

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"> ✓ Watch out for the line numbers! ✓ Use short quotations from the text. ✓ If you have time, check your answers at the end of the exam. 	

Question 3 – Language & Structure Analysis – 6 marks	
Time: 12 mins	Extra Time: 15 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Double check the focus of the question. ✓ Aim for 2-3 paragraphs WHAT, HOW, WHY paragraphs. ✓ DON'T feature spot – focus on explaining the <u>effects</u> of the writer's language & structural decisions. ✓ Ideally weave language & structural analysis together – but the important thing is to write about BOTH. 	
<p>STRUCTURE: sentence forms and types; paragraph lengths; punctuation; narrative voice (1st, 2nd, 3rd); contrasts and juxtapositions; lists, repetition; motifs; dialogue; cyclical patterns; hook openings; order in which information or ideas are given.</p>	
<p>LANGUAGE: word choices (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, intensifiers, etc.); figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, oxymoron, pathetic fallacy); sonic effects (onomatopoeia, alliteration, consonance, assonance, plosives, sibilance).</p>	

How to Approach the Exam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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 19th-novel that we have NOT studied in class. Remember to circle key information in the italic context section at the <u>start</u>. ✓ 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	
Time: 30 mins	Extra Time: 38 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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). ✓ AVOID analysing – focus particularly on ideas and themes and how the writer builds these up over the course of the text. ✓ Use lots of micro quotations to support your points and aim to make connections between your quotations using 'builds', 'connects', 'links'. ✓ 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. 	
<p>KEY PHRASES: the writer effectively develops the idea of... the writer subtly builds on this idea by... the writer powerfully amplifies this idea when...</p>	

BUGS the Question
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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:
<p>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?</p>

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

Do the writing task first!