

1. PRESENTATION OF SCRIPTS

A neat, well-presented script is appreciated. Please encourage this. There were some very untidy scripts where handwriting was not legible.

Encourage candidates to follow the instructions on the answer book about leaving a line open between answers, not to use Tippex, and to delete all mistakes or sections they do not want marked.

Candidates must not write their names on their scripts.

2. AREAS ON WHICH TO FOCUS:

Figures of Speech: The basic ones are simile, alliteration, metaphor and personification. Candidates must be able to identify the items in a comparison, the effect or purpose of the figure of speech, and explain why something is an example of personification.

Literal and figurative usage of words, phrases or clauses.

Careful reading: Candidates are not reading instructions and texts carefully. They must identify the key words, clauses and phrases in the questions. The candidates are not answering that which is required, e.g. When asked to quote ONE words, TWO words or FIVE CONSECUTIVE words, they are giving sentences instead. When asked to answer questions on 2 or 3 texts, they often leave out the second and/or third extract and its questions
Key words in questions, such as WHY, WHEN HOW, WHERE, require specific responses.

Quotations: Candidates are not quoting correctly.

Mark allocations: Candidates should be taught that one mark requires one fact or comment.

Candidates are not writing in full sentences when required.

Placing of texts in a context: This needs to be carefully taught.

Vocabulary: This is often limited. For example, candidates did not know the meaning of 'dearth' and 'post-mortem'.