

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

GENERAL MOCK EXAM INFORMATION

- Two examination papers.
- Both examinations are 1 hour 45 minutes.
- Worth 100% of the final GCSE grade.

PAPER ONE: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

This is a 1 hour 45 minutes written exam and it is worth 80 marks - 50% of the GCSE.

What's assessed?

Section A

This section of the exam is based on one literature fiction text.

There are four questions:

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
- Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views
- Evaluate text critically and support this with appropriate textual references.

Section B

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy.)

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences.
- Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts
- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

PAPER TWO: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

This is a 1 hour 45 minutes written exam and it is worth 80 marks - 50% of the GCSE.

What's assessed?

Section A

This section of the exam is based on one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text.

There are four questions based on two linked texts:

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8 marks, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
- Select and synthesise evidence from different texts
- Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views
- Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.

Section B

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy.)

Students are assessed on their ability to:

- Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences.
- Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts
- Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

TEACHER'S TOP TIPS:

Know precisely what skills are being tested on each question in the examination.

Timings are essential, so remember the time limits set for each question and keep your eye on the clock.

Bring into the examination a set of highlighters to help you annotate the texts in Section A.

Read a range of texts regularly.

Complete a number of practice examination questions. (Available from school.)

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>