

Paper 2 – Writer’s Viewpoints and Perspectives

Brief

Again, there are two sections (reading and writing). Section A will be based around a non-fiction text/extract, such as a newspaper article or blog and a literary non-fiction extract such as a piece of travel writing, diary entry or letter. The 4 questions will require a combination of reading skills, including the ability to interpret information, compare ideas and perspectives across both texts and analyse the writer’s language. Section B is worth half the marks on the paper and will involve writing in a non-fictional form about a topic which is relevant to section A.

Paper Length: 1hr and 45 minutes

What can I expect the 4 questions to be asking for and how can I try to succeed?

1. The first question will ask you to focus on a **small section of one of the two texts**. You will be provided with 8 statements, 4 of which are true; your task will be to select which are true based on your reading.

Tips for success

- ✓ Spend no more than 5 mins
- ✓ Make sure you base your selections on the specified lines only
- ✓ Shade 4 boxes only.

2. You will be asked to focus on **both texts**, providing a summary of some of the **differences or similarities** presented.

Tips for success

- ✓ Spend no more than 10 mins
- ✓ Aim to pick out similarities/differences (depending on the question) which might be more difficult to find
- ✓ Use evidence from both texts in a precise and judicious way
- ✓ Comment on what the similarities/differences illuminate or help you to highlight
- ✓ You are not required to comment on language or structure

3. This question will ask you to focus on one of the texts. You will be asked about the way the writer uses **language** to achieve a particular idea or effect.

Tips for success

- ✓ Remember, language refers to the writer’s individual word, technique and sentence choices
- ✓ Spend no more than 15 mins

- ✓ Ensure your points and your analysis relate back to the question regularly
- ✓ Identify a range of language features which could include:
 - key **parts of speech** (adjectives, adverbs etc.)
 - **literary devices** (similes, metaphors etc.)
 - **linguistic devices** (rhetorical questions, anaphora etc.)
 - aspects on the **style** or **tone** of language
 - **punctuation** use
 - **sentence structures**.
- ✓ Select smaller quotes so that you can say a lot about a little

4. This will be about **both texts**, asking you to **compare** how both writers express their **attitudes** about a particular theme or topic.

Tips for success

- ✓ Spend no more than 20 minutes
- ✓ Refer back regularly to the question
- ✓ Use evaluative words to appreciate what the writers do effectively (partly / most importantly / mostly / wholly / notably / arguably / greatly / effectively / vividly / completely / probably / possibly / definitely)
- ✓ Be sharp and appreciative about what methods both writers have used in expressing their attitudes
- ✓ Keep your comparison close and avoid talking for too long about one of the texts without linking or contrasting with the other

Writing Question – You may be asked to write an article, letter, job application, or anything non-fiction based. There will also be a topic/focus provided and it will link to section A.

Tips for success

- ✓ Spend 5 minutes planning your structure for effect, control and coherency
- ✓ Be ambitious with your vocabulary choices (you could include some key words in your plan)
- ✓ Include a range of linguistic devices (rhetorical questions, alliteration, tri-colons etc.) which help you achieve your purpose more effectively
- ✓ Use a range of facts and opinions
- ✓ Experiment with the way you start your sentences and ensure you are producing a variety of sentence types to suit the mood at certain moments
- ✓ Include a variety of punctuation
- ✓ Try to use punctuation for effect as well as for accuracy and control
- ✓ Leave the reader with a conclusion which solidifies your opinion and gives them something to think about
- ✓ Allow at least 5 mins for proof reading (16 marks for SPaG is a lot)

FULL PRACTICE PAPER 2

Source A – 21st century non-fiction

This source is taken from 'Life in London' magazine.

Sunday morning in London

Sundays are for relaxation, catching up with things there is little time for in the week, and quite often, recovering from the night before. Whether you're full of beans or in need of several siestas, we've got your Sunday morning covered.

Start the day by going for a walk. Hyde Park is the most obvious choice, and will likely be filled with early morning joggers. Alternatively the beautiful, very peaceful Kyoto Garden in Holland Park is a fantastic place to read a book or simply sit in the sunshine (weather permitting). Rather surprisingly, there is a small but perfectly formed green space tucked behind Charing Cross Road called the Phoenix Garden, which is both well maintained and filled with wildlife. There is another unlikely natural habitat near King's Cross station, at Camley Street Natural Park, which is run by the London Wildlife Trust. If you feel like spotting birds, fish or butterflies, there is plenty to look at here. If greenery doesn't appeal, try a walk along the Thames. Pick the Embankment area for a view of the Houses of Parliament and the Southbank Centre, or head further East for Tower Bridge and the Docklands. To really indulge in that Sunday morning feeling stroll around the City, as the streets connecting the area's imposing skyscrapers are completely deserted at weekends. If that seems like too much effort for a Sunday, the river bus operates various services daily, the two longest routes being from Embankment to as far out as Woolwich Arsenal, and Putney all the way to Blackfriars.

Sunday mornings are a great time to go shopping, as busy streets are empty and shops are uninhabited, meaning you might actually reach some of the rails at Topshop on Oxford Street. There are also a number of markets to be visited, some of which operate exclusively on a Sunday, like Columbia Road Flower Market in the East End. For clothing, pick up a bargain at the Holloway Car Boot Sale; second hand books and bric-a-brac are also sold. Farmers' markets have become trendy of late, where the focus is on fresh food from small producers at exorbitant prices. Still, some of it is mouth-watering, such as the organic nosh offered at Marylebone Farmers' Market. If you didn't make time for brunch, the Sunday UpMarket at the Truman Brewery has stalls selling food from all over the world, from Japanese fried octopus balls to Spanish gazpacho.

This is also an opportune day for a spot of pampering, whether this means going for a relaxing swim, having a massage or visiting the hairdressers. Splurge on a spa like the K West Spa, which offers a wide range of massages, facials and nail treatments, and benefits from a sauna, hydrotherapy pool, and brand spanking new trends like a "snow room", where the body's circulation is stimulated by immersing it in below freezing temperatures before exposing it to steam. As unpleasant as that may sound, it's very good for the skin and the immune system, although given the choice between this and a lie-down on one of their suede loungers we know what we'd be choosing. Other very reputable spas include The Sanctuary, Aveda and Elemis.

You might not want to be induced into a state of dreamy relaxation however. On a Sunday morning gyms are at their quietest, so you're in luck if you like solitary workouts. So long as it's not pouring with rain, tennis enthusiasts can use the courts off Farringdon road in Islington and Southwark Park for free, and many parks have facilities like table tennis, football, boating and even fishing. Regent's

Park has its very own sports centre called The Hub, as well as pitches for cricket, boules and rugby. And after all this physical activity, it'll be time for a hearty Sunday lunch and a snooze.

Source B – 19th century literary non-fiction

In this source, writer and novelist Charles Dickens describes a morning in London in 1836.

The appearance presented by the streets of London an hour before sunrise, on a summer's morning, is most striking even to the few whose unfortunate pursuits of pleasure, or scarcely less unfortunate pursuits of business, cause them to be well acquainted with the scene. There is an air of cold, solitary desolation about the noiseless streets which we are accustomed to see thronged at other times by a busy, eager crowd, and over the quiet, closely-shut buildings, which throughout the day are swarming with life and bustle, that is very impressive.

An hour wears away; the spires of the churches and roofs of the principal buildings are faintly tinged with the light of the rising sun; and the streets, by almost imperceptible degrees, begin to resume their bustle and animation. Market-carts roll slowly along: the sleepy waggoner impatiently urging on his tired horses, or vainly endeavouring to awaken the boy, who, luxuriously stretched on the top of the fruit-baskets, forgets, in happy oblivion, his long-cherished curiosity to behold the wonders of London.

Rough, sleepy-looking animals of strange appearance, something between ostlers and hackney coachmen, begin to take down the shutters of early public-houses; and little deal tables, with the ordinary preparations for a street breakfast, make their appearance at the customary stations. Numbers of men and women (principally the latter), carrying upon their heads heavy baskets of fruit, toil down the park side of Piccadilly, on their way to Covent garden, and, following each other in rapid succession, form a long straggling line from thence to the turn of the road at Knightsbridge.

Here and there, a bricklayer's labourer, with the day's dinner tied up in a handkerchief, walks briskly to his work, and occasionally a little knot of three or four schoolboys on a stolen bathing expedition rattle merrily over the pavement, their boisterous mirth contrasting forcibly with the demeanour of the little sweep, who, having knocked and rung till his arm aches, and being interdicted from endangering his lungs by calling out, sits patiently down on the door-step, until the housemaid may happen to awake.

Covent-garden market, and the avenues leading to it, are thronged with carts of all sorts, sizes, and descriptions, from the heavy lumbering waggon, with its four stout horses, to the jingling costermonger's cart, with its consumptive donkey. The pavement is already strewn with decayed cabbage-leaves, broken hay-bands, and all the indescribable litter of a vegetable market; men are shouting, carts backing, horses neighing, boys fighting, basket-women talking, piemen expatiating on the excellence of their pastry, and donkeys braying. These and a hundred other sounds form a compound discordant enough to a Londoner's ears, and remarkably disagreeable to those of country gentlemen who are sleeping at the Hummums for the first time.

Section A: Reading

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

1. Read paragraph 2 of source A

Choose four statements which are TRUE.

- Shade the boxes of the ones that you think are true
- Choose a maximum of four statements.

(4 marks)

- A. Hyde park is a popular place for joggers.
- B. Kyoto garden has its own library.
- C. The writer feels that London is the best place in the U.K. for wildlife.
- D. The Houses of Parliament can be viewed from a walk by the Thames.
- E. The Embankment area offers views over the whole of London.
- F. Sunday morning offers the best chance of avoiding the crowds.
- G. The river bus runs on weekends only.
- H. The longest river bus route is from Embankment to Putney.

2. You need to refer to **source A** and **source B** for this question:

Use details from both sources. Write a summary of the similarities and differences between the way London is described in source A and in source B.

(8 marks)

3. You now need to refer to **source B**.

How does Dickens use language to capture the mood and atmosphere of London?

(12 marks)

4. For this question, you need to refer to the **whole of source A** together with **source B**.

Compare how the two writers convey their attitudes to living or staying in a busy city.
In your answer, you could:

- Compare their attitudes.
- Compare the methods they use to convey their attitudes.
- Support your ideas with references to both texts.

(16 marks)

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.

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1. 'Visiting and experiencing new places can have multiple benefits.'

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you explain your point of view on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation

16 marks for technical accuracy)

(40 marks)