



Year 7 English Revision Summer 2012

The Exam Paper Will Consist of:

Paper One: Reading Comprehension and Creative Writing

Section A: Reading Comprehension (35 Minutes)

This is a test of comprehension skills. Pupils will be asked to read a short passage and answer comprehension questions. Questions seek to test understanding as well as powers of analysis and evaluation. To answer these questions pupils will need to refer back to the passage and possibly use quotation to support their answer, to comment on the author's use of language, imagery and /or sentence structures. Pupils might be asked to give their opinion or to continue the passage.

Pupils should:

- Look carefully at the marks on offer for each question as well space provided to guide them.
- Spend 5 - 10 minutes reading
- Spend 35 - 40minutes answering the questions

Total 25 marks

Section B: Response to writing task 40 minutes 25 marks

Candidates are required to answer one question from a range of options which includes (but is not limited to) discursive, directed, narrative, descriptive and personal writing. Candidates are expected to demonstrate, within the confines of an examination, the full range of their writing ability in their chosen form. They are expected to demonstrate their ability to use correct spelling, punctuation, grammar and syntax and to adapt their writing appropriately to their chosen task.

Pupils should spend:

- Pupils should spend equal time on both sections
- 4-5 minutes planning their writing
- 30 - 35 minutes to write an answer
- 1 - 2 minutes checking their work, especially the opening and closing sentences
- All written essays and stories need to be at least 3 paragraphs as a minimum but they should aim to write approximately 5 paragraphs

Total 25 marks

Paper Two: Poetry Comprehension and Essay writing (80 minutes)

Section A Poetry Comprehension (35 Minutes)

Candidates are given one piece of unseen poetry which may be an entire poem or an extract. This is followed by questions – a literary comprehension, in effect.

Candidates are expected to show awareness of how language is used and to support opinion by reference to the text. Questions ask for candidates' responses to literature via an understanding of how writers achieve their effects, reveal their feelings and make readers more aware. This assumes knowledge of metaphor, simile, personification, symbol, irony, alliteration, assonance, rhyme, rhythm and metre.

Pupils should:

- Look carefully at the marks on offer for each question and match the number of points they make to the marks on offer
- They should attempt every question

Section B Response to studied literature – CONFLICT (45 minutes)

Candidates are encouraged to read widely, to acquire and develop the skills of discriminating reading and to express their responses to what they read. Candidates are asked to write on one or more texts they have studied in class or read for themselves. Questions are general and not related to any specific text. They offer candidates the opportunity to deal with moments of drama, transition, contrast and various other ideas in their chosen texts. Two out of four questions invite responses on a prescribed theme which runs for three academic years. The other two questions are not thematically tied. The topics in this section are broad enough to give scope for opinions, comparisons and preferences. Candidates are expected to express themselves clearly and accurately, using Standard English spelling, grammar, punctuation, syntax and appropriate vocabulary.

Pupils should:

- Read the question carefully and answer the question. Do not just re-tell the story.
- Learn quotations to support points made
- Write a clear introduction, 3 to 4 body paragraphs and a short conclusion which clearly answers the question.

Topics you should know:

- How to quote and comment on quotation
- Poetic devices and their effect on readers

- Specific knowledge based around the issue of conflict from either ‘Good Night Mr Tom’ or ‘Carrie’s War’ and quotation.

References:

Text books, poetry booklet, ‘Good Night Mr Tom’ or ‘Carrie’s War’.

http://www.iseb.co.uk/pdf/Syllabus_CE_English.pdf for reference.

Exam Style Questions To Help You Revise

All pupils will be provided with sample papers and work through examination technique within their English lessons and full practice papers will be issued. Below is a sample:

Reading Comprehension questions:

1. ‘The Family call me Ozzy and I allow this...’ (line 9). What does the cat’s use of *allow* tell you about his character? (2)
2. What does Ozzy like and dislike about the outdoors? Use your own words as much as you can. (4)

Creative Writing Questions

1. Write about a time real or imagined when you were terrified. Try to explain why you were scared and what happened as a result.
2. Trouble in the playground.

Poetry Comprehension questions

- (e) In a carefully detailed answer, in which you should use short quotations to support your ideas, say whether you think the poet liked or disliked the cat. Make sure your explanation includes clear reasons for your choice. (6)
- (f) Although short, this poem creates a strong and powerful picture. How does the poet’s use of language and form help him to achieve this? (4)

Essay Question

1. When major conflict strikes, there are rarely any winners, only losers. To what extent do you agree with this statement based on your study of a text (or texts)?