**GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: PAPER 1**

**Total time: 1 hour 45 minutes. One source (fiction). Read the source carefully, starting with the box at the top, before you start.**

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| **Q1** | **4 marks**  **max 5 mins** | **List four things about…**   * Focus on the right lines. * List **five** clear, straightforward things (you can copy from the text!) * Make sure you’re **on topic** and **make sense**. | **The sentences below are just a guide of how you might start your answer. Follow the specific instructions that your teacher has given and make sure you show the key skills!** |
| **Q2** | **8 marks**  **up to 15 mins**  **1-2 pages** | **How does the writer use language to…**   * Pick **2-3 juicy quotes** from the right lines (**metaphorical** is best!) * Annotate a **key word/image** from each quote with as many **precise meanings** as possible * Use **subject terminology** when writing about each feature (e.g. metaphor, verb, word) * Explain the precise meanings of each word when writing your answer, then link this to what it shows about the topic of the question (its **effects**). | The writer describes \_\_\_\_\_ as ‘[quote]’. The use of the [subject term, e.g. word] ‘…’ evokes thoughts/the idea/an image of [precise meanings]. Therefore, this suggests [effects about topic]. |
| **Q3** | **8 marks**  **up to 15 mins**  **1.5 - 2 pages** | **How does the writer use structure to interest the reader?**   * Annotate the **beginning** of the text: who/what is introduced? What details do you learn and why are they important? * Look for any important **shifts** in the source. What changes and when? What’s the effect on the reader? Why? * Write about the beginning and at least one shift. Try to cover the full source. | At the beginning, the writer focuses on… . We learn that… . Therefore, we think/feel… because…  Later, there is a shift in \_\_\_\_ when… This makes the reader think/feel/question… because… |
| **Q4** | **20 marks**  **up to 25 mins**  **2-4 pages** | **Statement + To what extent do you agree? (Critical evaluation)**   * Read the statement carefully. Think about **both parts**. Use the bullet points to guide you. * Read the source **very carefully**. Pick out a **range of quotations** that link to the statement. * Look for any **key words** and any other **methods** you could **analyse**. Annotate them. * Use the **writer’s name** throughout your answer. How do they make you think what you do? * Your response must be **detailed**, ideally explore **both sides** of the statement, and include detailed **analysis**. | * Basic: I agree/disagree that \_\_\_ because… * Better: Give your own thoughts!   The writer describes \_\_\_\_ as ‘[quote]’. The use of the [subject term, e.g. word] evokes thoughts/the idea/an image of [precise meanings]. Therefore, this suggests [effects linked to statement].  Also, / However, … because… + More analysis |
| **Q5** | **40 marks**  **40 mins**  **Planning page + 2-3 pages of writing** | **Choose one of two creative writing tasks. Each is either description or story.**   * Think of an **original idea** and **plan your structure (e.g. Drop Shift Zoom Link)**. Flashbacks, cyclical structure and other structural features (e.g. motifs) impress examiners. * Don’t cover loads of characters or a long time period – you only have 40 minutes! * Remember **show, don’t tell**. Always use your descriptive skills to show the reader what they need to feel/understand – never just tell them! * Describe things in detail. Think about colour, senses, zooming in, etc. **DON’T RUSH.** * **Edit and improve** your writing as you go along and when checking at the end. * **DO NOT RUSH** your writing. Make sure it is **thoughtful**, **interesting** and **accurate**. * Make sure you **include all the skills** needed to earn marks 🡪 | * **Sentences: use a range of types and starters. Use a short sentence for effect.** * **Paragraphs: use them! Include a powerful one-sentence/short paragraph for effect.** * **Punctuation: accurate and varied. ? … ; : – [**Semicolons (;) join two sentences.] * **Techniques: e.g. simile, metaphor, rhetorical question. Be original.** * **Vocabulary: always use the most impressive words you can think of.** |

* **NEVER FINISH EARLY. You should be able to keep improving your Q5 (creative writing) until the time is up. Upgrade your vocabulary, metaphors, punctuation, etc. Crossing out is a good thing!**
* **Remember that 75% of your marks are for Q4 and Q5. Always write something for Q1-3, but a detailed Q4 and Q5 are the main deciders of your grade. Spend time on them and check carefully.**