

# Edexcel English Language GCSE Paper 1 – Knowledge Organiser

## Overall Timings

|                    | Time         | Extra Time (25%) |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Exam               | 1 hr 45 mins | 2 hrs 11 mins    |
| Section A: Reading | 1 hr         | 1 hr 15 mins     |
| Section B: Writing | 45 mins      | 56 mins          |

## Questions 1 and 2 – Comprehension & Inference 3 marks in total

|                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Time: 4 mins                                                                                                                                                                                               | Extra Time: 5 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Watch out for the line numbers!</li> <li>✓ Use short quotations from the text.</li> <li>✓ If you have time, check your answers at the end of the exam.</li> </ul> |                    |

## Question 3 – Language & Structure Analysis – 6 marks

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     |
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| Time: 12 mins                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Extra Time: 15 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Double check the focus of the question.</li> <li>✓ Aim for 2-3 paragraphs <b>WHAT</b>, <b>HOW</b>, <b>WHY</b> paragraphs.</li> <li>✓ DON'T feature spot – focus on explaining the <u>effects</u> of the writer's language &amp; structural decisions.</li> <li>✓ Ideally weave language &amp; structural analysis together – but the important thing is to write about BOTH.</li> </ul> |                     |
| <b>STRUCTURE:</b> sentence forms and types; paragraph lengths; punctuation; narrative voice (1st, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ); contrasts and juxtapositions; lists, repetition; motifs; dialogue; cyclical patterns; hook openings; order in which information or ideas are given.                                                                                                                                       |                     |
| <b>LANGUAGE:</b> word choices (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, intensifiers, etc.); figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, oxymoron, pathetic fallacy); sonic effects (onomatopoeia, alliteration, consonance, assonance, plosives, sibilance).                                                                                                                                                            |                     |

## How to Approach the Exam

- ✓ Do Section B (Writing) first. You will have the choice to write either a narrative based on a theme suggested by a couple of images printed in the exam paper, or a narrative with a different theme.
- ✓ Spend about 10 minutes doing an active reading and annotation of the insert which will be from a 19<sup>th</sup>-novel that we have NOT studied in class. Remember to circle key information in the italic context section at the start.
- ✓ BUGS and answer Questions 1 & 2 carefully.
- ✓ BUGS Question 3. Read again and annotate the section of the extract for this question, keeping a clear focus on the question.
- ✓ BUGS Question 6. Scan back over the whole insert to identify the features that you will use in your answer. Create a brief answer plan before you begin writing.
- ✓ Proofread your Section B piece of writing and correct any SPaG errors you notice – particularly capital letters and apostrophes.

## Question 4 – Evaluation – 15 marks

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| Time: 30 mins                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Extra Time: 38 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Remember <b>SPITE</b> (Settings, People, Ideas, Techniques/Themes &amp; Events).</li> <li>✓ Remember <b>SPICES IT</b> (Successfully, Powerfully, Interestingly, Clearly, Effectively, Subtly, Intriguingly, Thoughtfully).</li> <li>✓ Aim for 4 paragraphs: 1 short overview paragraph to identify how the text travels from start to end + 3 longer paragraphs (evaluating SPITE elements from the beginning, middle and end of text).</li> <li>✓ AVOID analysing – focus particularly on ideas and themes and how the writer builds these up over the course of the text.</li> <li>✓ Use lots of micro quotations to support your points and aim to make connections between your quotations using 'builds', 'connects', 'links'.</li> <li>✓ Keep a clear focus on the question and use the key word at regular intervals in your answer so that you avoid just summarising what happens in the text.</li> </ul> |                     |
| <b>KEY PHRASES:</b> the writer effectively develops the idea of... the writer subtly builds on this idea by... the writer powerfully amplifies this idea when...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                     |

## BUGS the Question

- **Box** the command word (identify analyse, evaluate).
- **Underline** the focus (line numbers, topic).
- **Glance** at the marks & remind yourself of timings.
- **Sketch** any tips or acronyms (SPITE, SPICES IT).

## WHAT, HOW, WHY Paragraphs:

What impressions I am getting?  
 How is the writer giving me those impressions?  
 Why might writer want me to think this way at this point in the text?

## SECTION B - Writing

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     |
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| Time: 45 mins                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Extra Time: 56 mins |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Plan your narrative (story).</li> <li>✓ Have a clear purpose and character in mind and make this part of your planning.</li> <li>✓ Have one main event that happens to your character.</li> <li>✓ Decide what kind of hook opening will best help you achieve your purpose.</li> <li>✓ Know how your story will end before you start – plan!</li> <li>✓ Create a clear sense of setting for your reader.</li> <li>✓ Use a small amount of dialogue to help develop a sense of your main character but avoid lots of dialogue.</li> <li>✓ Craft your sentences (minor, simple, compound, complex) – think about how you will construct sentences which help you to achieve your purpose.</li> <li>✓ Use the best words for the tone and mood you are trying to create – avoid 'bad', 'good' and 'stuff'.</li> <li>✓ Write like a grown-up who is writing for other grown-ups.</li> </ul> |                     |

**Do the writing task first!**