

SUBJECT: English Language

UNIT: Paper 1



AQA Paper 1 – 1 hour 45 minutes – 80 marks.

Section A – READING

Section B - WRITING

You will be given an extract from a piece of fictional writing.

Begin by reading the extract. Look closely at any language that seems important, any structural features that you notice.

Q1: You will be asked to re-read a section of the extract and identify 4 pieces of information. (4 marks)

Q2: This question tests your skill in examining and commenting on the writer's use of language – Their use of phrases, language features, language techniques and sentence forms

You should:

- ☐ Show you understand the writer's use of language
 - ☐ Examine and analyse the effects of the writer's language choices
 - ☐ Select and use relevant quotations
 - ☐ Use appropriate subject terminology to discuss language use.
- You might, for example, comment on the writer's use of adjectives or similes

Useful Language Vocabulary:

- Adjective / verb / noun
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Personification
- Zoomorphism
- Alliteration
- Sibilance
- Juxtaposition / oxymoron
- Pathetic fallacy

Q3: This question tests your skill in examining and commenting on the writer's use of structure in the whole of the source.

You should:

- ☐ Show you understand features of structure
 - ☐ Examine and analyse the effects of the writer's choice of structural features
 - ☐ Select and use relevant examples
 - ☐ Use appropriate subject terminology to discuss structure
- Structural features can be:
- ☐ At a whole text level – for example beginnings, endings and shifts in focus
 - ☐ At a paragraph level – for example topic changes, single-sentence paragraphs
 - ☐ At a sentence level – for example sentence lengths

Useful structure vocabulary

Narrative Voice
Climax (the most intense or decisive point)
Exposition (The start, where ideas are initiated)
Analepsis (Flashback, presenting past events)
Prolepsis (Flash-forward, presenting future events)
Foreshadowing (hints what is to come)
Motif (recurring element in a story)
Resolution (The solution of the conflict)
Setting
Spotlight (something is emphasised)
Linear Narrative Style (events told chronologically)
Non-linear narrative style (events not told chronologically)
Dual Narrative style (told from multiple perspectives)
Cyclical narrative style (ends the way it begins)

Q4: This question asks you to critically evaluate the text. Read the given statement very carefully and decide on your opinion. Find evidence to support your ideas. 3-4 ideas needed.

• You must explore language and structural choices in this question! Opinion > evidence > method > meaning/effect

You should:

- ☐ Clearly evaluate the text
- ☐ Offer examples from the text to explain your views
- ☐ Explain the effect of writer's choices
- ☐ Select relevant quotations to support your views

Question 5 asks you to use an image to create a description OR write a story
24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)

CHECK!

- ☒ Use a range of language techniques such as similes and metaphors
- ☒ Use range of punctuation – don't be afraid to use :
;-
- ☒ Use a range of sentence structures
- ☒ Use ambitious vocabulary
- ☒ Open your sentences in different ways e.g. words ending in -ly or -ed
- ☒ Vary your paragraph lengths

DROP

Drop the reader into the picture by describing the immediate surroundings. Provide detailed imagery and use language techniques.

SHIFT

Shift to another time, place, perspective. This is where you can manipulate your use of structure. Can you flashback or flash-forward?

ZOOM OUT

Imagine you are a camera panning away from the image. Describe the big details – the weather, the light, the sky, the objects outside.

ZOOM IN

Go back to the present and focus on one key detail from the image. The longer you spend describing it, the better your description will be