

Year 8 – ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PORTION – FIRST TERM EXAMINATION - JANUARY 2021

TOPICS:

- Spy Fiction (UNIT 3 - from Skills for Writing)
- 19th Century Fiction (extracts)
- Creative Writing (UNIT 3 - from Skills for Writing)
- Autobiography / Biography (Non-fiction extracts)
- Information reports and articles(UNIT 4 - from Skills for Writing)

Forms of Writing for Fiction – Imaginative Writing

- Writing imaginatively using images or pictures given as stimulus
- Writing imaginatively by focusing on a particular scenario.

Forms of Writing for Non-Fiction – Transactional Writing

- Diary entry.
- First person autobiographical recount.
- Letter writing
- Information Article
- Information report

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Overview of Examination

- **SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE** **TIME: 2 hours 15 mins** **TOTAL MARKS 75**
- ❖ **SECTION A - FICTION Reading** questions on an **unseen fiction extract of about 25 lines**
- ❖ **SECTION B - NON FICTION - Reading** questions on an **unseen non fiction extract of about 25 lines**
- ❖ **SECTION C - IMAGINATIVE WRITING:** a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.

- ❖ **SECTION D - TRANSACTIONAL WRITING:** a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.
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READING

- **Section A and Section B - Reading (37 marks)**

Students should spend 40 minutes on Section A and 35 minutes on Section B Reading and answering all the questions.

Reading Sections will have :

- ❖ Short response questions , that require **deduction or retrieval** of ideas, details, words or phrases
- ❖ long response question that requires **explanation and analysis** of writer's use of language and structure and the effect with examples from the given extract.
- ❖ long response question that requires **evaluation** of writer's ideas, themes events, situations or settings; expressing critical opinions with examples from the given extract.

Reading Assessment Objectives Focus on : AO1, AO2 and AO4

AO1: Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas

AO2: Comment on, explain, and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views

AO4: Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references

Reading Questions will focus on:

- **deducing, retrieving** ideas, information, facts, reasons, details, words, phrases from unseen fiction and non fiction texts.
- **Exploring language features and their effects** (e.g. use of figurative language such as simile, personification, metaphor; long and short sentences; types of sentences; nouns, noun phrases, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, adverbial phrases; words and phrases; modals ; conditional)
- **Analysing structural devices** (title, punctuations; paragraphs, headings, subheadings, text structure) with relevance to the development of the texts.
- **Identifying and explaining author's purpose** by commenting on the usefulness, relevance and presentation of content for these purposes.
- **Analysing author's range of vocabulary** to convey messages, moods, feelings and attitudes.

- **Evaluating** the success of themes, ideas, events, situations, characters or settings by commenting on the overall impact of the texts with suitable examples or references from the texts.
- **Expressing critical opinions** about ideas, themes, events, situations, characters or settings in the texts with examples.

WRITING (38 marks)

- **Students should spend 30 minutes on Section C and 30 minutes on Section D**

SECTION C - IMAGINATIVE WRITING: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.

- Writing imaginatively using images or pictures given as stimulus
- Writing imaginatively by focusing on a particular scenario.

SECTION D - TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: a choice of two writing tasks. The tasks are linked by a theme to the reading extract.

Forms of Writing for Non-Fiction – Transactional Writing

- Diary entry.
- First person autobiographical recount.
- Letter writing
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Writing Assessment Objectives : AO5 and AO6

Writing tasks will be marked according to the following criteria:

AO5:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	(12 Marks)
AO6:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. 	(07 Marks)

Writing tasks will be marked according to:

- Range of ideas
- Relevance of task , understanding of audience and purpose
- Use of appropriate formal or informal language,
- Use of range of vocabulary
- Use of varied sentences
- Use of organized and logically developed paragraphs
- Correct use of punctuations and spellings
- Accurate use of grammar, sentence structures
- Use of appropriate layout, form and presentation
- Use of appropriate language devices

NOTE:

- **Reviewing units/ topics taught; notes you have made during lessons, worksheets, class-work /home-work activities; assessments, tests will be a good preparation for the examination.**
- **30 minutes additional reading is also part of the preparation for answering Unseen texts. (for example, reading newspaper articles, reports, magazine articles, novels, short stories to name a few)**