**Writing on a Topical Language Issue: Paper 1, Section B 24 Marks (45 Minutes)**

For this question, you will be given a statement on a linguistic issue which requires you to apply relevant knowledge from the whole course. An example could be: ‘*Technology is destroying the English language*.’ You will then have to write a response to this statement in a particular genre. Key genres could include: a talk, a blog article, a newspaper article, opinion column, magazine article and a radio talk. You must tailor your writing for a **non-specialist, reasonably well-educated audience** (i.e. your peers/graduates who have not studied English beyond GCSE level). Therefore, you **must not include subject terminology**. You must make sure that your **register matches the genre** and write approximately **500 words**. You must also remember to **critique the statement** even if you agree with it. Critiquing it could involve writing wholly against the statement or, if you agree with it, providing the other side of the argument to provide balance to agreeing with it.

**12 marks** are for **AO2** (your ability to include relevant **concepts/case studies/theory**) and **12 marks** are for **AO5** (your ability to include **relevant language/structural features for the genre**).

We are going to practise today with the following statement:

*‘American English is polluting the UK variety and is a threat to British English.’*

Try to come up with a list of arguments for and arguments against this statement using content from the whole course:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **For:** | **Against:** |
| 1)  2)  3)  4)  5) | 1)  2)  3)  4)  5) |

Now you need to think about **structure**. A good way to structure your response is by including a conceptual/extended metaphor throughout that you keep returning to or by having a cyclical narrative where you start and end at the same point/location/with the same characters.

We are going to focus on writing a **talk** today. List some of the features (structural and language) you would expect in a talk:

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Now with the arguments for and against that you listed on the previous page, try to divide up your response into **3 sections** as per grid below.

Come up with a **conceptual metaphor** that you think might work for the statement:

*American English is a …*

Now plan out your **3 sections** illustrating how your **conceptual metaphor** can be used in each section:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 1:** | **Illustration of Metaphor:** |
| **Section 2:** | **Illustration of Metaphor** |
| **Section 3:** | **Illustration of Metaphor** |