

#### Westhoughton High School: English Department Parental Workshop 1: GCSE English Language



Supervising revising at home and helping your teenager prepare for the GCSE English exams can be a minefield for parents and carers. This booklet will provide information for parents alongside practical guidance on the following:

- what revision should look like.
- what the paper entails questions, marks, timings and resilience.
- what a grade 5 looks like (with comparison to a 7)



### What should revision should look like for English Language?

Unlike Literature, it is practise that makes perfect with English Language. All of the material is unseen so the preparation comes by:

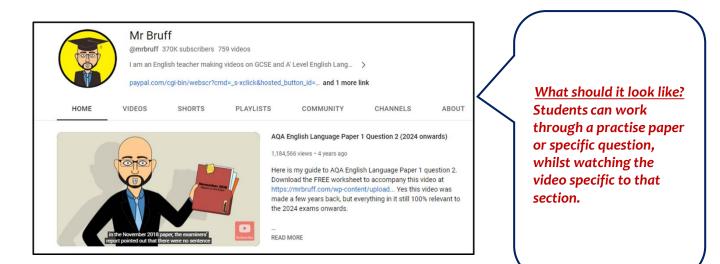
- Knowing exactly what to do for each of the questions (they always follow the same format)
- Being able to practise the questions independently, using unseen texts and practice papers.

• Know what each question is asking:

It is so common to hear a student say "I don't get it" when looking at an English Language question- this barrier is especially difficult when at home. BUT all questions have clear strategies and the internet is a wealth of walk-throughs and guides that will support and match the approaches we use in class. Students just need the support to ensure that they actively try to understand it.

Mr Bruff is a well-known Youtuber (of the English teacher kind) who talks through each and every question in detail, with examples.

#### https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM2vdqz-7e4HAuzhpFuRY8w



• Practising questions

#### HERE IS HOW STUDENTS CAN ACCESS A COMPREHENSIVE AND RELEVANT REVISION RESOURCE MADE ESPECIALLY FOR STUDENTS AT WESTHOUGHTON

STEP ONE: III Microsoft Microsoft	t Teams	(
STEP TWO: Students click on the icon on the LEFT-HAN labelled TEAMS.  STEP THREE: Students find their English class and click on look something like the ICON on the right.	E1 E8 English 11h-En4 2021 English 8g-En5 2021	<u>What should it look like?</u> Students can access practice papers on our Year 11 Revision Resources section on
Comment Annu State Annuese-Narth +  Comment Annue State Annuese-Narth +  Comment Annue State Annue St	STEP FOUR: On the icon at the top of the classroom page, there will be a label called RESOURCES- YEAR 11. Students need to click that. STEP FIVE: Students look in the folders labelled AQA Language Revision and AQA Literature revision. They will find lots of support for independent revision in there !	their Teams page.

## • Planning and practicing of the 'Story' question, Language Paper 1, Q5.

Students should have all now prepared a narrative in which they've considered the setting, character and plot that they'd like to think about and use. Now, as part of their revision, students need to practice writing out their story and improving it over time.

Once confident with their plan, students can practise writing their idea using different Q5s (take from the practice papers on Sharepoint). Their story will roughly follow a 4-part structure as seen below:

## <u>'FOUR FOR MORE'-THE 4-PART</u> SUCCESS STORY

#### **ONE: SETTING - describe**

- Pathetic fallacy (DRAMATIC to add ACTION)
- Use WEATHER AS SYMBOL (make it NEGATIVE, HOSTILE, THREATENING)
- Prepositions (NAVIGATE THE READER)
- HINT AT A DIFFERENT PAST using 'once; now' sentencing

#### TWO: CHARACTER- describe

- One or two characters- no more- keep minimal
- Show, not tell- describe an interesting appearance/behaviour which hints at the live they lead.
- Craft the actions/behaviour of the character to reflect personality
- Keep dialogue minimal and crafted.

#### THREE: FLASHBACK:

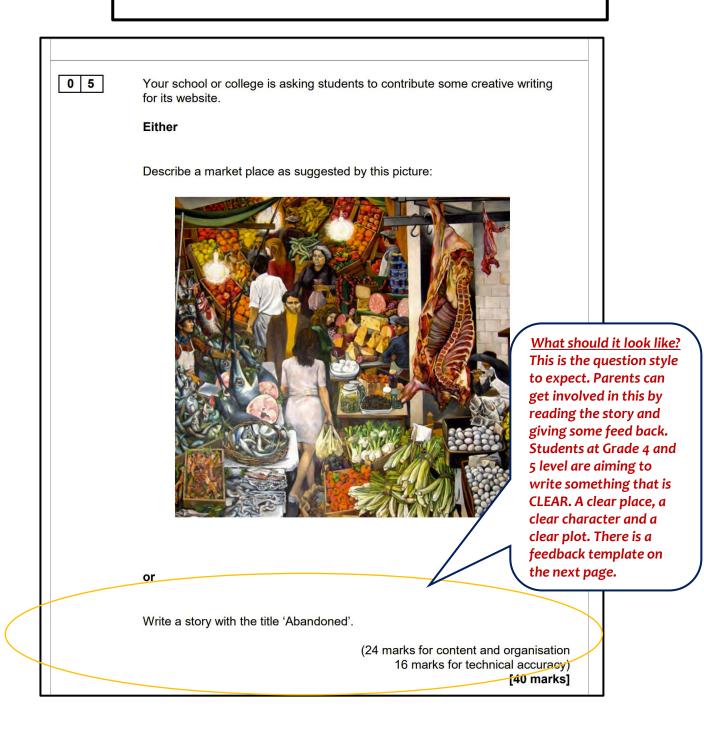
- Go back to a MOMENT in the past that helps explain the current situation that the character is in.
- Ensure that you keep your writing in the past tense!

#### FOUR: RETURN TO SCENE:

- Don't feel the need for resolution or huge drama! Zoom in on something in the scene or introduce a
- danger/threat/hope to develop.
- Offer a glimpse of a change- use the weather to symbolise this (clouds are great for this!

#### Section B: Writing

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section. Write in full sentences. You are reminded of the need to plan your answer. You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.



# Editor's Checklist



Planned	first
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- Capital letters and full stops used where necessary.
- Paragraphs evident with short paragraph for effect and structural features used to link ideas.
- 5+ ambitious words (looked up in thesaurus and circled when included)
- At least four of the sentence types mentioned in this booklet (e.g fronted adverbial)
- Similes and metaphors used. Ideally extended throughout piece. E.g. Like a predator, he stalked his victim.
- Personification used. E.g. the wind howled as if the whole sky was injured.
- At least one colon used (:) and At least one semicolon used (;)
- At least 4 prepositions used to guide the reader
- Is it clear? Can you follow the structure? Does it link to the question/prompt?

Did you enjoy reading the piece? (Y or N) \_ What did you enjoy?

What do you think can be improved?

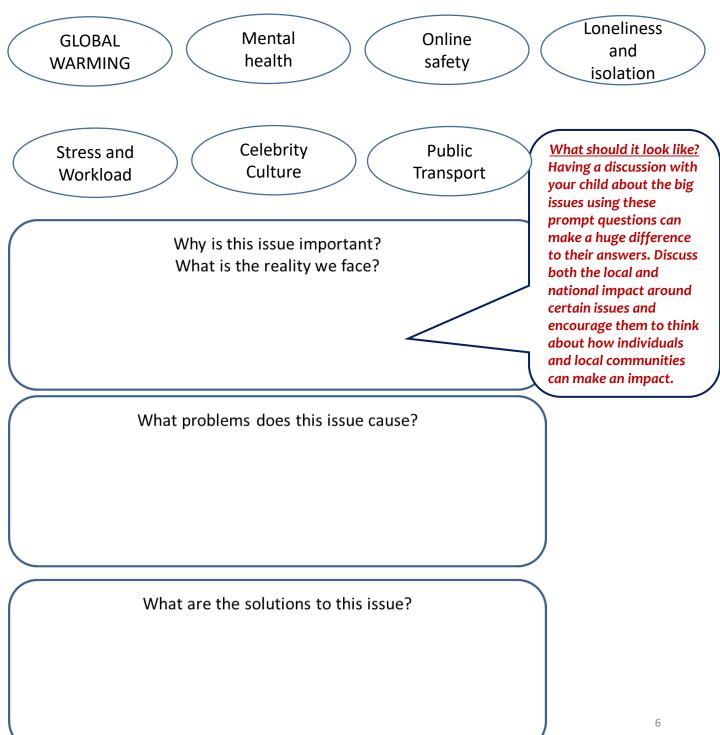
What should it look like? Read your child's story using this checklist as a guide for feedback. To achieve a Grade 4, the story needs to ultimately make sense and it doesn't take an English specialist to be able to see if that's the case!

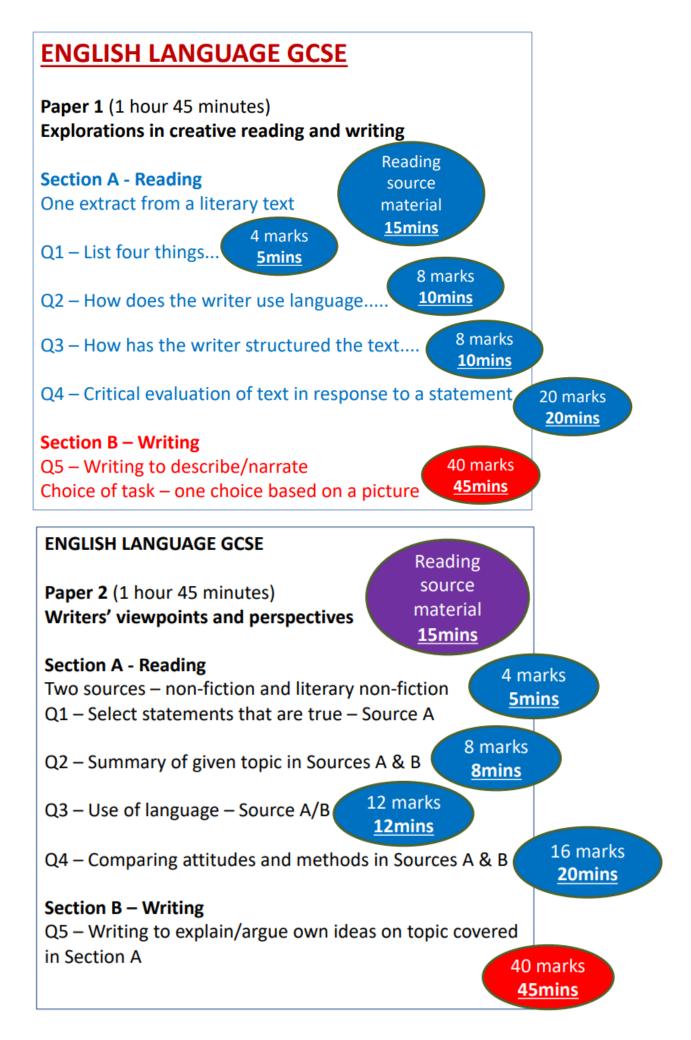
#### What revision should look like for English Language?

## • Researching and discussing the Big Ideas that can come up for Language Paper 2, Q5.

For the other Language Paper, the big writing question (Q5) requires them to write a persuasive piece about a particular social issue. This topic is not pre-released, so it can be very difficult for students to write a comprehensive argument about something that they don't know much about!

Preparation for this can involve researching the potential topics that could come up.





### <u>English Language Paper 1</u> Q5

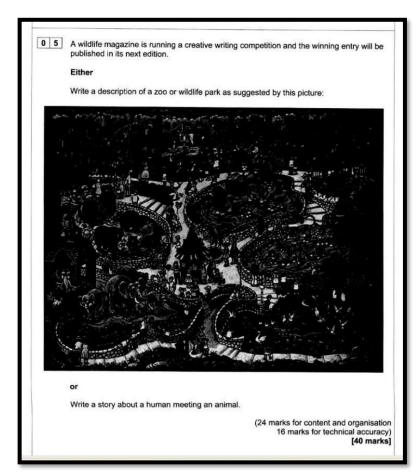
## **SAMPLE ANSWERS**

### Student Examples for the WRITING SECTION QUESTION 5- NARRATIVE (STORY) OR DESCRIPTION

### 45 MINUTES 40 MARKS 50% OF THE PAPER

### WAYS TO REVISE: -PRACTISE THE PLAN AND THE WRITE-UP- Use practice papers from Sharepoint. -MEMORISE THE SENTENCE STRUCTURES

### -READ AND CHECK FOR TECHNICAL ACCURACY AND CLARITY



# <u>Grade 5</u>

Clear focus on setting to begin with. This student has revised their time and place carefully with a clear idea of the vocabulary used.

clear idea of the vocabulary used. You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write. Grey 1 on inous clouds filled the once blue onto the city almost as if hissed SKA spitting onto the desolate streets poison the population scatter from the watched cious use of streets bulary/linguistic Shut the total breaze as samed stopping from filling my the icu breeze liq af 100m echoed BANG empty apartment . through even louder. walked over towards staned ancient sofa with even with ever and took the thorboards creeked. sat down reached for the nug of coppee that was cold touch in pront of ne-The only sound offer than Hunder was the orgoing fuzzing box TV 0% HOOK a sip of inpont of ne. As cold and tasting coffee thought - Whe old Following the setting description, the get this lonely depressing life student has spent some time characterising their narrator using Attempt to structure with a variety of linked ideas (UL2) specific detail and description. This takes preparation for most students. hands through my black almo rested the sofa. Endless naainst daus was fired. Mu no sleep il head pound if AS + hausands 20 ham Manayos My 40 eyes istantly drawn to the what seened endless arount of pills on the side table thoughts. My thoughts are in need Compare the work your child is producing to the

quality of work in these answers – does it match up? Will your child's work achieve a grade 5?

Although this is known as the 'story question', the best answers only focus on a small section of timetoo much plot makes the story feel rushed and lacking in detail. Encourage your child to think about using a flashback to give the story and character some depth.

Do not write outside me flushed away. Just as I was about I reached for DOR the container of pills and then suddenly BARK! "BARKI". The familiar noised ran knough my ears. Mud, timber, soone smoke the familiar smell slittered up my nose. I shut my eyes slowly this would all go away but with a bling I was back. Back on the pront line blink trench. Fighting for my life. Bullets flying past. Thism enerally accurate spelling -ophisticated vocabulary (L3) This time I looked around and realised I was alone. Just me and the opposition aiming for me. Running shooting. Fireing, a Anything that could keep me alive. Why an I back here? Specks of mod and dust hit me as grenades where landling all I didn't know what to do. Ho around me. Vulnerable. Net again 1 am vulnerable just live back in my apartment. Then all of a sudden "BARK! That familiar dog . Why do I keep Usually Variety of sentence BARKI coherent - mostly structure with clear In the smoky distance hearing this? Could agreement (L3) connected a small figure running at me . It wasn't isn't a soldier, in fact it isn't a human . It's a A dog is running towards me! The smell dog : of mud and timber had gone. I could smell cold and damp walls. With a blink of an coffee was back. Back in my apartment Why was the day nunning to me? What does this Turn over >

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near ? Usually coherent structure with clear, connected ideas (LL3) There it was again BARKI BARKI tovards ran and ope ny apartment the door 20 doa A big, brow joy. with enes lled as -0 as . 1'm 1700 face. readed Mal This Ł no langer a lone Mid in level Variety of sentence forms - mostly controlled agreement (L3) LEAR COMMUNICATION (LL3) any coherent structure with clear, connected ideas (LL3) Sentence demarcation mostly secure -mostly accurate punctuation (L3) negally matched to purpose/audience (LL3) Generally accurate spelling - sophisticated vocabulary (L3)

# <u>Grade 7</u>

()You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write. in a storm, sea personified Plan: to an primal Junstop (wild) uman meeting flashbach to an animal meeting 192 puppy wild animal sem olympic drowns to swimme -Forcegelly, I was thrown into the water like a doad body. Bearing its conines, the rais roared and spat toments of ferocious water while while whilst below, savage waves pound on top of each other : altogether blocking only opening for escape! Whimpering with hunger, wind roamed the surf as it the teral dich clicked its frosty teeth. To add to this menace, thunder howled and rolled with importience as the and the vicious, no starved claudo provled across the stey. There were very few places to hide. Like a parasite, water latched onto my clothes and scalabed my throat, dragging IB/G/Jun23/8700/1

15 outside the me under the waves. Instantly Frantically, I clawed upwards, trying to reach for the surface. Again and again, the tides of touring waves fell plunged top of me, as if down heavily on playing with it food. I needed breathe. Scrambling, punching, ripping at the waves while I broke 1 presh air, surface. Grasping at the I turned in the swell and boat was out of sight. My stomach twisted. Hope was wrong out of me. Like on old car engine, every part of my body shock from the with "cold, fear and shock. Where was I? How long had I been treading water Despite my situation, fleeting determination Flickered within me - I can do Ria! car do tris! can tread longer, I can survive; on a projessional swimmer can do this! All mandad had do was head to the cost coastline bet "which direction was that? Beyone I could ever think move, a huge swall of water wildly tossed me like a rag doll. again ion consistently secure

16 Do not w outside ! The events of that morning seemed so box distant now. The sun had stretched wide open its golden arms and the Femiliar, sally had welcomed aroma home. Embraced in their love congratulations, my Friends and railed my grandads boat, just o "You are gold!" "Gold!" They all cried, pointing applauding me. Rolling my eyes in mack disapprovement, hide the gentle curl of cald not a smile unfolding across my lips. Glawing in the tight warmth of their up the medal praise, I proudly held around my neck "Howen't you taken it of sleep in it, "It laughed Ha! No! I In the triumphont air, joy bubbled within me and happiness radiated out the happiness of my success at the thought of the radiated when I the moment The moment was gold at the Women's 500m breaststroke at the Olympics! Years of diligent training IB/G/Jun23/8700/1

<sup>14</sup> 

17 outside the every day, resilience resilience and box perservance had led to that moment. Soaking in the joy of it all, could not stop smiling. That ayternoon, I glided a in the calm and quiet waters, yeeling like I was released degying the strict rules of gravity. A complete weightlessne weightlessness. Sporkling in the like sapphires, the familiar waters invited me to them and venture Further alk from boat. In the shallow, time waters, the only powed at my knees like a it friendly puppy. This was where belonged; where I trained, lived, where I was "raised. , where I Gentle and smooth, the watern filled perjectly around me as it had always done times. Now I understand. But now I have met the beast that is the sea: I an merely a human against the untorned, callous and wild asimal! heart Euricesty pounded in my Turn over > IB/G/Jun23/8700/1

15

chast. In ponic, my eyes fronticult desperately raked the date depths of the ocean sea. Grasping at pochethols of air and gulping even more water, the stubborn sea send its feeth into my call, dragging me into the the stomach of the storm's swell. Relentlessly, the waves tone at no shin with it sharp claws. my hicked out, but my legs were doad weights bereath me - I was an anchor - numb and leader. The salt burned my throat. Further and Further I sank. Drowning. Me. How had it come to this? After everything had worked so hard for, and Highly accurate spelling - a everything I had planed to do. My fomily, my friends, my life. How could I drown? How could an Olympic swimmer drown succumb to water in such a way ? How could & After meeting the deadly animal how could I simply let myse become its prey? A pert perpetual darkness detached Jeeling to my limbs. All 40 all Extra space for question 5 only (If needed) felt was the interpret burning of my lungs as it swallowed whole cation consistently secure - consis NSISTENTLY CLEAR COMMUNICATION (UL3) tently matched to purpose/audience (UL3) Il range of sentence forms - con singly sophisticated vocabulary/phrasing (UL3) ccessful linguistic devices (UL3) Highly accurate spelling - ambitious vocabulary (L4 ntly structured with a range of clear, connected ideas (UL3) High in level

## <u>English Language <mark>Paper 2</mark> Q5</u>

## **SAMPLE ANSWERS**

Student Examples for the WRITING SECTION QUESTION 5-A PERSUASIVE ARTICLE 45 MINUTES 40 MARKS 50% OF THE PAPER

WAYS TO REVISE: -PRACTISE THE PLAN AND THE WRITE-UP -MEMORISE THE SENTENCE STRUCTURES -LET FAMILY READ AND CHECK FOR TECHNICAL ACCURACY AND CLARITY -WORK WITH FAMILY MEMBERS TO RESEARCH THE 'BIG IDEAS'

# <u>Grade 5</u>

	outside box
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.	
Write in full sentences. You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.	
You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.	
77.5	B5
5 'Cars are convenient, comfortable and save time. However, we need to use the making public transport such as trains, trams and buses cheaper, more reliable to access.'	m less by and easier
Write a speech to be given at a meeting of your local council in which you argue of view on this statement.	your point
(24 marks for content and o 16 marks for technica	
You are advised to plan your answer to Question E before you shot to write	
You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.	
Agree could renvironment	
Cars Ly Electric	
Traffic 2>Fast	2
	North Contraction
phaster Social: comm	nunity
Rublic Transport environment	
The student understands that this is a Further	
speech and has understood who is the audience. Students need to ensure they	~
adapt to suit the type of text	S
	<u>s</u>
adapt to suit the type of text (speech/article/letter)	
adapt to suit the type of text (speech/article/letter) Councillors, now did you travel to	this
adapt to suit the type of text (speech/article/letter) Councillors, now did you travel to meeting today? Did you come far?	this
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adapt to suit the type of text (speech/article/letter) Councillors, now did you travel to meeting today? Did you come far? tene/style/reg for p/a (U3) bet 98% of you came by car, and 5 travelled further than a mile whilst 1 agree cars are conve 'comfortable' and do save time reathey are one of the leading sources of carbon emissions in the	this i in Some acc punt inients iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii

Students are taught in lesson to write an emotive introduction using the phrasing "Imagine a world where..." and then to describe a dystopian extreme of the topic. This isn't a story but marks are still given generously for emotive description.

the issue faced.

Do not v y, dangerously damaging our world armosphere . Ima ne a world where we suffocated by fumes from are exhausts, # just to drive to your nearest supermarket it takes upu 3 times as longer because you're Clear vocab for effect (LL3 why vocab (L3) in the claustraphobic congestion brapped emitting on the road whilsr tonnes of per pollution into our atmosphere. The hellish Future has arready begun and if we don't change our lazy, stubborn and selfish actions 2 these consequences are our future. Variety linked ideas (UL2) Some paras/disc markers (UL2) transpart vehicle on average, a public bus with take can take you Futther distance, Approp ling devices than traffic at onthe a Faster 1/3 of the price of fuel. The cost of Living crisis has unfortunately Forced pressure on many to cut everyday lives and has COSTS also pressured others mental wellbeings which brings forward many more problems . Sadly, it leaves many parents left contemplating how they can commute to work or After the introduction, the argument is clear-needed for Grade 5. After the introduction, students go on to describe

drive children to school or eating a meal . How is this Fair ? Daging & Many today's society aren't aware of oF Some struct features (UL2) the easily accessible, cheaper ways of transport that are right before /ariety sentence forms (L3) an eyes ! our with encouragement of using trains services, bus routes and trams we are supporting these companies to invest and make improvements to a the Future transport industry making it a sustainable, reliable, and access curate demarcation (L3) -able for our future generations. What about train strikes you ask? WHENCHAR & Hopeparage the more agree 1 agree as daily user of these methods of transport, getting From one place to another by train recently has been stressful, chaotic and difficult but hopefully the more people use these the more Funds go inro poying the wages of workers, the more & people use the train services the more investments in replacement services and station accessability. guarantee the future 1 can Turn over > IB/G/Jun23/8700/2 In the final section of the answer, students should develop their answer by

students should develop their answer, students should develop their answer by thinking about the solutions to the issue. These often involve community involvement and better services for those affected.

Students do well if their argument has a 'real world' feel. Discuss possible expert 16 titles that can be given to help them use a quote/research from experts (i.e professors, scientists, brings better services. politicians/charities/councillors etc). Clear connected ideas (LL3) Scientists predict if we don't Usually coherent pan change our actions of pollution we will hit the 1.5°c tipping point which determines our reversible desmucho disaster of a future. To solve this must our down our we usage, if just 50%. -80 ou population down cur the how much we drive our we could save Most control agreement ( 502 2 tonne 5 emitted, nor pollution vo th goal a it comment to acheve? want Usually effective struct features (LL3) 50 conclude, with yours, to mine and our conn intres efforts we for public better transport and travel CLEAR COMMUNICATION (LL3) Mostly acc range punct (L3) lear tone/style/reg for p/a (LL3) fostly accurate demarcation (L3) lear vocab for effect (LL3) Variety sentence forms (L3) Approp ling devices (LL3) Most control agreement (L3) isually effective struct features (LL3) Gen acc sp/soph vocab (L3) Clear connected ideas (LL3) Usually coherent paras/disc markers (LL3) Middle of level

# <u>Grade 7</u>

0 5 'Cars are convenient, comfortable and save time. However, we need to use them less by making public transport such as trains, trams and buses cheaper, more reliable and easier to access.'

Write a speech to be given at a meeting of your local council in which you argue your point of view on this statement.

> (24 marks for content and organisation 16 marks for technical accuracy) [40 marks]

You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.

imagine a world where roads are pocked full of stationary cars. imagine a world where the skies are a the scorched sepia instead of the hopeful bive they are supposed to be imagine a world choking an its polluted lungs because we prefer to travel in cars instead of using public transport. Is this what we want? Is this what we need? Undoubtedly, the extensive number of cars blocking our motor ways and streets needs to be addressed.

The convenience of cars allow up to travelwhenever we want whenever we want. However there is no doubt that our ministry use of cars is having devastating implications for our environment. The exhaust fumes from the vehicles contain carbon dioxide a greenhouse gas

Turn over >

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Do not write outside the box

Notional health lervice. To solve this problem, the government could make public transport more accessible. For example, the Manchuster metroling connects the toosed in Great Manchuster. Using this Method of transport, propul can get to worn easier and can travel into the city centre to enjoy hisve activities like Chopping in the Arndale. This alleviates stress which shakes people more productive at work, boosting our economy. With limited amounts of stress and a prospering economy, it Assade life would be eudemonistic. Isn't that we want? Don't we want to reach the pinnacle or homaning?

Undoubtedly, cais are a small purchase. Sure you have to pay for insurance and petros and make the big jump in the beginning, burits all worth it in the end, right? Many people stray always from public transport due to its seemingly unjuintiable cost of 16 year-old, a bus ticket costs around \$2.00, more for an aburt. Imagine Fravelling to and from Work, uvery day, five days a week, fifty six weeks in a year. It would cost an absolute for tun. To remedy this issue, to head for public transport could be lowered. They could possibly uver be free and run by volumeters. This

lear connected ideas (LL3)

Turn over >

IB/G/Jun23/8700/2

16 woold incooling mon people to use public Kansport as it does not reem like a wate or Money. NON 1 as a you to imagine a world whele roads are not lined with a jumbled, bland mix OF COLOVIS. IMa give a world with roaring bue skiel, adorned with emberald green thes. Imagine a prospering earth. is this whet we want? Is this what we here! Together we can fix this. CONSIST CLEAR COMM (UL3) Communication is consistently clear Tone, style and register are consists Increasingly sophisticated vocabulary and phrasing, chosen for ffect, with a range of successful linguistic devices