# Language Paper 2 – Cheat Sheet

## What is it all about?

This paper has five questions to answer and you will need to complete all of them to achieve your target grade. Questions 1-4 are based on two non-fiction texts and are worth 25% of your overall GCSE English Language grade (40 marks). Question 5 is a writing task where you will be instructed to write a non-fiction text. Again, it is worth 25% of your overall grade (40 marks).

## Timing

You should spend 60 minutes on the reading section and 45 minutes on the writing section.

Start by reading the blurb for each text and then read and highlight the key information in the questions.

- 5 minutes: Question 1
- 10 minutes: Question 2
- 15 minutes: Question 3
- 25 minutes: Question 4

## Question 1 – True or false?  4 marks

You will need to identify the four pieces of information, which are TRUE from the list.

- ✓ Read the statements carefully – it might not be obvious.
- ✓ Only shade in 4 answers.
- ✓ Only spend five minutes on this question – even if you have not completed it, move on!

## Question 2 – Summarising two texts  8 marks

You need to compare what you learn from two texts about a particular topic. E.g. *What are the differences between how the two boys play?*

**Top tips:**

- ✓ Highlight what the question wants you to focus on – it will always be specific.
- ✓ Highlight whether the question is asking you to look for similarities or differences.
- ✓ Name the source you are referring to (A or B)
- ✓ Use quotes to back up your points.
- ✓ Infer by saying what the hidden meaning is in a quote
- ✓ Use comparative statements as well as connectives e.g. Better, happier, faster, noisier

In contrast, **However** Similarly **Likewise**

Good way to structure your answer:

(Text 1 difference or similarity + quote + infer) + (text 2 difference or similarity + quote + infer) X2 + a final comparative statement = a good response 😊

## Question 3 – Language analysis  12 marks

You need to analyse the language that the writer has used and explore the impact that it has on the reader.

**Top tips:**

- ✓ Identify the key focus of the question and refer to it throughout
- ✓ Include the writer’s name in your answer
- ✓ Use short, embedded quotes (preferably no more than five words)
- ✓ Explain why the writer has chosen to use particularly methods or language techniques and refer to them using the correct terminology.
- ✓ Focus on the WHY. Try to question the text by using the question stem: “Why did the writer...?”

Good way to structure your answer:

1. Respond to the question
2. Embed a quote
3. Refer to a method the writer has used
4. Explain why the writer made that language choice and what the impact was.

## Question 4 – Comparing views and methods  16 marks

This will ask you to compare the writers’ viewpoints or attitudes AND the language/structural methods that they use in their writing.

- ✓ Identify what both writers think about the subject and explain how this is similar or different in your introduction.
- ✓ Find three quotes from source A which show what the writer thinks about the subject and analyse them using subject terminology.
- ✓ Then find three quotes from source B and explain how this viewpoint is similar or different using comparative connectives (see below) and subject terminology.

**TOP TIP:** Think: What does source A say? How does source A say it (subject terminology)? What is the effect on the reader? Comparative connective, then what does source B say? How does source B say it (subject terminology)? What is the effect on the reader?

## Question 5 – Argument writing  40 marks

You will be asked to write either a letter, speech, essay, leaflet or article.

**You are marked on SPAG (16 marks) and Content and Organisation (24 marks).**

**Make sure you:**

- ✓ Plan your work, thinking about how you can make your argument convincing.
- ✓ Write at least five paragraphs
- ✓ Write in sentences that make sense, begin with a capital letter and end with a punctuation mark.
- ✓ Use the most precise and effective words you can. Take care to spell them accurately
- ✓ Use a range of sentence types and make sure you vary your sentence openers (ISPACED)
- ✓ Use a range (5+) types of punctuation
- ✓ Proof read your work before you finish and edit any mistakes.
### Language Features (Q3 and 4)

- Key words or phrases (remember to identify as a noun/verb/adverb/adjective/pronoun...).
- Language features (similes, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, metaphor...).
- Sentence structures (simple, compound or complex).
- Punctuation used for a certain impact.
- Repetition used to emphasise a certain thing.
- The tone of the writing (sarcastic, ambiguous, nostalgic...)
- Persuasive techniques (such as use of facts, expert quotes or anecdotes).
- The level of formality (colloquial, slang, technical, profane, archaic...).
- Exaggeration/hyperbole.
- Emotive language (either leading the reader to feel positive or negative emotions).
- Use of humour.
- Intertextuality – where the writer alludes to or quotes another famous work of literature.

### Comparative adjectives (Q2 and 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Similarities</th>
<th>Differences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Like</td>
<td>Whereas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Similarly</td>
<td>Unlike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likewise</td>
<td>On the other hand</td>
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<td>In the same way</td>
<td>Conversely</td>
</tr>
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<td>Alternatively</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- More positive - worse
- Less emotional - quieter than
- More direct - busier than
- Less opinionated - bigger
- Better - smaller
- More effective - more factual

### Comparative connectives (Q2 and 4)

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### The ‘five’ method (Q5)

#### The Five Method

- 5 paragraphs
- 5 language devices
- 5 types of punctuation

#### These five paragraphs:

1. Punchy opening statement
2. Facts and statistics to support your argument
3. Anecdote to illustrate your argument
4. Engage with opposing argument and successfully disprove it
5. Emotive closing

A choice of 5 language devices.

A choice of 5 punctuation marks (not full stops or commas!).

Supporting details might be:
- Examples
- Explanation
- An anecdote
- Facts and statistics

### Helpful glossary to revise

- **nouns**: objects / things (concrete or abstract).
- **verb**: an action or doing word.
- **adjectives**: describes a noun (thing).
- **adverbs**: describes a verb (action).
- **pronouns**: words used to replace the noun / proper noun, such as he, she, it
- **proper noun**: a noun that requires a capital letter
- **imagery**: when the writer creates a strong image in the reader’s mind.
- **alliteration**: where 2+ words start with the same letter / sound.
- **metaphor**: an object is described as something it’s not.
- **simile**: an object is compared to something it’s not (often using the words ‘as’ or ‘like’).

### ISPACED to help you vary sentence openers (Q5)

Try starting with:
- **I** – and **ing** word such as ‘Screaming,…’
- **S** – a **simile** such as ‘Like a thunderstorm I...’
- **P** – a **preposition** such as ‘Behind...’
- **A** – and **adverb** (ly word) such as ‘Savagely...’
- **C** – a **connective** such as ‘Meanwhile...’
- **E**- an **ed** word such as ‘Panicked I...’
- **D** – **dialogue** such as ‘“Shut up!” I screamed.’

### AREDFOREST (Language Devices)

- A – Alliteration/anecdote
- R – Repetition
- E – Emotive language
- D – Direct address
- F – Facts
- O – Opinion
- T – Threes

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