

# PAPER 1 LANGUAGE GCSE (AQA)

## WHAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND BY THE END OF THE UNIT:

1. How to approach an unseen text using the 5 Ws (Who? What? Where? When? Why?)
2. How to identify and select the most fruitful examples of language to analyse when answering a language analysis question (choosing imagery, and words with powerful associations)
3. How to write analytically and in detail about 2 or 3 examples of language in a text when evaluating a text (Q4) and analysing language (Q2)
4. How to identify structural features in a text (Q3 & 5) including setting (interior & exterior); pathetic fallacy; characterisation (external description and internal thoughts); dialogue; flashback; foreshadowing; cyclical structure.
5. How to plan a description using a range of: sentence structures; language devices; and structural features.

## BIG PICTURE THEMES



Morality



Injustice



Responsibility



Hierarchy



Power of Nature



Love & Relationships



Mystery



Conflict

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## KEY TERMS: STRUCTURE (Q3 & Q5)

INTERIOR SETTING

EXTERIOR SETTING

PATHETIC FALLACY

INTERNAL CHARACTERISATION (THOUGHTS/FEELINGS)

EXTERNAL CHARACTERISATION (APPEARANCE /  
ACTIONS / SPEECH / IMPRESSIONS ON OTHER  
CHARACTERS)

DIALOGUE

FOILS

CONTRASTING CHARACTERS

JUXTAPOSITION OF CHARACTERS

NARRATIVE PERSPECTIVE

FIRST PERSON NARRATOR

THIRD PERSON NARRATOR:  
OMNISCIENT NARRATOR v LIMITED THIRD PERSON  
PERSPECTIVE

CYCLICAL STRUCTURE

FORESHADOWING  
&  
FLASHBACK

## KEY TERMS: LANGUAGE (Q2 & Q4 & Q5)

Imagery (simile, personification,  
metaphor & powerful visual images)

Sound devices (alliteration,  
onomatopoeia)

Associations / Connotations

Repetition

Patterns:

- Semantic field
- Motif

Verbs

Adverbs

Adjectives

Pronouns

## How to structure a creative writing answer (Q5)

Mini Paragraph: **describe the weather**  
(The sun was...The wind was...The rain  
was...)

Main paragraph 1: **describe the setting  
as suggested by an image / your  
imagination**

Mini paragraph: **bridging sentences to  
segway into a flashback** (past memory  
e.g. Catching sight of ...I was reminded  
of the time when....)

Main paragraph 2: **the flashback**  
(memory) to a significant moment from  
the past

Mini-paragraph: **return to weather with  
a twist** to create a meaningful, cyclical  
structure (The sun was now/still... The  
wind was... The rain was...but....)