



Derby
Grammar
School

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English Writing Paper

Year 7 entry - 45 minutes

Use the story starter to write an exciting story. You can use the sentence as the first line, it might be the last line, or be somewhere in the middle.

You have ten minutes to plan your story and thirty-five minutes to write it.

Use the plan below to think about your story before you put pen to paper.

“It was spring 2014 when I first realised I could breathe under water.”

Planning frame
Introduction (introduce the characters and setting)
Build-up (they start doing something - build in some tension so your reader wonders what will happen next)
Climax (this is a key point of your story where something happens or goes wrong)
Ending (what happens in the end? Be careful with this part, it has to be believable and most writers find this the most difficult section - usually showing what the character has learned or how they have changed)

Writing - Marking Criteria

Can spell all vocabulary correctly?	
Can open and close writing in interesting, unusual or dramatic ways, when appropriate?	
Can use punctuation correctly: for effect, listing, direct speech, parenthesis, sub-division? (?!""-... ') What has been used? What missed?	
Can write neatly, legibly, accurately, fluently in a joined style?	
Can vary font for effect or emphasis when appropriate (print, italics or capitalisation) May only be one example.	
Can use paragraphs correctly?	
Can open sentences in different ways? (ly/ing/ed openers, conjunction openers, simile openers)	
Can use coordinating conjunctions? (for/and/nor/but/or)	
Can use subordinating conjunctions? (A white bus). To join clauses in middle of sentence? Conjunction used and punctuated when at the beginning of a sentence?	
Can use clauses confidently and appropriately for audience and purpose?	
Can maintain tense?	
Can maintain first/third person?	
Writing is imaginative and flows coherently?	
Shows awareness of audience- action, dialogue, quotation, aside, suspense, tension, comment	
Can use a wide range of ambitious vocabulary accurately and precisely? Does not feel forced.	
Can use two or more stylistic features to create effect within the text: rhetorical questions, repetition, figurative language, passive voice, metaphor, simile, alliteration, onomatopoeia, elaboration, nominalisation, impersonal voice or universal appeal	
Can write complex sentences? (parenthesis and punctuate correctly) Can use creative and varied sentence structure intermingling with simple sentences for effect?	
Can always construct grammatically correct sentences unless using dialect or alternative constructions consciously for effect?	
Can use pertinent and precise detail as appropriate? (adjectives/adverbs/ similes)	