

Task: Creative Writing

A05 (24 Marks) A06 (16 Marks)

45 Mins

Either: Describe a beautiful view from your imagination. You may choose to use the picture provided for ideas.

Or: Write the opening of a story about an oncoming storm.



How Can I Revise for This Section?

1. Practise sentences or paragraphs focusing on different descriptive techniques.
2. Ensure you have a good working knowledge of descriptive techniques.
3. Revise different ways to structure narrative writing.
4. Practise writing descriptively in response to an image.
5. Read! Take note of particularly interesting words or examples of description.

Do you KNOW your AO?

A05: 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.

A06: Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

What Techniques Could I Include?

- Imagery: simile, metaphor, personification.
- Word choices: interesting adjectives, powerful verbs and adverbs.
- Varied sentence structures.
- Shifts in tone, focus or mood.
- Pathetic fallacy in your setting description.
- Repetition.
- Sound effects: alliteration, onomatopoeia, assonance and sibilance.

Top Tips

- Accuracy is 40% of the marks – check your work.
- Read a range of genres to give you inspiration.
- Vocabulary is important – use a wide range.
- Use a clear narrative structure. You could try by beginning straight with the action (in media res), a compelling description of the setting or with character dialogue.

Approaches for Narrative or Descriptive Writing.

- Consider emotion – what do you want your reader to feel when they read your piece of writing?
- Avoid clichés – focus on originality and interest.
- Section off areas of the image – these could focus different sections or paragraphs of your writing.
- Don't be limited by the image – it is just a stimulus.
- Avoid overcomplicating your narrative – stick to one central character/setting.
- Consider what has had impact on you as a reader – use these ideas in your writing.
- What is your task? Is it descriptive or narrative? Narratives will contain a mixture of both description and action. A description will focus on visual detail.
- Plan - but not for too long!