

# 6<sup>th</sup> Year English Higher Level – Mock Exams Advice

This is in **OneNote** in the Homework section

\*\*\*\*\* TOP TIP \*\*\*\*\*

Use paragraphs in every **single** question!

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## Paper 1

Comprehending and composing paper

TOP TIPS:

- Follow the order of the questions
- Check the **theme** on the front of the paper
- Scan read the compositions at beginning
- Note the time you should finish each question

### Mock Exam

[8.45 - 11.35]

8.45 Check theme of paper

Scan read compositions

Comprehension Q. A

9.30 Question B

10.15 composition

Question	2 hours 50 minutes	Recommended length	What you will be asked to do
<b>Section I</b>  You cannot choose A and B on the same text			
Comprehension A	40-45 minutes  3 questions to complete, breakdown of marks varies year to year	3 pages  10 marks = three quarters of a page {approx. 200 words)  15 marks = 1 page (approx. 250 words)	Respond to a range of text types including:  Fiction / narrative extract Literary or journalistic article Speech Non-fiction e.g. memoir Travelogue

		20 marks = 1 and a quarter pages (approx. 300 words)	...etc.
Question B	40-45 minutes	1.5-2 pages	Be able to write in many genres including:  Informal letter Formal letter Open letter Speeches Newspaper or magazine articles Talk to your class Reports Diary entries Reviews Advertisement Introduction to an anthology Text of a podcast  ...etc.
<b>Section II</b>			
Composition	75-80 minutes	4 pages	Write a composition of your choice. 8 options including: Short story Personal essay Descriptive essay Speech Article Discursive essay  ...etc.

## Paper 2

Literature paper

### TOP TIPS:

- Decide the order you will complete questions in advance
- Make your own timing guideline based on that decision
- Complete the unseen and prescribed poetry sequentially
- Note the time you should finish each question

### Mock Exam

[8.45 - 11.35]

8.45 Check theme of paper

Scan read compositions

Comprehension Q. A

9.30 Question B

10.15 composition

Decide the order which you will attempt the questions in advance of the exam

Question	3 hours 20 minutes	Recommended length	What you will be asked to do
<b>Section I</b>			
Single Text 'Hamlet'	50-55 minutes	5 pages  Approx. 1000-1200 words	Respond to one of two questions on 'Hamlet' recognising the nuances in the question (the two planks of the question).  Questions can be on topics such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Themes of the text e.g. madness, power etc.</li><li>• Characters e.g. The ghost, King Hamlet, young Hamlet</li><li>• Common threads within characters e.g. the female characters; e.g. the ghost/the troupe of actors</li></ul>

			<p>Your response should evidence personal response to the text and awareness of its genre as drama (i.e. include reference to stagecraft in your response)</p> <p>Quotations must be known and included. 4-5 quotations or references to core scenes in each paragraph of your essay.</p>
<b>Section II</b>			
<p>Comparative Study</p> <p>'Never Let Me Go'</p> <p>'Maradona'</p> <p>'The Crucible'</p>	60-65 minutes	<p>4-5 pages</p> <p>Approx. 800 -1000 words</p>	<p>Mode: Theme or Issue</p> <p>Respond to one of two questions about your comparative study.</p> <p>Themes within our texts include: power, love, identity, family etc.</p> <p>Be able to discuss and compare key moments across texts</p>
<b>Section III</b>			
<p>Question A Unseen Poetry</p>	20 minutes	<p>1 page</p> <p>Approx. 250 words</p>	<p>Respond to <b>one</b> of two questions about a poem which is printed on the paper</p> <p>You will need to be able to identify and discuss images which are pertinent to the question.</p> <p>Reference devices used by the poem's author to evoke the theme or central idea(s).</p>
<p>Question B Prescribed Poetry</p>	45-50 minutes	<p>4 pages</p> <p>Approx. 1000 words</p>	<p>You will have a choice of five questions and should complete <b>one</b>.</p> <p>Synthesise your understanding of the work of</p>

			<p>one of the prescribed poets in an essay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sylvia Plath</li> <li>• W.B. Yeats</li> <li>• Seamus Heaney</li> </ul> <p>You need to be able to discuss themes and style of each poet in detail, drawing comparisons across the poems as a body of work.</p>
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You must demonstrate awareness of each text as a product of its genre (the five language genres). This means that you should either identify devices used by the writer or else employ these devices in your writing.

E.g. Informal letter

Genre = narrative use of language

Use narrative devices such as informal tone, personal pronouns, anecdote, opinion, reported speech

E.g.

Poetry essay

Genre = language of argument

In your writing, use rhetorical devices such as: opinion, reference/example, personal viewpoint

Within the essay, analyse and comment on the devices employed by the poet (poetry = aesthetic use of language). Devices include simile, imagery, assonance, symbolism, enjambment etc.