

Paper 1, Section A Getting it right

Dealing with the paper:

- You are unlikely to have enough time to read everything before you start to answer.
- Read ALL OF THE QUESTIONS first – that way, you are less likely to answer something in the wrong place – that will lose you marks.
- Look at the marks available for each question. You have an hour for section A, and there are 27 marks. That is roughly 2 minutes per mark. Work out how long you should spend on each question and try to stick to it.
- For an 8 mark question, you will need about 15 minutes and should be writing about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a side in your booklet.
- Spelling and punctuation don't count in this section, but the examiner will need to be able to understand what you have written.

Dealing with the questions:

What it says:	What you do:
In the first two paragraphs (or whatever)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only write about the bit it tells you to – obvious, but people always get it wrong!
Fact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Something which can be proved to be true
Opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What someone thinks is true
Select and copy OR select and write down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the marks available – you write that number of points • Answer in bullet points • Don't repeat yourself
If there is more than one bullet point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that you cover them all
Compare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure you use comparison words • Aim for at least 3 comparisons • Say WHY there are differences between them • Remember to give evidence
How effective...?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You don't HAVE to say that whatever it is is effective – it just tends to be easier to find things to say that way! • Give clear examples and talk about the effect of each
Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could refer to language, or to presentation, or to both. • Don't repeat points
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write about the way words and phrases are used
Words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write about the way words and phrases are used
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write about the way things look on the page, NOT what they say