**Presentation of the course – Tale S / ES – September 2019**

**CONTENT OF THE COURSE – our priorities**

* **Communication skills** 🡪 possible activities to develop:
* **LANGUAGE SKILLS** = **exercises to broaden your vocab / complexify grammar structures / work on pronunciation** 🡪 any new word is good to learn / synonyms / collocations / idiomatic expressions. Our objective = B1+ / B2 (= activities given for the ***First Certificate*** 🡪 an exam you may decide to take this year 🡪 see our partneurship with the British Council)

The better you can speak, the more precise/ interesting what you’re saying will be.

* **SPEAKING SKILLS** = **participation in class, presentations**, etc.

For the exam in May : you should be able to present your notion and speak non-stop for 5 minutes.

* **INTERACTION SKILLS** = **debates, group projects, role plays**, etc. If you practice in class (give your opinion, challenge your friends’ views, develop arguments and anticipate counter-arguments, etc.), you indirectly train for your exam*.*

Remember that once you have presented the issues at stake (i.e. speaking test in May), you will be asked a few questions and you should show how comfortable you are when interacting in English.

* **Mediation skills** 🡪 sum up somebody else’s work to present it, explain the implicit meaning of a text, translate, etc.

Your first exam (in January / February) = the listening: you will have to listen to a document in English (1’30 audio or video) and sum it up in French. You will have 10 minutes to write down all the information you have understood.

* **Cultural knowledge / basic references about English-speaking countries** 🡪
* good to use cultural references in the essay / in your writing (test in June)
* good to show you have some basic knowledge about English-speaking countries during the interaction with the jury (in May).
* always interesting for you to put things into perspective / know what happens elsewhere.
* **4 notions** to be studied in Tale:

1. Idea of Progress

2. Spaces and Exchanges

3. Seats and forms of power

4. Myths and Heroes

**SKILLS to be trained this year**

BASIC LANGUAGE SKILLS

How to **communicate** (work on your **accuracy** / **fluency**) 🡪 broaden your **vocab** / complexify **grammar** structures / improve your **pronunciation**

How to **translate** extracts in English into French

How to **read / understand** any doc + **write** using any particular **format** (email – letter – diary – blog – speech – news article, etc.)

How to **express an opinion** (be **convincing** when you speak, write a **balanced argumentative essay**)

ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS to become an efficient learner

How to be an independent student, i.e. **organize personal work**:

* respect **deadlines** for your assignments and plan your work
* be **active** when learning a lesson and **efficient** when reading a text (quickly scan the main ideas etc.)
* visually represent essential information (use **mindmaps**, etc.) / take notes to select and learn what is important

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD

How to deepen your **personal knowledge** (about the culture / history of English-speaking countries) and organise it (have **landmarks**)

* carry out **research** and distinguish between **various sources** of information
* **identify and express the main issues at stake** with each notion and be able to appreciate the specificities of the Anglo-American culture