



Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

Candidate number

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate signature \_\_\_\_\_

I declare this is my own work.

# GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Friday 23 May 2025 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- **Source A** – provided as a separate insert.

### Instructions

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for **Section A** and 40 marks for **Section B**.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **reading** in **Section A**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **writing** in **Section B**.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
- You are advised to plan your answer to **Question 5** before you start to write.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
<b>TOTAL</b>	



J U N 2 5 8 7 0 0 1 0 1

**Section A: Reading**

Answer **all** questions in this section.  
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

**0 1** Read again the first part of the source, from **lines 1 to 8**.

List **four** things which happened that night from this part of the source.

**[4 marks]**

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

4



**0 2**

Look in detail at this extract from **lines 9 to 18**:

The early morning of the 27th was an affair of slatternly\* rags soaking in a dishwater sky, with a grey light weakly filtering through. Nevertheless, in Opley cocks crowed and other birds welcomed the dawn more melodiously. In Midwich, however, no birds sang. In Opley, as in other places, hands were soon reaching out to silence alarm clocks, but in Midwich the clocks rattled on until they ran down. For Midwich lay entranced.

While the rest of the world began to fill the morning with clamour, Midwich slept on. Its men and women, its horses, cows and sheep; its pigs, its poultry, its larks, moles and mice all lay still. There was a pocket of silence in Midwich, broken only by the rustling of the leaves, the chiming of the church clock, and the gurgle of the River Ople as it slid over the weir beside the mill.

\* slatternly – adjective meaning dirty or untidy

How does the writer use language here to describe the early morning?

You could include the writer’s choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

**[8 marks]**

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**Turn over ►**





















**Section B: Writing**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

Write in full sentences.

You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.

You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

**0 5** Either

Write a description of a town or village, as suggested by this picture:



or

Write a story about a day when technology stopped.

(24 marks for content and organisation  
16 marks for technical accuracy)

**[40 marks]**















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