

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

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Candidate number

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Surname

Forename(s)

Candidate signature

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (8700)

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- **Source A** – provided as a separate insert

Instructions

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes on this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark of this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for **Section A** and 40 marks for **Section B**.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **reading** in **Section A**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **writing** in **Section B**.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

Section A: Reading

Answer **all** questions in this section.
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

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Read again the first part of the source from **lines 1 to 5**.

List **four** things about the bird in Alex's nightmare from this part of the source.

[4 marks]

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

0 2

Look in detail at this extract from **lines 6 to 11** of the source:

What had awakened him was the noise from the storm: wind lashing the trees, rain on the rooftop, and thunder. He turned on the light with a sensation of being adrift in a boat, and pushed closer to the bulk of the large dog sleeping beside him. He pictured the roaring Pacific Ocean a few blocks from his house, spilling in furious waves against the rocks. He lay listening to the storm and thinking about the black bird and about his mother, waiting for the pounding in his chest to die down. He was still tangled in the images of his bad dream.

How does the writer use language here to describe the effects of the storm?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

[8 marks]

This form consists of 20 horizontal lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. The lines are contained within a rectangular border.

03

You now need to think about the **whole** of the source.

This text is taken from the beginning of a novel.

How is the text structured to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

- what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning
- how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops
- any other structural features that interest you.

[8 marks]

0 4

Focus this part of your answer on the second half of the source from **line 16 to the end**.

A student said 'This part of the story, set during breakfast time, shows that Alex is struggling to cope with his mother's illness.'

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

- consider your own impressions of Alex
- evaluate how the writer shows that Alex is struggling to cope
- support your response with references to the text.

[20 marks]

A rectangular frame containing 22 horizontal lines, evenly spaced, intended for writing. The lines are black and extend across most of the width of the frame, leaving small margins on the left and right sides.

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.

0 5

A magazine has asked for contributions for their creative writing page.

Either:

Write a description of a stormy sea as suggested by this picture:



Or:

Write a story that begins with the sentence: 'This was going to be a terrible day, one of those days when it's best to stay in bed because everything is going to turn out bad.'

(24 marks for content and organisation)

16 marks for technical accuracy)

[40 marks]

A large rectangular frame containing 21 horizontal lines, likely for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the frame, leaving a small margin on both sides. The frame itself is a simple black border.

A large rectangular frame containing 25 horizontal lines, serving as a writing area. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the frame, leaving a small margin on the left side.

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED**

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