Y10 English Language Knowledge Organiser: Term 1a Creative Writing

Language Paper 1- Q5 – the Fiction Writing Question

1

Fiction writing should entertain the reader. Be ambitious. Push the boundaries of your descriptive ability.

You will have the choice to describe or narrate. My advice is to describe, using the picture, regardless of the question.

Do not write pages and pages. A side and a half (small to average handwriting size) of great quality will score more. If you write over this, it's likely you will start to make errors and your deliberate choices will become less frequent.

Write five paragraphs with at least five sentences in each.

"Double the detail" – describe something, then describe it again in the next sentence too to detail and show focus.

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2

Writing to describe – try to choose this question.

Use this structure: describe -

Sky/weather
Furthest in the background
Bit nearer
Bit nearer
Person's thoughts and feelings. Imagine a person is there, even if they're not there in the picture.

You can interpret and add to the picture however you like. It doesn't matter. Add or develop what suits your description.

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3

Top tips

Be **far** more descriptive than you think you need to be.
Vary your sentence structures.
Use an opener or subordinate clause in **most** sentences.
Use a deliberately short sentence.
Use a range of punctuation : ; - () !
Don't use "you" in description. "You can see.." WRONG.
Don't tell a story in description – just describe.
Use **at least** five sentences in each paragraph.
Use your best words even if you're not 100% with the spelling.
Leave time to check and find your errors. They **will** be there.
Common error: comma splicing between two sentences.

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4

Colon : use it instead of the word "because".

Life-giving light cascaded down : the dreary clouds had dissolved..

Semi-colon ; use it between two complete sentences which are about the same topic.

Romantic moonlight pooled on the ground ; starlight added to the unearthly gleam.

Dashes – use like a pair of brackets. They point out the clause they surround.

Throwing heat like an onslaught – despite it being late in the day – the violent sun attacked our skin with flame-like passion.

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Easy improvements = quick marks

5

Add an **adjective** to every noun.

Add an **adverb** to every verb.

Use expanded noun phrases: which, who, that

The moon shone down on the boy. + easy improvements =

The silent moon, **which had risen early that night**, shone warmly down on the young boy **who had excitedly raced down to the edge of the soft shore.**

19. Tier 3 Vocabulary

6

Simile: comparing two things using "as" or "like"
Metaphor: comparing a tenor to a vehicle.
Personification: comparing an inanimate object to a living being.
Pathetic fallacy: using the weather to set the mood
Alliteration: words beginning with the same sound
Adverbs: words which describe a verb (eg softly)
Adjectives: words which describe a noun (eg blue, bold, grim)
Motif/ themes: repeated ideas through the text.
Semantic field: words on the same topic.