

**A Guide to Your
AQA English
Language GCSE
Paper 1
Explorations in
Creative Reading
and Writing**

Question 1

4 marks

Question Overview:

You will be asked to identify 4 points from a given area in the text

Example Question:

From lines 1 to 7, identify four things which describe the weather in Cornwall.

Tips to answer Question 1:

Only identify the phrases (two – three words)

Use the words from the text

Make sure you know where you are selecting your quotations from – ‘rule off’ the area given

Question 2

8 marks

Question Overview:

You will be given a specific question about how the writer uses **language** to create a mood/idea. Use subject terminology in your response.

Example Question:

From lines 8 to 18, how does the writer use language to describe the effects of the weather?

Support your views with reference to the text.

Plan:

Use subject terminology in your response

P - comment on the **language** used in the text to answer the question

E - use a **quotation** to support your point

T - tell the examiner what the **terminology/technique** is

A - **analyse** the evidence and the technique

L - **link** back to your question

You should be making points about:

Language Subject Terminology

Use of:

- Adjectives- describing words (colour, size, shape, mood, etc)
- Adverbs- words that describe verbs (how a verb is being done eg. ran quickly)
- Descriptive language – metaphor, simile, personification, alliteration, sibilance, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, pathetic fallacy, oxymoron, juxtaposition, repetition, pathos,

Question 3

8 marks

Question Overview:

You will be given a specific question about how the writer uses **structure** to interest you as a reader.

Example Question:

In the whole text, how has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

Plan:

Use subject terminology in your response

P – comment on the **structure** used in the text to answer the question

E - use a **quotation** to support your point

T - tell the examiner what the **terminology/technique** is

A - **analyse** the evidence and the technique

L - **link** back to your question

You should be making points about:

Structure Subject Terminology
Use of: Paragraph lengths – long and short Short sentences Long, complex sentences Engaging punctuation - ! ; ? Sentence types: exclamative, declarative, interrogative, imperative

Question 4

20 marks

Question Overview:

You're asked to what extent do you agree with a statement; **evaluating** how well the writer has done this.

Example question:

A student, having read this section of the text said: "The writer brings the very different characters to life for the reader. It is as if you are inside the coach with them."

To what extent do you agree?

Tips to Answer Question 4

1. Focus on 'how well' not 'how'
2. Use evaluative language – opinion, judgement (see vocabulary boxes below)
3. Focus on ideas, events, themes and settings

Plan:

Aim for 4 points focused on the following areas:

Setting: Evaluate how the choice of setting affects the work's theme and mood.

Ideas: What ideas or opinions are shown in the text? Evaluate the success of them.

Theme: What is the writer trying to communicate overall? Evaluate the success of this.

Events: Look at the plot's development: Is there an opening, climax, resolution? Evaluate how successfully the plot develops.

P – The setting/idea of.../theme of.../event... in the text is of high standard /excellent /sufficient /appropriate. (insert your opinion).

E – Use a quotation to support your point.

E – Explain your opinion and why you think the it is/isn't successful.

Question 5

40 marks: 24 for content/organisation, 16 for technical accuracy (SPaG)

Question Overview:

You will need to write imaginatively, describing a time/setting/event.

You will be given a picture which you could use as a stimulus.

You gain marks for both content and SPaG.

Example Question:

Describe a time when you felt trapped or alone.

Tips

- Plan carefully to create a clear structure.
- Remember the **3Vs**:
- A **VARIETY** of **VOCABULARY**.
- A **VARIETY** of **SENTENCES**.
- A **VARIETY** of **PUNCTUATION**.
- Use a variety of descriptive techniques.

Plan for Imaginative Writing

Paragraph 1 - Remember your **variety** of **punctuation**. , ; ! ? ‘ ’ “ ” ()

Set the scene and hook your reader.
(Who, what when where and why)

Paragraph 2 – Remember your **variety** of **sentences**, Simple, compound, complex.

Describe the setting, give some background

Paragraph 3 – Remember your **variety** of **vocabulary**

Add some emotion/ anticipate the reader's response

Paragraph 4 & 5 – Remember your **variety** of **vocabulary**

Describe how the events developed

Paragraph 6 – Remember your **variety** of **sentences**, Simple, compound, complex.

Leave your reader with a convincing ending