

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

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.



<p><i>You are going to enter a creative writing competition. Your entry will be judged by a panel of people of your own age.</i></p> <p>Either: Write a description suggested by this picture:</p> <p>Or: Write the opening part of a story about a place that is severely affected by the weather.</p> <p>24 marks for content and organization 16 marks for technical accuracy (Total 40 marks = 25% of GCSE)</p>		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.			
				Question marks					
				Commas					
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.)	Apostrophes	Reveal slowly/quickly						
		Consistent tense	Dialogue						
		Paragraphs	Parenthesis						
		Homophone spellings	Ascending / descending tri-colon						
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	Sentence starts	Language techniques	Narrative v descriptive	Connectives	Syndetic/asyndetic listing			
					Verb – Running quickly, she (make sure you finish sentence)	Simile	A narrative should include a lot of description.	Semi-colons	Cohesion (topic sentence, pronouns, chains, prepositions, fronted adverbials)
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	Adverb – Darkly, the night sky....	Metaphor	A description should not include any narration.	Colons	Cyclical/non-linear structure			
		Adjective – Red light filled the ...	Personification		Vary sentence starts/lengths	READ OTHER NOVELS/SHORT STORIES/POETRY/PLAYS –. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO READ - ASK!			
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	Preposition – Down there, all...	Onomatopoeia	The descriptive ‘rules’	The narrative ‘rules’				
		Connective – However, his life...	Alliteration			No names for people	The story takes place within one hour		
		Basic narrative structure	Imagery			At least 5 zoom-ins	Maximum 3 characters		
			Symbolism	No person described for more than a paragraph	Maximum 3 sentences of direct speech				
			Oxymoron	Minimum 5 senses	Show not tell				
The Exam		Juxtaposition	Pathetic Fallacy	1-3 sentences of direct speech	Minimum 1 adjective per sentence				
45 minutes – 1 task – A choice of 2 tasks (1 descriptive <u>or</u> 1 narrative.... but could be 2xnarrative or 2xdescriptive.) PICK DESCRIPTIVE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE		Setting	Character	Problem	Climax	Resolution (or not)	Move the camera – like a film	Maximum 1 exclamation mark	Minimum 5 senses
Step one: read & highlight key words in question								3 rd person	Maximum 1 exclamation mark
Step two: Study the stimulus (picture) then choose one of the two questions								No thoughts	50 % description with zooms
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)								Present or past tense (not both)	Don't ‘chat’ to the reader
Step four: Write it’ (Step 4 = 30 mins) <input type="checkbox"/> should be lots of crossing out to show ‘crafting’ <input type="checkbox"/> Should be 1 ½ to 2 sides approx									A ‘small’ story – make the ordinary extraordinary
Step five (MOST IMPORTANT): Lip check (Step 5 = 5 minutes)									

The Exam

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Basic narrative structure

Setting

Character

Problem

Climax

Resolution (or not)

No names for people

At least 5 zoom-ins

No person described for more than a paragraph

Minimum 5 senses

1-3 sentences of direct speech

Maximum 1 exclamation mark

3rd person

No thoughts

Present or past tense (not both)

Move the camera – like a film

The story takes place within one hour

Maximum 3 characters

Maximum 3 sentences of direct speech

Show not tell

Minimum 1 adjective per sentence

Minimum 5 senses

Maximum 1 exclamation mark

3rd person

50 % description with zooms

Don't 'chat' to the reader

A 'small' story – make the ordinary extraordinary