# What is a text

A text is essentially an object that functions as part of a communicative act.

# What is a communicative act

* Any process that demands an engagement between two or more parties involving reception, interpretation and response.
* For example, one person speaking to another can be a communicative act as can a novel which waits on a shelf for a reader’s response.

# What is a text

* There are obviously many types of texts, including novels, textbooks, newspapers and web blogs. Text types can include the many different types of writing as well as photographs or even dramatic performances.
* The term “text types” simply refers to the almost limitless range of texts that can be part of a communicative act.
* Broadly speaking, a text is anything that can be interpreted.

# IB text definition

Anything from which information can be extracted, and includes the wide range of oral, written and visual materials present in society. This range will include single and multiple images with or without text, literary and non-literary written texts and extracts, media texts (for example, films), radios and television programs and their scripts, and electronic texts that share aspects of a number of these areas (for example video-sharing websites, web page, SMS messages, blogs, wikis and tweets). Oral texts will include readings, speeches, broadcasts and transcriptions of recorded conversation.

# What the IB says about the course

It must be emphasized from the beginning that the nature of this course promotes the development of skills rather than content competence. The nature of the course is such that there will be few set answers to commit to memory but rather a more consciously critical approach to all uses of language and literature.

# Re-defining textual analysis

A text can be defined as:

Communicate meaning

Can be interpreted

The text selected for analysis for this course may be less familiar, surprising, or esoteric in an effort to broaden horizons and multiply opportunities for surveying different approaches.