# AQA Paper 1: Section B Revision 

Narrative or Descriptive Writing



Name:
Sir John Hunt


To Greater Heights

## What will I do in the exam? (Example)

1. Write a description from the viewpoint of someone in the picture.

Or
Write a story about a scarecrow


You will be presented with a picture for inspiration and two options - a description or a narrative.

This question is worth a massive 40 marks. That is half of the paper!

A05 content and organisation - 24 marks
A06 technical accuracy - 16 marks
You must allow yourself 45 minutes to answer this question.

## Tips - Use your tools to make writing interesting



## Lesson 1 - Content (A05) 24 marks

## Extract A - The Woman in Black The Sound of a Pony and Trap

Somewhere away in the swirling mist and dark, I heard the sound that lifted my heart, the distant but unmistakeable clip-clop of the pony's hooves and the rumble and creak of the trap. So Keckwick was unperturbed by the mist, quite used to travelling through the lanes and across the causeway in darkness, and I stopped and waited to see a lantern - for he must surely carry one - and half wondered whether to shout and make my presence known, in case he came suddenly upon me and ran me down in the ditch.

Then I realised that the mist plays tricks with sound as well as sight, for not only did the noise of the trap stay further away from me for longer that I might have expected but also it seemed to come not only from directly behind me, straight down the causeway path, but instead to my right, out on the marsh. I tried to work out the direction of the wind but there was none. I turned around but then the sound began to recede further away again. Baffled I stood and waited, straining to listen through the mist. What I heard next chilled and horrified me, even though I could neither understand nor account for it. The noise of the pony and trap grew fainter and then stopped abruptly and away on the marsh was a curious draining, sucking, churning sound, which went on, together with the shrill neighing and whinnying of a horse in panic, and then I heard another cry, a shout, a terrified sobbing - it was hard to decipher - but with horror I realised that it came from a child. I stood absolutely helpless in the mist that clouded me and everything from my sight, almost weeping in an agony of fear and frustration, and I knew that I was hearing, beyond any doubt, the appalling last noises of a pony and trap, carrying a child in it, as well as whatever adult presumably Keckwick - was driving and was even now struggling desperately. It had somehow lost the causeway path and fallen into the marshes and was being dragged under by the quicksand and the pull of the incoming tide.

What makes this a good piece of writing? Look at your content tools. How many can you spot? Highlight examples of good phrases and explain why they're good.

## Upgrading your vocabulary:

Complete the exercise finding the alternative words for the vocabulary below. The first two have been done for you. Use a thesaurus independently.

| Ambitious word | Alternative word | Ambitious word | Alternative word |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| electrified | excited | tenacious |  |
| ensnare | trap | zenith |  |
| wretched |  |  | happy |
|  | dead | tumultuous |  |
| mendacious |  |  | honest |

## Practising with new vocabulary:

 Write a brief opening to a narrative based on this picture:
## Main writing task:

Complete the exercise finding the alternative words for the vocabulary below. The first two have been done for you. Use a thesaurus independently.

| Ambitious word | Alternative word | Ambitious word | Alternative word |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| valiant | brave | crestfallen |  |
| teeming | filled |  | dark |
|  | screamed | malevolent |  |
| repugnant |  |  | trapped |
|  | broken | apocalyptic |  |

Write a description suggested by this picture or
Write the opening part of a suspense story.


1. Plan your idea first.
i. What perspective will you write from?
ii. What content tools will you include to improve description?
iii. What is your idea? How will you focus on 'one moment in time'?
iv. What high level skills will you show off?
v. How will you range your sentence styles and openings?
2. Write your piece of writing sticking to your plan and keeping it interesting.

Challenge: Include 5 pieces of high-level vocabulary. Ensure they flow and make sense in the sentence that you have used them in.
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3. Don't forget to proof read for the basics:
$\checkmark$ Capital letters and full stops
$\checkmark$ Spellings
$\checkmark$ Full range of punctuation
$\checkmark$ Varied sentence openers
$\checkmark$ Paragraphs
$\checkmark$ My writing makes sense

Lesson 2 - Structure (A05) 24 marks
In your writing, you must show deliberate use of structural choices to get higher marks. One of the easiest ways to do this is to deliberately vary your paragraph lengths - it stands out and the examiner will clearly see this straight away (before they even read what you've written!)

Look at the following example from an exam last year. What deliberate paragraph choices can you see? Can you see any other deliberate structural tools?

Armed only with one in single crusted machete.

A rope!
A match!
And his Lent! Jasper trudged into the unknown; his hart droning like a broken siren. Echoes and Solitary Chats words of wisdom ware one of a last hope. (Uutchal onto lis Sasety rope fer der lyse. $\square$ the horizon was uprising. A chorus of false herpinass Ticirocural thanh the blamstal Jingle. Oak aged faces clenched their palms. Scertisism filled the misty moors as creaking Clouds fermented into cen atfrocions Loctail of inscrity. This Short lied paradise was a Shotlectupstingulary for effect candle! Until the wick be blown by a singular almighty roar. A sine line between a beating heat and a solaced feast far mother native Struck throngtriek his spine. Hawking through the surg of the

Jungle. his eyes taintal with feer. Fe Life in the bulure is a phrase easier said them done. A time of Lost lowe heminised over Jaspers Wisp curls. Innocence derived from his Softer but missing a Shark both heat. Weatinoss was exposed in this tethering Setting. Tick

So be thought le was a lowe wolf!
So he thangte he was Strong!
He Shall fire out .......
Usually coherent structure with clear
He has wrong!
Tick

An opal blade Schreedal though the cir. A ponce of extremity Stole the euth. Seaming Sanity wreaked havoc in a blast of hast. The mind and the body bolted like lightrizgylighting Machete in hand! Swept through the mist savaging the glands Soul. Retired with a Sadistic acteCackle.

Jasper retreatal. Crouched breathing impossibly.

Too Cual! Tiok
Cont beath ...........
Brembing for breath... Susper was immersal in a tranguilizel bhe. An elestric connent of irridescont turgeise tasishe Lis Gefentry agquate spelling-sept.
Healing pones us the almighty ghitaning kingaton seppee his Slates. Besae a thick black trank of an corm boltel though the sursuce. Re Steating $m y$ Santy be was coetinatel by this Sut sided rinsa. The ghadion of this kingobm So it must be. Josier! Tick

Had crossed the astral plue!
Variety of sentence forms - mostly c
If Thating Choads of Jingle upleened the groind. Roots of beer Creaked and leabos Smisted into a turnado of lise, Color.
and the man in black and SwOOSH 1

All bit bluctress shuck my ene Sockets. I bear down at my Shackled hals cluteced by a Strange Silvery Lignite concealing my ability. Conswion chroopel over me as my misty memory de chaffed and then it ht me.... I looked us.

A Stretched humanoid Sigue dowel ate draped over me like a compost. Encoyptal Crusts of Superior gold, were cost into his material body. Large oval beads of eyes Sell gormbesty into tho abyss of my ming es. I Set Effelerelyzerlturedivith developed: a moment of Sheer terror one Tick consciion. Srirmaling into a Rit of



## Main writing task:

List some structural tools that you need to include in all pieces of writing:
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Write a description suggested by this picture or
Write a story about a natural disaster.


1. Plan your idea first.
i. What perspective will you write from?
ii. What content tools will you include to improve description?
iii. What is your idea? How will you focus on 'one moment in time'?
iv. What high level skills will you show off?
v. How will you range your sentence styles and openings?
2. Write your piece of writing sticking to your plan and keeping it interesting.
3. You must focus on including both the structural tools and the language tools that you focused on last time.

Challenge: Include a deliberate inductive or deductive episode and all four sentence moods as well as your deliberate paragraphing.
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4. Don't forget to proof read for the basics:
$\checkmark$ Capital letters and full stops
$\checkmark$ Spellings
$\checkmark$ Full range of punctuation
$\checkmark$ Varied sentence openers
$\checkmark$ Paragraphs
$\checkmark$ My writing makes sense

## Homework Task 1 - Technical Accuracy (A06) 16 marks <br> Technical accuracy is worth a massive 16 marks. You must get the basics of literacy correct and use a range of SPaG to score high - it will significantly help your overall grade!

## 1. Look at the criteria for the top two bands of A06 below. Highlight any areas that might stop you from getting into one of these top two bands.

## Technical Accuracy A06 (16)

## 13-16 marks

I use full stops and capital letters without error.
I use a wide and full range of punctuation to accurately highlight all clauses in sentences.
I use variety of simple, compound and complex sentences.
I use a large variety of sentence openings.
I use sentence length and structure for specific effect (E.g. sentences to suggest heavy breathing).
I use Standard English consistently and all of my tenses make sense and agree.
I accurately spell complex, irregular and ambitious vocabulary.
I include extensive, varied and ambitious higher level vocabulary.

## 9-12 marks

I use full stops and capital letters without error.
I use a large range of punctuation successfully to highlight clauses in sentences.
I use a variety of simple, compound and complex sentences.
I begin to vary my sentence openings.
I use sentence length and structure for effect (E.g. short simple sentence for emphasis)
I use Standard English most of the time - I may include very minor errors.
I accurately spell complex and irregular words.
I include a range of vocabulary including some higher level vocabulary.
2. Here are a list of paragraphs that haven't used punctuation correctly. Read the paragraphs. Rewrite all the sentences. Correct the writing mistakes.
did you no that bats are mammals. we no they are mammals just lik us becaus they are warm blooded they are the only mammals that no how to fly bats are Nocturnal which means thay sleep during the day and are awak at nite?
bes are intresting anumals. the honey be can fly at a sped of 15 miles per houre a hive of honey bees has about 40,000 bees in it? the honey bee has five eyes! a worker bee will mak 1/12th of a teespoon of honey over it's lifetime? Bees have been makeing honey for about 150 million years

Do you know wear the longest rode on Earth can be found. The Pan-American Highway begins in alaska. It passes through Canada the United States and Mexico. Than it continues down the west coast of South America all the way to Chile. Altogether, the highway passes through 12 countrys. It passes through jungles and mountains the road is about 16,000 miles long. At this time, only one 54 -miles stretch of the road remains to be completed.

Writing using a full range of punctuation.
Write a very short piece that includes every single piece of punctuation that you can think of. Use this image for inspiration:

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## Homework task 2 - A06 Part 2: 16 marks

Look at the A06 mark scheme again. This time, some parts have been highlighted in bold. These are the extra things you have to be able to do (on top of the basics) to push your writing mark even higher.

## Technical Accuracy A06 (16)

## 13-16 marks

I use full stops and capital letters without error.
I use a wide and full range of punctuation to accurately highlight all clauses in sentences.
I use variety of simple, compound and complex sentences.
I use a large variety of sentence openings.
I use sentence length and structure for specific effect (E.g. sentences to suggest heavy breathing).
I use Standard English consistently and all of my tenses make sense and agree.
I accurately spell complex, irregular and ambitious vocabulary.
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## 9-12 marks

I use full stops and capital letters without error.
I use a large range of punctuation successfully to highlight clauses in sentences.
I use a variety of simple, compound and complex sentences.
I begin to vary my sentence openings.
I use sentence length and structure for effect (E.g. short simple sentence for emphasis)
I use Standard English most of the time - I may include very minor errors.
I accurately spell complex and irregular words.
I include a range of vocabulary including some higher level vocabulary.

> List as many ways as you can think of to open a sentence: Challenge - try to come up with 10 ways!

Short writing task - Write one paragraph describing the view from outside of your window (make it up if you want!) Challenge - every sentence should start with a different opening style

## Vocabulary

Complete the exercise finding the alternative words for the vocabulary below. Use a thesaurus, dictionary or the internet independently.

| Ambitious word | Alternative word | Ambitious word | Alternative word |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| charismatic |  | complacent |  |
| coerce |  |  | showy |
|  | role model | alleviate |  |
| nadir |  |  | worsen |
|  | forgive | melancholic |  |


| Ambitious word | Alternative word | Ambitious word | Alternative word |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| exacerbate |  |  | calm |
| ostracise |  | eloquent |  |
| augment |  |  | tempt |
|  | work together | empathise |  |
| intrepid |  |  | hatred |

Short writing task - Write one paragraph describing Christmas Day for a child who has recently been reunited with their family.
Challenge - vary you sentence openings again, including some high-level vocabulary starters!

## Homework task 3 - putting it all together $24+16$ marks

You must be able to do all three things at the same time - content, structure (A05) and technical accuracy (A06). Now is a good chance to have a go.

Put all three together and write the best piece of writing that you ever have.
Give yourself 45 minutes like a real exam and plan first. Remember to proof read it for basic mistakes!

## Write a description suggested by this picture

## or

## Write a story about conflict.



A05 content and organisation $=24$ marks

A06 technical accuracy $=16$ marks

1. Plan your idea first.
i. What perspective will you write from?
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