

Exam Tips and Advice

Have you got the time?

Suggested time management for each of the questions on Paper 1

WRITING TIME

QUESTION A: **35** MINUTES

- Expect to write answers to 3 Comprehending questions in approximately 35 minutes
- Match your time allowance to the number of marks for each question...

Example A

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|------------|
| (i) 10 mark question | —————→ | 7 minutes |
| (ii) 20 mark question | —————→ | 14 minutes |
| (iii) 20 mark question | —————→ | 14 minutes |

Example B

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|------------|
| (i) 15 mark question | —————→ | 10 minutes |
| (ii) 15 mark question | —————→ | 11 minutes |
| (iii) 20 mark question | —————→ | 14 minutes |

WRITING TIME

QUESTION A: **35** MINUTES

WRITING TIME

COMPOSITION: **80** MINUTES – which includes planning time of about 10 minutes.

Question?

$35 + 35 + 80 = 150$ minutes. What happened to the other 20 minutes?

This **20** minutes is the all important **Reading Time** you must allow for in the exam. You should read each of the texts on the paper before deciding which one to answer Question A on.

Once you have decided on your Comprehending text, read the questions carefully and then re-read the appropriate text closely.

Know Your Exam Paper

At Higher Level Leaving Certificate English, there are TWO examination papers.

Paper 1, the language Paper, is our concern here. Paper 2 focuses on literature.

PAPER 1

THE MARKS ...

The total marks awarded for Paper 1 are 200 marks

THE TIME ...

The total time allowed for Paper 1 is 2 hours and 50 minutes (170 minutes)

THE SECTIONS ...

Paper 1 includes two sections, namely, Comprehending and Composing.

Section I: Comprehending (100 marks), includes

- Question A: Reading (50 marks)
- Question B: Functional Writing Task (50 marks)

WATCH OUT!

- You must answer a Question A on one of the texts on the exam paper
- and you must answer a Question B on a **DIFFERENT** text.

Section II: Composing (100 marks)

- You will be given a choice of composition titles. You must write on one of the titles.
- If you can't decide between two titles that appeal to you, sketch out a brief brainstorm for both titles. Look at the ideas you have come up with and based on these, choose the title you feel you could compose more effectively on, on the day.

Much of this information is provided for you on the cover of your examination Paper. Make sure you are familiar with the instructions and read them very carefully on the morning of your exam.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2007

English – Higher Level – Paper I

Total Marks: 200

Wednesday, 6th June – Morning, 9.30 – 12.20

- This paper is divided into two sections, Section I COMPREHENDING and Section II COMPOSING.
- The paper contains three texts on the general theme of CHANGE.
- Candidates should familiarise themselves with each of the texts before beginning their answers.
- Both sections of this paper (COMPREHENDING and COMPOSING) must be attempted.
- Each section carries 100 marks.

SECTION I – COMPREHENDING

- Two Questions, A and B, follow each text.
- Candidates must answer a Question A on one text and a Question B on a different text. Candidates must answer only one Question A and only one Question B.
- N.B. Candidates may NOT answer a Question A and a Question B on the same text.

SECTION II – COMPOSING

- Candidates must write on one of the compositions 1 – 7.