

WJEC English

How to get a grade C on Paper 1 Reading

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Timing – Paper 1 Reading

You are advised to spend 55 minutes on Section A

You are given a passage and 4 questions

Each question is worth 10 marks

You must answer all 4 questions.

Give equal time to each question:

6 minutes to read the passage

12 minutes on each question

Your answers should be roughly the same length,
about a side of A4

Remember...

There is no point writing loads for question 1 and
nothing for question 4 because you ran out of time.

Watch the clock! Be strict with yourself. You can
always come back to finish an answer.

How to answer the questions..

Each question asks you to look at a section from the passage eg. 'look again at lines 1-20'.

Start at the first line eg. line 1 and work **step by step, sequentially, methodically** through the section.

Make sure you cover the whole of the section you are asked to look at. There is no point in saying lots about lines 1-15 and forgetting lines 16-20.

Remember to PEE = Point, evidence, explanation

Pick short, relevant quotes as your evidence

Use phrases like:

- 'he is in disbelief when...'
- 'this shows that...'
- 'when she did.....she was....'
- 'this suggests that...'

Remember:

Work methodically, step by step, through each sentence of the section. Keep thinking about what the question is asking. Explain your ideas clearly.

The Types of Questions...

Questions asking for your **personal response** to a character...

For example:

- What are your thoughts and feelings about a character or relationship?
- What impression do you get of a character or relationship?
- What do you learn about a character or relationship?
- What are the character's thoughts and feelings?
- What is going through a character's mind?
- How does a character react or behave or change?

Questions asking you to **locate** something...

- What clues or details can you find to prove something?
- What evidence can you find to prove something?

Questions asking you to talk about the **craft of the writer**...

- How does the writer convey, create, make or suggest?
- What happens in these lines? How do you react to what happens?
- How effective is the ending?
- What are your thoughts and feelings as you read these lines?

Try to explain what happens and then comment on the words and phrases that the writer chose to explain it – are they effective?

The Types of Questions...

Questions that ask you to empathise with the character...

- Imagine you are the character...

Think about...

What would the character know at this point in the passage?

What would be important to the character at this point?

What would his or her reaction be to events at this point in the passage?

Try to be the character. Can you capture the voice of the character?

This is not creative writing.

Do not include other characters and/or dialogue between them. If a character is recounting what's happened – they do it alone to an imaginary listener.

Remember...Read the question carefully, several times...underline key words to remind you.