



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
November 2023

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# English Language

Unit 1

Writing for Purpose and  
Audience and Reading to  
Access Non-fiction and Media  
Texts



[GEN11]

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**FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER, MORNING**

## TIME

1 hour 45 minutes.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

**You must complete the tasks in the spaces provided.**

**Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.**

Complete in **black ink only**. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Complete **all** the tasks: the **one task** in **Section A** and the **four tasks** in **Section B**.

If needed, you can ask for Supplementary Answer Sheets.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.

**Section A** (Writing) **One task** marked out of **87 marks**. Spend **55 minutes** on this section.

**Section B** (Reading) **Four tasks** marked out of **63 marks**. Spend **50 minutes** on this section.

Pay attention to the suggested timings shown at the beginning of each task; these will enable you to complete all the tasks within the time limit.

Figures in brackets printed at the end of each task indicate the marks available.

Examiners can only credit what they can read. Keep your work legible.

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## Section A: Writing for Purpose and Audience

**Task 1: Spend 55 minutes on your response. Mark allocation: 87 marks**

Up to **57 marks** are available for an **organised and engaging** piece of writing that matches **form and purpose with audience**.

Up to **30 marks** are available for the use of **a range of sentence structures** and **accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar**.

Write an **article for your school/college magazine persuading the readers** to agree with your views on the following statement:

**“Education will lead us to the future we want.”**

You are advised to spend:

- **15 minutes** thinking and planning your response
- **30 minutes** writing your response
- **10 minutes** checking your response

**Planning space:**









## Section B: Reading Non-fiction and Media Texts

Four tasks: 50 minutes. Mark allocation: 63 marks

### Reading Non-fiction

Tasks 2 and 3 are based on extracts from a book about climate change.

**Task 2:** Spend 15 minutes on this task. Total 21 marks

Read the text below where the writer introduces the subject of climate change.

Explain how the writer has presented this in a way that engages his readers' interest. Support your comments with evidence.

Climate change is a topical issue but most books about it are, to put it mildly, not accessible and sleep-inducingly dull. It's all, 'Look at how bad this chart is', even though you don't understand it, or 'Look at these skinny polar bears', even though you've never met one, so don't know how skinny or not they should be!

Then you've some know-it-all claiming that because it's snowing there can't be global warming. That's like seeing a sumo wrestler jumping on a trampoline and deciding that gravity doesn't exist. Just because he's going upwards some of the time, doesn't mean he can fly like Superman.

I believe all advice from climate change experts should be compressed into one overarching message declaring, 'We've got a lot of work to do in the next ten years, otherwise things will definitely get really bad, really quickly, for all of us and our lives will change forever.' Perhaps not perfect for a T-shirt – but that's why I'm not a professional T-shirt slogan writer!

Have you heard there is no Planet B?

© Adapted from 'Hot Mess: What on earth can we do about climate change?' Chapter 4  
by Matt Winning, *Headline*, (2021)

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**Task 3: Spend 10 minutes on your response. Total 12 marks**

In this part of the text, the writer is explaining some of the differences between weather and climate.

**Read the text below. In your own words, write down two differences the writer identifies between weather and climate: one difference from each paragraph.**

**For each difference present two pieces of supporting evidence.**

Sometimes you hear people commenting, 'If they can't predict rain on Tuesday, how can they predict climate change?' This sounds logical but is nonsense because climate is about long-term averages in a particular location. Climate refers to weather over an extended time-frame, typically over decades. Weather is the varying conditions you see when you look out your window each day – or hour: the rain, the snow, the sun. Moaning and worrying about the weather is our favourite pastime!

Weather can be chaotic. From day to day, hour to hour and even minute to minute, weather can be unpredictable, as you'll know if you've ever been caught in the rain without an umbrella. Unlike weather, climate is predictable because smaller shifts average out over time. It is how we know, for example, that January will be colder than July.

© Adapted from 'Hot Mess: What on earth can we do about climate change?' Chapter 4 by Matt Winning, Headline, (2021)

**(a) Difference from paragraph one:**

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[4]





**(b)** Two pieces of supporting evidence from paragraph one:

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[2]

**(c)** Difference from paragraph two:

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[4]

**(d)** Two pieces of supporting evidence from paragraph two:

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[2]

**[Turn over**



## Reading Media Texts

**Tasks 4 and 5** are based on the cover of the game 'Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart'.

**Task 4:** Spend **17 minutes** on this task. Total **20 marks**

**Read the text below. Explain how language has been used to develop a sense that this game would be exciting to play. Present evidence to support your comments.**

'Removed due to Copyright'

Task 4 - Text from the Game Cover Ratchet and Clark: Rift Apart', PlayStation

*Adapted from the game cover of Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart, PlayStation*

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**Task 5: Spend 8 minutes** on this task. Total **10 marks**

Study the cover of the game below.

**Select two examples of presentational features used in this game cover to make it appealing. Explain the intended effect of these two presentational features.**

'Removed due to Copyright'

Task 5 -Game cover of ' Ratchet and Clark: Rift Apart', PlayStation.

Can be viewed here:

<https://www.smythstoys.com/uk/en-gb/video-games-and-tablets/playstation-gaming/playstation-games/playstation-5-games/ratchet-and-clank-rift-apart-ps5/p/191449>

Copyright <https://www.smythstoys.com/uk/en-gb/video-games-and-tablets/playstation-gaming/playstation-games/playstation-5-games/ratchet-and-clank-rift-apart-ps5/p/191449>





**(a)** First example of a presentational feature:

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

**(b)** Intended effect:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [4]

**(c)** Second example of a presentational feature:

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

**(d)** Intended effect:

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