

GCSE (9-1)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

J351

For first teaching in 2015

Exam hints for students

GCSE (9–1) ENGLISH LANGUAGE J351

Exam hints



Plan your time carefully in the exam. Try to give yourself enough time to complete all the questions.



Spend equal amounts of time on the Reading and Writing sections.



Read and annotate both unseen texts in each paper before you start the questions. This will help you with your answers.



Select short quotations to support your response. Try to include them as part of a sentence.



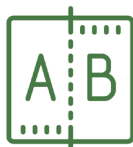
More complex subject terminology is not always helpful. Use what is most appropriate in your response.



Comment on language *and* structure. Think about the effects on the reader/audience.



Think about the writer's viewpoint – how are they connected to the theme, topic or event they are writing about?



Try to compare both texts together rather than looking at each text separately. Remember that connectives can be helpful here.



Personal opinions are not the same as personal responses - the points you make must be backed up with evidence from the texts.



When choosing which writing question to answer, think carefully about which one will best allow you to show your skills.



Always keep in mind the form, audience and purpose of the writing task.



Make sure that your handwriting is legible.

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