

Language Paper 1 Knowledge Organiser: everything you need to know! (80 marks & 50% of your English Language GCSE)

| Question [marks] Timing | How do I structure my response? | What key things must I remember? |
|---|---|---|
| Section A – READING 40 marks (50% of Language Paper 1 – 1 hour: 15 minutes reading and 45 minutes writing) | | |
| 1. List four things... [4 marks] 5 minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One idea per line - 4 different ideas (don't repeat yourself) | Make sure each idea links back to what the question has asked. Check you are looking in the right part of the text (hint: highlight a box around it) |
| 2. How does the writer use language to... [8 marks] 10 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words & phrases • Language features and techniques • Sentence forms | A sentence or two to sum up the MAIN IDEA / EFFECT about what the question is asking (remember all points will link back to this). Aim for... Paragraph one: words & phrases Paragraph two: language features & techniques Paragraph three: sentence forms Use PEED (or SQUID) P – Point or statement, with technical terminology. E – Evidence (try embedding into Point) E – Explain what your evidence means. What is the effect ? D – Develop/Deepen your ideas and link back to the question. | How does the word/phrase/feature/technique make me FEEL, IMAGINE or THINK ? Key expressions to remember: <i>The writer uses a ... to...</i> <i>The (technical terminology) could suggest/reinforce/ imply/ reveal...</i> <i>This is reinforced through the (tech terminology)..</i> <i>This creates the effect of/ that...</i> |
| 3. How does the writer use structure to interest you as a reader? [8 marks] 10 minutes | A sentence or two to sum up the MAIN IDEA / EFFECT about what the question is asking (remember all points will link back to this). Aim for... Paragraph one: the beginning (<i>At first, In the beginning, In the first paragraph, The extract begins</i>) Paragraph two: the shift (<i>Next, Then, A change in...</i>) Paragraph three: the end (<i>Finally, Then, In the end...</i>) Use PEED (or SQUID) P – Point or statement, with technical terminology. E – Evidence or reference to a point in the text E – Explain what your evidence means. What is the EFFECT ? D – Develop/Deepen your ideas and link back to the question. | Remember: mood, viewpoint, chronology, tense Think: what happens, what's the tense, what's the narrative and chronology: Key expressions to remember: <i>This changes to...</i> <i>The writer shifts the focus to...</i> <i>The writer zooms in on a description of ...</i> <i>The writer zooms out to a description of...</i> <i>This interests the reader because...</i> |
| 4. To what extent do you agree with... [statement] [20 marks] 20 minutes | Start with a sentence that states your shade of agreeing (all points will link back to this). <i>I completely agree/I agree to a large extent/I agree/I partially agree that ... presents...</i> SQuID Statement and embedded Quote <i>I agree that the writer creates this effect because...</i> Inference <i>This reveals/indicates/shows/proves/conveys...</i> Develop your critical argument (with multiple interpretations) <i>This suggests/depicts/portrays to me that...</i> <i>However/alternatively, another reader may think...</i> | Remember: present evidence that proves the statement to be true . (You must agree!) Evaluative sentence starters: <i>This clearly shows...</i> <i>The writer has managed to... which makes the reader...</i> <i>This is effective because... or This works well because...</i> <i>Here, the words successfully highlight...</i> <i>The reader is bound to think that...</i> <i>One reader might argue that...</i> +1: how might other readers interpret this? (remember: layers of interpretation) |
| Section B – CREATIVE WRITING 40 marks (50% of Language Paper 1 - 45 minutes) | | |
| You are given a choice between narrative and/or descriptive. [40: 24 content & organisation, 16 SPAG] | You will be given an image. Base your writing on this image, or you might be given the question: Write about a time when... YOU MUST PLAN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st person or 3rd person? Past tense or present tense (stick with one tense!) • How do you want your writing to begin? • What will be the topics of your paragraphs? Which paragraphs will zoom in, which will be wide-angle? • Is there going to be a shift or is it going to remain chronological? • How do you want your writing to end? (Cliffhanger? Circular structure?) | Use these for EFFECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simile, metaphor, personification, extended metaphor • Sensory language: what can the characters <i>see, hear, smell, feel, taste</i>? • Paragraphs of varying length • A one-sentence paragraph for impact • A range of sentence types (long, short, simple, complex) • A range of punctuation : ; - ... ? ! • Ambitious vocabulary (spelled correctly!). |

