs.org/>
- Information is Beautiful - <http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/>
- Singapore Statistics - <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/>
- CIA World Factbook - <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/>

PROJECT WORK FACT SHEET: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

You may refer to detailed information about the PW syllabus from the following:

<https://go.gov.sg/pw2023syllabus>

Aims of Project Work

PW is a learning experience which aims to provide candidates with the opportunity to synthesise knowledge from various areas of learning, and critically and creatively apply it to real life situations. This process, which enhances candidates' knowledge, and enables them to acquire skills like collaboration, communication and independent learning, prepares them for lifelong learning and the challenges ahead.

Some basic facts

PW is a compulsory and examinable coursework H1 subject read by ALL JC1 students. The PW result carries a maximum of 10 points used in the computation of rank points for local university admission.

Assessment Framework

Students are assigned to work in project groups, with each project group having 4 to 5 members. The project groups are to work on a task that is designed to be broad enough to allow candidates to display their various skills and abilities. The groups are expected to complete the task where they will define the project focus, analyse and evaluate the information gathered, prepare an oral presentation, and submit a written report as well as a written reflection.

Students will be assessed on their performance both as members of the group and as individuals.

PAPER 1: WRITTEN COMPONENT

1a: Written Report

Each group is required to submit a piece of written work based on the task that they have completed. Only a group mark is awarded for this component; this is to encourage the group to apply the skills that they have learned and to demonstrate their abilities collectively in a final product.

1b: Insights & Reflections

Each student from the group is required to submit a written reflection. This component assesses the individual candidate's ability to analyse and evaluate the ideas that have been generated as a group or individually in the process of completing their task. An individual mark is awarded for this component.

PAPER 2: ORAL COMPONENT

Oral Presentation

Each student from the group is given an opportunity to present a part of the project orally to a target audience and answer a question posed to the individual candidate. The students will be assessed as individuals and as a group. Emphasis is placed on every student being able to display his ability to be clear and coherent in presenting his ideas and to address and engage an audience. A group mark is given to recognise the group's ability to be organised and coherent throughout the oral presentation.

Assessment Framework

Component	Individual	Group	Total
1a. Written Report	0%	40%	40%
1b. Insights & Reflections	10%	0	10%
2. Oral Presentation	39%	11%	50%
Total	49%	51%	100%

Time Frame of Project Work

- Release of PW Task to students: **between 6 and 8 Mar** (Term 1, Week 10)
- Students are expected to work outside curriculum time and during holidays for project discussions, research and preparations for report and oral presentation.

Important Dates and Deadlines

Documents	Internal deadlines	National deadlines
Group Problem Identification	Term 1 Week 9	-
Written Report Chapter 1	15 Mar	
Written Report Chapters 2, 3 and 4	Term 2 Week 2-6	-
Written Report ver 2	2 Jun	-
Written Report ver 3	Term 3 Week 3	-
Written Report ver 4	Term 3 Week 6	-
Written Report ver 5	4 Sept	
Final Written Report	13 Oct	20 Oct
OP rehearsals	Term 4 Week 6-8	-
Oral Presentation Exam	-	1- 8 Nov
Insights & Reflections (I&R)	9 Nov	9 Nov

**Please note that these deadlines are accurate as of 10 Feb 2023*

Special Project Work period

- Term 4 Week 4 - 8: Post End-Of-Year Exam special time table

Frequently Asked Questions about Project Work:

Q: How are the Project Work groups formed?

A: Students are assigned to their PW groups of 4 or 5 members in their own class by their PW tutor. They are generally grouped to ensure a good mix of talents so that the students can leverage on one another's strengths. They are not allowed to choose their own group members.

Q: What are some key skills required for Project Work and how are they taught?

A: The key skills include research, critical thinking, creative thinking, communicating with others, report writing & oral presentation and these are taught during PW lessons and through collaboration with NLB.

Q: How is the standard of marking made consistent within the college and across all JCs?

A: Benchmarking exemplars from SEAB are used to conduct internal standardization before assessment. Internal moderation by experienced PW tutors and external moderation by SEAB are conducted to ensure consistency of assessment between different assessors and schools.