

IB ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

Theory of Knowledge (Level 3)
Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore
15 – 17 January 2010, Friday - Sunday

Workshop Leader

John Green

John was educated in the U.K., where he taught for about ten years at Repton and Manchester Grammar School before emigrating to New Zealand in 1987. Here he was appointed Diploma Programme Coordinator at Kristin School, which soon after became the first I.B. school in New Zealand. In 1996 John moved to become Director of Studies at the Li Po Chun U.W.C. of Hong Kong where he stayed until 2008. He now works as an educational advisor and has more time to devote to other interests such as environmental education and increasing educational opportunities for the young people of East Timor.

John has taught Theory of Knowledge almost every year since 1988, when he was first involved in the I.B. programme and during that time he has attended workshops led by most of the best known names in the subject. He was an assessor of TOK essays during the 1990s, until his workload became too great but now, with his new found freedom, he has returned to TOK essay marking. Having been a DP coordinator for over 20 years, John also has a broad knowledge of many aspects of the I.B. In addition John is a Deputy Chief Examiner in Chemistry and has written a number of Chemistry texts.

All participants are requested to bring with them the following:

- A copy of this Agenda
 - The TOK subject guide
 - A loose leaf folder to put handouts in
 - A USB memory for soft copies of materials
 - Their favourite TOK lesson with soft and hard copy of resources required
 - Details of recommended resources – soft copy preferred for easy sharing
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Please note: session topics are subject to change based on needs of the group

Friday, 15 January

0830 - 0900

Welcome & Introduction

0900 - 1000

Session 1: Introductions and Backgrounds

- Where you come from
- TOK teaching experience
- Context in which you have taught TOK
- What you hope to gain from the workshop

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200

Session 2: Knowledge and Perception

- Nature of knowing contributions from members of the group
- What does it mean to “know” something?
- What is “truth” and how do we find it
- The senses and their limitations
- Why people perceive things differently
- Activities for knowledge and perception

1200 - 1300

Lunch

1300 - 1430

Session 3: Reason, Language and Emotion

- WoK ideas contributions members of the group
- Different types of reasoning
- The role of emotion in knowing
- Is language really a way of knowing?
- The limitations of language
- Language and thought
- Activities for reason, language and emotion

1430 - 1500

Afternoon Break

1500 - 1630

Session 4: Group 3, 4 & 5 Areas of Knowledge

- AoK contributions from members of the group
- The methodology of mathematics
- What does science attempt to do?
- The scientific method and modern critiques
- Differences between natural and human sciences
- Methodology and the human sciences
- What is history?
- History and national identity
- Activities for mathematics, science, human sciences & history

Saturday, 16 January

0830 - 1000

Session 5: Assessment – The Presentation 1

- Guiding students on their choice of topics
- Preparing students for their presentations
- Practical presentation assessment

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200

Session 6: Assessment – The Presentation 2

- Discussion of marks awarded for sample presentations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The problems of assessing presentations and moderation
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	Session 7: Aesthetics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Art and culture – a TOK focused visit to the Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break
1500 - 1630	Session 8: Aesthetics and Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aesthetics & Politics contributions from members of the group ▪ Follow up discussions on visit to museum of art ▪ Aesthetics and knowledge ▪ The essence of art ▪ Art and politics ▪ Activities for aesthetics and politics
<u>Sunday, 17 January</u>	
0830 - 1000	Session 9: Assessment – The Essay 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guiding students on their choice of title ▪ Preparing students for the essay ▪ Discussion of May 2010 titles
1000 - 1030	Morning Break
1030 - 1200	Session 10: Assessment – The Essay 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Practical essay assessment ▪ Discussion of essay grades ▪ Advising students on essay drafts
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	Session 11: Ethics and Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ethics & Religion contributions from members of the group ▪ Telling the difference between right and wrong ▪ Cultural aspects of ethics ▪ The nature of the religious experience ▪ Do we acquire knowledge from religious belief? ▪ Activities for the ethics and religion
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break
1500 - 1600	Session 12: Resources and other matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TOK on the OCC ▪ Other resources for the TOK programme ▪ Issues we didn't get enough time to talk about!
1600	Workshop Closes and Award of Certificates*

* An official "IB Certificate of Attendance" is awarded to participants who have attended all sessions of a workshop. Please ensure that travel arrangements do not preclude candidacy for a certificate.