**Voice – Notes**

References to ‘voice’ should demonstrate an understanding of the persona, role, character or tone adopted by the author in constructing their text.

Voice establishes the ‘sound’ of the story or writing and refers to the ‘speaker’ or sense of personality evident.

The construction of voice is crucial in:

* Achieving a writer’s purpose.
* Appealing to a specific target audience.
* Reflecting or resisting a particular context.
* Shaping the response of the readers.

Fictional narratives:

* Point of view indicates the degree of intimacy between the author and reader and influence the authenticity and effect of the voice.
* Also consider the choice of character to function as the narrator.
* The tone of the text is vitally important in any discussion of voice.

The tone and voice of the text is also largely determined by the style of writing or language  
used by the author. It may be shaped by the diction, syntax, punctuation, figurative language and other language conventions or stylistic choices.

Select specific examples of language or stylistic features to support your points.  
These language and stylistic choices will mostly be appropriate to the genre of the text,  
thereby working to consolidate the nature of the text’s voice.

At least attempt to analyse the point of view, tone and language/style and consider genre when examining voice.

Things that can really impact authorial voice:

* Vocabulary and word choice.
* Ratio of dialogue to descriptive passages.
* Length of sentences.
* Use of interior monologue.
* Use of paragraph breaks.
* Use of pacing and plot.

While ‘voice’ refers to the authorial or narrative voice in a text and can be explained by an analysis of point of view, language, genre and tone, ‘multiple voices’ relates more directly to the perspectives provided.