



Sherpa

GCSE EXAM GUIDE



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1

2022/2023



GCSE English Language

Paper 1 Exam Guide

Length: **1 hour 45 minutes**

Exploration in Creative Reading and Writing

Section A - Reading

A single extract from a literary text



Q1 - List four things...

4 MARKS **5 MINUTES**



Q2 - How does the writer use language...

8 MARKS **10 MINUTES**



Q3 - How has the writer structured the text...

8 MARKS **10 MINUTES**



Q4 - Critical evaluation of text responding to statement...

20 MARKS **20 MINUTES**

Section B - Writing

Choice of task



Q5 - Writing to describe or narrate...

40 MARKS **45 MINUTES**

Frequent Exam Thought...

What is PEE?



P

POINT

State the point of the answer

E

EVIDENCE

Provide evidence to back up point

E

EXPLAIN

Explain how this evidence helps your point



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 1**

SECTION A - READING





Are you going to answer the questions in order or skip ahead to question 5 first? Figure it out before you enter the exam hall!

First 15 minutes:

Reading the source

- Have a quick **glance at the questions** before you read, to help you know what details to look out for.
- **Read the fiction extract** as carefully as you can. Make sure you understand the key vocabulary used.
- **Annotate notes** on the text as you read (yes this is allowed)

5 minutes: Question One

List four things...

- **Read the question carefully** and circle keywords (the easiest and most common mistake is not reading the question properly!)
- **Choose four things** that are asked in the question that you learn from the source.
- Try to spend **no more than 5 minutes** on this question.



10 minutes: Question Two

Language effects on the READER...

Do's:

- Read the question carefully.
- Underline keywords.
- Make clear points.
- Choose **QUOTATIONS** as evidence.
- Identify language **DEVICES**.
- **SPOTLIGHT** keywords.
- Explain the effects on the **READER**.

Don'ts:

- Don't forget to use words from the question in your response!
- Don't choose quotations from outside the specified section named in the question!

can you describe
what a PEE is in
this space?

x2

PEEs Required in Answer

10 minutes: Question Two

How does the writer use LANGUAGE...?

The writer uses to describe

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

The use of the word, "....." has connotations of because.....

This makes the reader feel..... because.....

Furthermore, the writer uses..... to describe.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

The use of the word, "....." has connotations of because.....

This makes the reader feel..... because.....

Use this Template to Answer Q2

10 minutes: Question Three

Structure to interest the READER...

Do's:

- Read the question carefully and underline keywords.
- Trace how things **CHANGE** and **SHIFT** over the whole source.
- Focus on the **BEGINNING, MIDDLE & END** of the source.
- Explain the effects of the **READER** by explaining what makes it **INTERESTING**

Don'ts:

- Don't forget to use words from the question in your response!
- Don't need to mention sentence lengths or structures!

x3

1 Paragraph Each for
BEGINNING, MIDDLE & END

10 minutes: Question Three

How has the writer STRUCTURED
the text to interest you as a reader...?

In the beginning, the writer focuses the reader's interest on

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

This could interest the reader by making them feel
because.....

In the middle of the extract, the writer shifts the reader's focus
onto.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

This could interest the reader by making them feel.....
because.....

At the end of the extract, the writer shifts the reader's focus
onto.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

This could interest the reader by making them feel
because.....

Use this template to answer Q3

20 minutes: Question Four

Evaluating a statement...

Do's:

- Read the question carefully.
- Summarise your overall opinion about the statement at the start of your response.
- Agree with the statement.
- Make clear points when answering, no waffle.
- Identify language devices.
- Spotlight keywords.
- Explain the effects on the reader.

Don'ts:

- Don't forget to use words from the question in your response!
- Don't choose quotes from outside the specified section.
- Don't forget to identify & analyse the effects of devices and language in quotes.

x3/4

PEEs Required in Answer

20 minutes: Question Four

One individual upon reading the extract stated: "...". Do you agree & TO WHAT EXTENT?

I wholeheartedly/partially agree with the statement.....

The writer uses..... to.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

The use of the word, "....." has connotations of..... because.....

This makes the reader feel..... because.....

Furthermore, the writer uses..... to.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

The use of the word, "....." has connotations of..... because.....

This makes the reader feel..... because.....

Furthermore, the writer uses..... to.....

This is shown in the quotation, "....."

The use of the word, "....." has connotations of because.....

This makes the reader feel..... because.....

Use this Template to Answer Q4



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 1**

SECTION B - WRITING



45 minutes: Question Five

Choose ONE to answer

"Write a description based on a photo provided."

"Write a short story that begins with the following sentence:.."

**You Only Need to Answer
ONE of These! Not Both...**

45 minutes: Question Five

General tips & tricks

- Write a short description first based on the image shown before expanding.
- Make a 5 bullet point plan for story beats on either.
- Try not to create an overcomplicated plot.

Try to Keep it

Under 2.5 Pages Long



Frequent Exam Thought...

How should I start?

You can write in either 1st or 3rd person. Just stay consistent!

A possible structure for your idea in 5 sections

- Describe the **weather**
- Introduce the **character**
- Zoom in and describe **something in the distance** of your main scene
- **Flashback**
- Describe the **weather again** (has it changed)

Mark Scheme

Think about D.R.O.P.S

Have you used any language Developments?

Have you used a Range of punctuation?

Have you created an interesting Open/close?

Have you Planned interesting ideas?

Have you Structured the ideas using a variety of sentences and paragraphs?

You can write in either 1st or 3rd person. Just stay consistent!

Descriptive Devices

Here are some devices you can use in your writing to elevate it

A

ALLITERATION

P

PERSONIFICATION

O

ONOMATOPOEIA

M

METAPHORS

I

IMAGERY

S

STRUCTURES

E

EMOTIVE LANGUAGE

R

REPETITION

Starting Sentences

I.S.P.A.C.E

"ing"

Whistling, Growling,
Whaling, Screeching...

Simile

It felt as cold as ice...,
Skin was white as snow

Prepositional

Up above, next to, under...

Adverbial

Eerily, stealthily, crazily...

Connective

However, meanwhile, yet...

"ed"

Startled, terrified, poised...

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