

KEY STAGE 3 English Language

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing Mark Scheme

Year 9 Pack 2

Version 1.0

INTRODUCTION

The information provided for each question is intended to be a guide to the kind of answers anticipated and is neither exhaustive nor prescriptive. All appropriate responses should be given credit.

Where literary or linguistic terms appear in the Mark Scheme, they do so generally for the sake of brevity. Knowledge of such terms, other than those given in the specification, is **not** required. However, when determining the level of response for a particular answer, teachers should take into account any instances where the student uses these terms effectively to aid the clarity and precision of the argument.

Level of response marking instructions

Level of response mark schemes are broken down into four levels. There are two, four, five or six marks in each level; dependent upon question.

Please note: The sample responses in each Indicative Standard column are not intended to be complete, full or model answers. Instead, they are there as a guide, to provide you with part of an answer, an indicative extract of a response at the required level. If a student was to continue to develop a response at that standard, they would gain a mark at that level.

Step 1 Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level. The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer. With practice and familiarity you will find that for better answers you will be able to quickly skip through the lower levels of the mark scheme.

Step 2 Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

The Skills Descriptors column indicates the different skills that students need to demonstrate in their answer for that level. To achieve full marks in a level, students should meet all of the skills descriptors in that level. Students achieving marks at the bottom of a level will ideally have met all of the skills descriptors of the previous level and at least one of the skills descriptors in that level.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

SECTION A: READING - Assessment Objectives

AO1	 Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas. Select and synthesise evidence from different texts.
AO2	Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views.
AO3	Compare writers' ideas and perspectives, as well as how these are conveyed, across two or more texts.
AO4	Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references.

SECTION B: WRITING - Assessment Objectives

AO5	•	Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences. Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts.
AO6	•	Students must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement must constitute 20% of the marks for each specification as a whole).

Assessment Objective	Section A
AO1	✓
AO2	✓
AO3	N/A
AO4	√
	Section B
AO5	√
AO6	✓

Section A: Reading

0 1

Read again the first part of the Source from lines 1 to 6.

List **four** things about Alfred from this part of the Source.

[4 marks]

Give 1 mark for each point about Alfred:

- responses must be true, and drawn only from lines 1 to 6 of the text
- · responses must relate to Alfred
- students may quote or paraphrase
- a paraphrased response covering more than one point should be credited for each point made though paraphrased responses must demonstrate evidence of identification of information that is specific to the focus of the question as required by AO1
- responses that copy the whole section of the text from lines 1 to 6 verbatim should not be credited any marks as this does not provide any evidence of identification of information that is specific to the focus of the question as required by AO1.

Note: The indicative content must not treated as exhaustive and reference must be made to the selected section of the text.

AO1

- Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas
- Select and synthesise evidence from different texts.

This assesses bullet point 1 identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas

Indicative content; students may include:

- he felt something move
- he was cold
- he was sitting in the mud and the dark
- he was slumped against the trench wall
- he was wearing a battledress jacket
- he had pale dirty skin
- he could feel something struggling and pushing to get past him
- he stood up fast
- he felt revulsion.

Or any other valid responses that you are able to verify by checking the Source.

0 2

Look in detail at this extract from **lines 8 to 16** of the Source:

(Extract in paper)

How does the writer use language here to describe the rat?

You could include the writer's choice of:

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

[8 marks]

AO2

Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views

This question assesses Language ie: Words / Phrases / Language Features / Language Techniques / Sentence Forms

Level	Skills Descriptors	How to arrive at a mark	Indicative Standard This indicative standard is not a model answer, or a complete response. Nor does it seek to exemplify any particular content. Rather, it is an indication of the standard for the level.
Level 4 Detailed, perceptive analysis 7-8 marks	 Shows detailed and perceptive understanding of <i>language</i>: Analyses the effects of the writer's choices of <i>language</i> Selects a judicious range of textual detail 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors.	The writer describes the rat as if it is intent on doing harm. It is 'pushing through and twisting its head', which suggests it is determined to squirm its way into the trench. The use of adjectives in 'wet greasy fur' tells us the creature is oily and slippery, not just literally but also metaphorically, implying that it is sly and cunning, and 'mean red eyes' suggest its

	Makes sophisticated and accurate use of subject terminology	At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	evil nature - red eyes that glow in the dark have connotations of the devil. The rat could even symbolise the enemy at this point as it becomes a focus for Alfred's 'pent-up anger' and aggression when he kicks it and chases it across the mud. It has invaded his territory and is the foreigner that doesn't belong there. All the unpleasant vocabulary used to describe the creature reinforces our preconceived idea of rats being common, dirty vermin. Even the way it moves in a scurrying manner as it 'scuttled out from the tiny gap' repulses us. Although the rat is running away, the adjective 'sluggish' suggests it is quite lethargic and struggling to gather speed.
Level 3 Clear, relevant explanation 5-6 marks	Shows clear understanding of language: Explains clearly the effects of the writer's choices of language Selects a range of relevant textual detail Makes clear and accurate use of subject terminology	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	The writer's use of adjectives to describe the rat conveys how disgusting it is. The phrase 'wet greasy fur' tells us the creature is slimy and slippery, and 'mean red eyes' implies it is nasty and almost evil like the devil. Because it's dark, the red eyes would glow, and this makes it sound like something out of a horror movie, which is appropriate because Alfred is encountering this rat in the trenches of World War One. The idea of the rat being disgusting is reinforced by the writer's choice of verbs. It 'scuttled' out of the trench like some dirty creature scurrying away.
Level 2 Some, Understanding and comment 3-4 marks	Shows some understanding of language: Attempts to comment on the effect of language Selects some appropriate textual detail Makes some use of subject terminology, mainly appropriately	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	The writer uses negative language to describe the rat. He says it has 'wet greasy fur' and 'mean red eyes'. The adjective 'greasy' tells us it is slimy and disgusting, and 'mean' suggests it is nasty. We feel sorry for Alfred because he's stuck in the trenches with this horrible rat.

Level 1 Simple, limited comment 1-2 marks	Shows simple awareness of language: Offers simple comment on the effect of language Selects simple references or textual details Makes simple use of subject terminology, not always appropriately	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have at least one of the skills descriptors.	The writer uses language to make the rat sound bad. He uses the words 'wet greasy fur'. The rat has 'mean red eyes' which makes it sound horrible.
Level 0 No marks	No comments offered on the use of Nothing to reward	language.	

AO2 content may include the effect of ideas such as:

- use of adjectives to repulse the reader
 use of verbs to indicate the precise movements of the rat
- symbolic nature of the rat.

0 3

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

This text is the opening of a short story.

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]

AO2

Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language and structure to achieve effects and influence readers, using relevant subject terminology to support their views

This question assesses how the writer has structured a text. Structural features can be: at a whole text level eg. beginnings / endings / perspective shifts; at a paragraph level eg. topic change / aspects of cohesion; and at a sentence level when judged to contribute to whole structure.

Level	Skills Descriptors	How to arrive at a mark	Indicative Standard This indicative standard is not a model answer, or a complete response. Nor does it seek to exemplify any particular content. Rather, it is an indication of the standard for the level.
Level 4 Perceptive, detailed analysis 7-8 marks	Shows detailed and perceptive understanding of <i>structural</i> features: • Analyses the effects of the writer's choice of <i>structural</i> features • Selects a judicious range of	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors.	There is an air of uncertainty at the beginning of the text because character and place are established, (Alfred is in the trenches of WW1) but the reader is uncertain as to what exactly is crawling over him. We then experience, in real-time, his sudden revulsion at discovering it is a rat, which creates an effective opening. The action then shifts from the trench wall to a wider perspective of the trench system as Alfred chases through the mud after the creature, and there

	Makes sophisticated and accurate use of subject terminology	At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	follows a repulsive description of it. The rat links the two halves of the passage together – it is 'sluggish' in running away because it has feasted on the corpses of the soldiers who were killed in that morning's '6am push', and this leads to a flashback as we go inside Alfred's mind and he remembers the details of the battle. There is a one sentence paragraph, 'Alfred had grown almost used to such sights', followed by three more that begin 'Almost used to' and then a dreadful detail of what has happened to the men he knew. This has a cumulative effect, building up the horrendous ways the men died and overwhelming us with the cruelty of war.
Level 3 Clear, relevant explanation 5-6 marks	Shows clear understanding of structural features: • Explains clearly the effects of the writer's choice of structural features • Selects a range of relevant examples • Makes clear and accurate use of subject terminology	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	The text begins inside a WW1 trench and focuses on the main character of Alfred. He can feel something crawling over him but he doesn't yet know what it is, and at that stage nor do we. When he realises and yells out 'Rat', we experience the sudden revulsion at the same time he does. The action then widens from the trench wall to the rest of the trench system as Alfred chases through the mud after the rat. In the middle of the passage we get a repulsive description of the rat and in particular why it was 'sluggish': it has eaten the bodies of the soldiers who were killed that morning. This leads to a flashback as we go inside Alfred's mind and he remembers what happened. There is a one sentence paragraph, 'Alfred had grown almost used to such sights', followed by three more that begin 'almost used to' and then a detail of what has happened to the men. This structural feature builds up the horrendous ways the men died and reinforces the cruelty of war.

Level 2 Some, understanding and comment 3-4 marks	Shows some understanding of structural features: • Attempts to comment on the effect of structural features • Selects some appropriate examples • Makes some use of subject terminology, mainly appropriately	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	The story begins inside a WW1 trench and we learn that something is crawling over Alfred but we don't know what. This keeps us in suspense until he finally yells 'Rat'. Then the action shifts to a different part of the trench because the rat 'scuttled out from the tiny gap between the slat supports' and Alfred chases after it. In the middle of the passage we get a description of the rat and the reason why it was 'sluggish' when it was running away. It makes Alfred flashback to what happened that morning and the writer uses lots of gory details like 'bits of men hooked up and hanging there' to tell us what Alfred remembers. We feel really sorry for Alfred and all the dead soldiers.
Level 1 Simple, limited comment 1-2 marks	Shows simple awareness of structural features: Offers simple comment on the effect of structure Selects simple references or examples Makes simple use of subject terminology, not always appropriately	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have at least one of the skills descriptors.	The text is structured in long and short paragraphs. It starts with Alfred in the trenches, and then he chases a rat across the mud. Then it is about all the soldiers who have been killed and it's full of gory details like 'bits of men hooked up and hanging there' so we feel sorry for them.
Level 0 No marks	No comments offered on the use of Nothing to reward	structure	

AO2 content may include the effect of structural features such as:

- the contrast of external action and Alfred's internal thoughts
 the use of flashback to show the brutality of war
- repeated paragraph openings to reinforce points

- use of the rat to act as a link between the two halves of the text
- the circular nature of the passage, beginning and ending with the rat.

0 4

Focus this part of your answer on the second half of the Source from line 17 to the end.

A student said, 'This part of the text where Alfred remembers the battle shows the horror of war and the dreadful effect it has on him.'

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

- consider your own impressions of what Alfred remembers and its effect on him
- evaluate how the writer shows the horror and dreadful effect war has on Alfred
- · support your response with references to the text.

[20 marks]

Evaluate texts critically and support this with appropriate textual references

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Level	Skills Descriptors	How to arrive at a mark	Indicative Standard This indicative standard is not a model answer, or a complete response. Nor does it seek to exemplify any particular content. Rather, it is an indication of the standard for the level.	
Level 4 Perceptive, detailed evaluation 16-20 marks	Shows perceptive and detailed evaluation: Evaluates critically and in detail the effect(s) on the reader Shows perceptive understanding of writer's methods Selects a judicious range of textual detail Develops a convincing and	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors.	I don't see how anyone could disagree with the student's statement that this part of the text conveys the horror of war and the dreadful effect it has on Alfred. He remembers every detail in a flashback of that morning's battle and the description is graphic. The writer says there were 'bits of men hooked up and hanging there for all to see, like the display in an awful butcher's shop window', a simile to convey that the men were blown into pieces with their raw flesh almost exhibited on the wire fence as if for sale. It reduces real people to mere objects, and shows how dehumanising the	

	critical response to the focus of the statement	At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	effects of war can be. The image of a butcher's shop is extended when it says Alfred had become 'used to seeing the remains chucked around among the living like so much discarded offal.' By comparing the men's remains to an animal's internal organs that are thrown away, it suggests the men are unwanted rubbish to be disposed of now they have served their purpose. This is reinforced with the verb 'chucked' and the adverb 'carelessly' to imply how casually life is thrown away in times of war. Alfred has seen so many of these dreadful sights that he has become immune.
Level 3 Clear, relevant evaluation 11-15 marks	Shows clear and relevant evaluation: Evaluates clearly the effect(s) on the reader Shows clear understanding of writer's methods Selects a range of relevant textual references Makes a clear and relevant response to the focus of the statement	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors. At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	I completely agree with the student that this part of the text shows the horror of war and also the dreadful effect it has on Alfred. He remembers the battle in gory detail, especially how the men were blown to pieces when they climbed over the wire fence. The writer uses the simile 'bits of men hooked up and hanging there for all to see, like the display in an awful butcher's shop window'. This image has connotations of raw meat being put on show, which I think truly conveys the horror of war and what happened to the men. This idea is extended when the effect on Alfred is mentioned. It says he had become 'used to seeing the remains chucked around among the living like so much discarded offal.' Offal is the insides of animals so again it makes it sound like a butcher's shop, and we learn that the men are just carelessly thrown away as if they are worth nothing. It also tells us that Alfred has seen so many dreadful things that he has almost become used to it.
Level 2 Some evaluation	Shows some attempts at evaluation: • Makes some evaluative comment(s) on effect(s) on the reader	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors.	I really agree with the student. The details of the battle that Alfred remembers are disgusting. The men were killed as they went over the wire fence and it says 'bits of men hooked up and hanging there for all to see'. The word 'bits' tells us they had been blown up, and this makes us feel sorry for

6-10 marks	 Shows some understanding of writer's methods Selects some appropriate textual reference(s) Makes some response to the focus of the statement 	At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors.	them and for Alfred because they were his friends. The writer shows the effect it has on Alfred when he says he was 'used to seeing the remains chucked around among the living like so much discarded offal.' The noun 'remains' again shows us that the men had been blown up, and the effect it has on Alfred is that he has got used to seeing things like this.
Level 1 Simple, limited evaluation 1-5 marks	 Shows simple, limited evaluation: Makes simple, limited evaluative comment(s) on effect(s) on reader Shows limited understanding of writer's methods Selects simple, limited textual 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors.	I think the student is right. This part of the text shows the horror of war because the men were blown up. There are lots of short paragraphs of horrible things that happened to them to create a good effect on the reader, and it says the bodies were 'chucked around among the living like so much discarded offal'. This is a bad memory for Alfred.
	reference(s) • Makes a simple, limited response to the focus of the statement	At the bottom of the level, a student will have at least one of the skills descriptors.	
Level 0 No marks	No relevant comments offered in res	sponse to the statement, no impress	sions, no evaluation.

AO4 content may include the evaluation of ideas such as:

- the way Alfred's flashback shows the reader what happened in the battle
 the use of graphic language to emphasise the horrors of war
- the use of structure to show how Alfred had become immune to the dreadful sights.

Section B: Writing

0 5

Your teacher wants you to contribute to a collection of creative writing to be published in the school magazine.

Either:

Write a story about conflict as suggested by this picture:

Or:

Describe a place that has had a lasting effect on you.

(24 marks for content and organisation and 16 marks for technical accuracy)

[40 marks]

AO5 Content and Organisation

Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences. Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts.

Level		Skills Descriptors	How to arrive at a mark
Level 4 19-24 marks Compelling,	Upper Level 4 22-24 marks	 Content Register is convincing and compelling for audience Assuredly matched to purpose Extensive and ambitious vocabulary with sustained crafting of linguistic devices 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation
Convincing		 Organisation Varied and inventive use of structural features Writing is compelling, incorporating a range of convincing and complex ideas Fluently linked paragraphs with seamlessly integrated discourse markers 	At the bottom of the range, a student will have the lower range of Level 4 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the upper range of Level 4

	Lower Level 4 19-21 marks	Content Register is convincingly matched to audience Convincingly matched to purpose Extensive vocabulary with conscious crafting of linguistic devices Organisation Varied and effective structural features Writing is highly engaging with a range of developed complex ideas Consistently coherent use of paragraphs with integrated discourse markers	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation At the bottom of the range, a student will have the upper range of Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the lower range of Level 4
Level 3 13-18 marks Consistent, Clear	Upper Level 3 16-18 marks	 Content Register is consistently matched to audience Consistently matched to purpose Increasingly sophisticated vocabulary and phrasing, chosen for effect with a range of successful linguistic devices Organisation Effective use of structural features Writing is engaging, using a range of, clear connected ideas Coherent paragraphs with integrated discourse markers 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation At the bottom of the range, a student will have the lower range of Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the upper range of Level 3
	Lower Level 3 13-15 marks	 Content Register is generally matched to audience Generally matched to purpose Vocabulary clearly chosen for effect and appropriate use of linguistic devices Organisation Usually effective use of structural features Writing is engaging, with a range of connected ideas Usually coherent paragraphs with range of discourse markers 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation At the bottom of the range, a student will have the upper range of Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors for

			Content and Organisation from the lower range of Level 3
Level 2 7-12 marks Some success	Upper Level 2 10-12 marks	 Content Some sustained attempt to match register to audience Some sustained attempt to match purpose Conscious use of vocabulary with some use of linguistic devices Organisation Some use of structural features Increasing variety of linked and relevant ideas Some use of paragraphs and some use of discourse markers 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation At the bottom of the range, a student will have the lower range of Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the upper range of Level 2
	Lower Level 2 7-9 marks	 Content Attempts to match register to audience Attempts to match purpose Begins to vary vocabulary with some use of linguistic devices Organisation Attempts to use structural features Some linked and relevant ideas Attempt to write in paragraphs with some discourse markers, not always appropriate 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation At the bottom of the range, a student will have the upper range of Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the lower range of Level 2
Level 1 1-6 marks Simple, Limited	Upper Level 1 4-6 marks	 Content Simple awareness of register/audience Simple awareness of purpose Simple vocabulary; simple linguistic devices 	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation

		 Organisation Evidence of simple structural features One or two relevant ideas, simply linked Random paragraph structure 	At the bottom of the range, a student will have the lower range of Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the upper range of Level 1
	Lower Level 1 1-3 marks	Content Occasional sense of audience Occasional sense of purpose Simple vocabulary	At the top of the range, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation
		 Organisation Limited or no evidence of structural features One or two unlinked ideas No paragraphs 	At the bottom of the range, a student will have at least one of the skills descriptors for Content and Organisation from the lower range of Level 1
Level 0 No marks	Students will not have offered any meaningful writing to assess. Nothing to reward		

AO6 Technical Accuracy

Students must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation. (This requirement must constitute 20% of the marks for each specification as a whole.)

Level	Skills descriptors	How to arrive at a mark
Level 4 13-16 marks	 Sentence demarcation is consistently secure and consistently accurate Wide range of punctuation is used with a high level of accuracy Uses a full range of appropriate sentence forms for effect Uses Standard English consistently and appropriately with secure control of complex grammatical structures High level of accuracy in spelling, including ambitious vocabulary Extensive and ambitious use of vocabulary 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 3 and at least one of the skills descriptors
Level 3 9-12 marks	 Sentence demarcation is mostly secure and mostly accurate Range of punctuation is used, mostly with success Uses a variety of sentence forms for effect Mostly uses Standard English appropriately with mostly controlled grammatical structures Generally accurate spelling, including complex and irregular words Increasingly sophisticated use of vocabulary 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors At the bottom of the level, a student will have Level 2 and at least one of the skills descriptors
Level 2 5-8 marks	 Sentence demarcation is mostly secure and sometimes accurate Some control of a range of punctuation Attempts a variety of sentence forms Some use of Standard English with some control of agreement 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors At the bottom of the level, a student

	 Some accurate spelling of more complex words Varied use of vocabulary 	will have Level 1 and at least one of the skills descriptors
Level 1 1-4 marks	 Occasional use of sentence demarcation Some evidence of conscious punctuation Simple range of sentence forms Occasional use of Standard English with limited control of agreement Accurate basic spelling Simple use of vocabulary 	At the top of the level, a student's response will meet all of the skills descriptors At the bottom of the level, a student will have at least one of the skills descriptors
Level 0 No marks	Students' spelling, punctuation etc. is sufficiently poor to prevent understanding or meaning.	