

Edexcel English Language GCSE Paper 2 – Knowledge Organiser

Overall Timings		
	Time	Extra Time (25%)
Exam	2hrs 5 mins	2hrs 36 mins
Section A: Reading	1 hr 20 mins	1 hr 40 mins
Section B: Writing	45 mins	56 mins

Questions 1 and 2 – 2 marks each	
Time: 4 mins	Extra Time: 5 mins
✓ Watch out for the line numbers! ✓ Use short quotations from the text. ✓ If you have time, double check your answer at the end of the exam.	

Question 3 – Language & Structure Analysis – 15 marks	
Time: 18 mins	Extra Time: 22 mins
✓ By the question, note down what you think are the purpose(s) of Text 1. ✓ Aim for 4 paragraphs: 1 short overview paragraph to identify the purposes + 3 longer WHAT – HOW - WHY paragraphs. ✓ Ideally weave language & structural analysis together – but the important thing is to write about BOTH.	
STRUCTURE: sentence forms and types; paragraph lengths; punctuation; narrative voice (1st, 2 nd , 3 rd); contrasts; repetition, order in which information or ideas are given.	
LANGUAGE: word choices (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, intensifiers, etc.); figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, oxymoron); sonic effects (onomatopoeia, alliteration, plosives, sibilance).	
PATHOS – emotive language used to make the reader feel strongly. ETHOS – expert opinions to support points. LOGOS – use of facts and statistics to support points.	

How to Approach the Exam
✓ Do Section B (Writing) first. You will have two choices of non-fiction text: speech, article, letter, leaflet section, textbook section, review. ✓ Read and annotate Text 1. <u>Remember to circle key information in the italic context section at the start.</u> ✓ BUGS Questions 1 & 2 and mark off the line numbers on Text 1. Answer Questions 1 & 2. ✓ BUGS Question 3 – remind yourself to focus on the PURPOSE(S) of Text 1 and how the writer uses language & structural features to achieve their PURPOSE(S). ✓ Read and annotate Text 2. <u>Remember to circle key information in the italic context section at the start.</u> ✓ BUGS Questions 4 & 5 and mark off the line numbers on Text 2. Answer Questions 4 & 5. ✓ BUGS Question 6 and answer it. ✓ BUGS and answer Questions 7(a) and 7(b).

Questions 4 and 5 – 1 mark each	
Time: 2 mins	Extra Time: 3 mins
✓ Watch out for the line numbers! ✓ Use short quotations from the text. ✓ If you have time, double check your answer at the end of the exam.	

Question 6 – Evaluation – 15 marks	
Time: 18 mins	Extra Time: 22 mins
✓ Remember SPITE (Settings, People, Ideas, Techniques/Themes & Events). ✓ Remember SPICES IT (Successfully, Powerfully, Interestingly, Clearly, Effectively, Subtly, Intriguingly, Thoughtfully). ✓ 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).	
KEY PHRASES: 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 (analyse, evaluate, compare). • 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 is the writer saying; what is it making me feel.
HOW is the writer using techniques to make me feel this.
WHY might the writer be wanting me to feel this way.

Question 7(a) – Similarities Comparison – 6 marks	
Time: 7 mins	Extra Time: 9 mins
✓ Keep it simple! No analysis needed. ✓ Identify three different points of similarity. ✓ Write three short paragraphs using PEE: state the point of similarity then give the evidence (quote) from Text 1, followed by the evidence (quote) from Text 2. ✓ Use comparatives: similarly, likewise.	

Question 7(b) – Ideas & Perspective Comparison – 14 marks	
Time: 18 mins	Extra Time: 22 mins
✓ Aim for 4 paragraphs: 1 to compare the contexts and perspectives + 3 to compare the ideas on the topic. ✓ Start each paragraph with the point of comparison (similarity or difference), introduce evidence (quotes) from Text 1 and analyse it, followed by evidence from Text 2 and analyse it. ✓ Use comparatives: similarly, likewise, on the other hand, whereas, in contrast to, conversely.	
KEY PHRASES: Both writers explore the idea that...While Text 1 uses...Text 2, conversely, uses...The main difference between the two texts is....	