

WRITING PROSE

Example question and how to get top marks

You are going to enter a creative writing competition. Your entry will be judged by a panel of people of your own age.

Either:

Write a description suggested by this picture:

Or:
Write the opening part of a story about a place that is severely affected by the weather.

24 marks for content and organization

16 marks for technical accuracy (Total 40 marks = 25% of GCSE)

Content	<input type="checkbox"/> Register is convincing and compelling for audience <input type="checkbox"/> Assuredly matched to purpose <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive and ambitious vocabulary with sustained crafting of linguistic devices
Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Varied and inventive use of structural features <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is compelling, incorporating a range of convincing and complex ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Fluently linked paragraphs with seamlessly integrated discourse markers
Technical accuracy	<input type="checkbox"/> Wide range of punctuation is used with a high level of accuracy <input type="checkbox"/> Uses a full range of appropriate sentence forms for effect <input type="checkbox"/> Uses Standard English consistently and appropriately with secure control of complex grammatical structures <input type="checkbox"/> High level of accuracy in spelling , including ambitious vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive and ambitious use of vocabulary

The Exam

45 minutes – 1 task – A choice of 2 tasks (1 descriptive or 1 narrative.... but could be 2xnarrative or 2xdescriptve.) PICK DESCRIPTIVE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE

Step one: read & highlight key words in question

Step two: Study the stimulus (picture) then choose one of the two questions

Step three: Plan 6-8 things you can include, then put them in order. Try the drawing a grid on the picture idea too. (Steps 1 to 3 = 10 mins)

Step four: Write it' (Step 4 = 30 mins)

- should be lots of crossing out to show 'crafting'
- Should be 1 ½ to 2 sides approx

Step five (MOST IMPORTANT): Lip check (Step 5 = 5 minutes)

What to expect...

As a stimulus for students' writing, there will be a choice of scenario, written prompt or visual image that is related to the topic of the reading text in section A. The scenario sets out a context for writing with a designated audience, purpose and form that will differ to those specified on Paper 2.



Assessment Objectives		The basics	Stretch yourself
AO5 Content and Organisation	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.	Capital letters	For planning – mind map rather than spider diagram.
		Full stops	Learn some impressive vocab.
AO6 Technical Accuracy	Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement must constitute 20% of the marks for each specification as a whole.)	Question marks	Break the rules!!!
		Commas	Reveal slowly/quickly
Sentence starts	Verb – Running quickly, she (make sure you finish sentence)	Apostrophes	Dialogue
		Adverb – Darkly, the night sky....	Parenthesis
Language techniques	Simile	Consistent tense	Ascending / descending tri-colon
		Metaphor	Syndetic/asyndetic listing
Narrative v descriptive	Personification	Paragraphs	Cohesion (topic sentence, pronouns, chains, prepositions, fronted adverbials)
		Onomatopoeia	Cyclical/non-linear structure
The descriptive 'rules'	Alliteration	Homophone spellings	READ OTHER NOVELS/SHORT STORIES/POETRY/PLAYS -. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO READ - ASK!
		Connectives	
The narrative 'rules'	Imagery	Connectives	The story takes place within one hour
		Colons	
Basic narrative structure	Symbolism	Semi-colons	Maximum 3 characters
		Oxymoron	Maximum 3 sentences of direct speech
	Juxtaposition	Colons	Show not tell
		Pathetic Fallacy	Minimum 1 adjective per sentence
	Oxymoron	Vary sentence starts/lengths	Minimum 5 senses
		At least 5 zoom-ins	Minimum 1 exclamation mark
	Symbolism	Vary paragraph lengths	Maximum 1 exclamation mark
		No person described for more than a paragraph	3 rd person
	Juxtaposition	Topic sentences	50% description with zooms
		Minimum 5 senses	Don't 'chat' to the reader
	Pathetic Fallacy	No names for people	A 'small' story – make the ordinary extraordinary
		At least 5 zoom-ins	
	Pathetic Fallacy	No person described for more than a paragraph	
		1-3 sentences of direct speech	
	Pathetic Fallacy	Maximum 1 exclamation mark	
		Maximum 1 exclamation mark	
	Pathetic Fallacy	3 rd person	
		No thoughts	
	Pathetic Fallacy	Present or past tense (not both)	
		Move the camera – like a film	