

# Year 9

# Work Pack 4

# GCSE Language Paper 1

# A06 Focus: Technical Accuracy.

For your Language GCSE you will need to construct two pieces of extended writing. In Paper 1 that will be in the format of a creative/descriptive piece and in Paper 2 you will be expected to produce a piece of non fiction writing in the form of an article, speech, letter or even a review. For both of these pieces you are not only being assessed on your content, but the way you write and construct your answer. Your technical accuracy is just as important, which is why this workbook is dedicated to practising those skills with a focus on the creative piece for Paper 1.

## Student Self-Assessment

I am able to label sentences with some accuracy (L2)	
I am able to show some control of a range of punctuation (L2)	
I am able to attempt a variety of sentence forms (L2)	
I am able to make some use of Standard English with some control of agreement (L2)	
I am able to spell simple and more complex words accurately (L2)	
I make use of varied vocabulary (L2)	

I am able to mark sentences in a way that is mostly secure and accurate (L3)	
I am able to a range of punctuation, mostly with success (L3)	
I am able to make use of a variety of sentence forms for effect (L3)	
I am able to use Standard English mostly accurately, including control of grammatical structures (L3)	
I am able to be generally accurate with my spelling, including complex and irregular words (L3)	
I am able to make use of increasingly sophisticated vocabulary (L3)	

I am able to mark sentences with consistent accuracy throughout (L4)	
I am able to use a wide range of punctuation with a high level of accuracy (L4)	
I am able to use a full range of appropriate sentence forms for effect (L4)	

I am able to use Standard English securely throughout, including complex grammatical structures (L4)	
I am able to write with a high level of accuracy in spelling, including ambitious vocabulary (L4)	
I am able to use extensive and ambitious vocabulary (L4)	

## CAPITAL LETTERS-When to Use Capital Letters

Read each rule – then write an example.

<p>Rule 1: To Start a Sentence There are no exceptions to this rule. This means that, after a full stop, you always use a capital letter.</p>
<p>Rule 2: Titles In titles, capitalise only the important words, not minor words such as ‘and’ and ‘but’.</p>
<p>Rule 3: For Proper Nouns Proper nouns name something specific, for example, Jane, John, Oxford University, Denver, Qantas, Microsoft, Everest, Sahara</p>
<p>Rule 4: Acronyms (eg British Broadcasting Corporation – BBC) Acronyms generally work like title case: you capitalise the important words, and not ‘and’, ‘of’, ‘for’ and so on.</p>
<p>Rule 5: Contractions For contractions, capitalise the initial letters of words, but not subsequent letters within the same word.  Contractions are like acronyms, but also include one or more letters from within the same word. Example of this: SciFi, short for science fiction.</p>

**Rule 6:**

**Overusing Capitals is Rude**

**WRITING ENTIRELY IN BLOCK CAPITALS IS SHOUTING,  
and it's rude.**

A. Copy out the paragraph and put in capital letters, full stops and commas.

it was a freezing cold day. It had been snowing all night in london. tom and i went outside to play in the fresh snow. we hadn't seen this much snow since we went skiing in france last year! Uncle toby was right when he said that we would wake up this morning and see white. Tom and I decided to make a snowman in the garden. he started to roll a huge ball for the body whilst i worked on the head. Then we ran inside and asked mum for a carrot for the nose. we then found pebbles for the eyes and mouth. we called our snowman jack.

B. Now write a paragraph about your journey in to school using capital letters accurately

**Improve your vocabulary choice!**

	Synonym (1)	Synonym (2)	Synonym (3)	Synonym (4)
Angry				
Answer				
Ask				
Awful				
Bad				
Beautiful				
Begin				
Brave				
Break				
Bright				
Calm				
Come				
Cool				

Crooked				
Cry				
Dangerous				
Dark				
Decide				
Definite				
Delicious				
Describe				

**Example of a very good descriptive piece of writing**

By seven o'clock the orchestra has arrived—no thin five piece affair but a whole pit full of oboes and trombones and saxophones and viols and cornets and piccolos and low and high drums. The last swimmers have come in from the beach now and are dressing upstairs; the cars from New York are parked five deep in the drive, and already the halls and salons and verandas are gaudy with primary colors and hair shorn in strange new ways and shawls beyond the dreams of Castile. The bar is in full swing and floating rounds of cocktails permeate the garden outside until the air is alive with chatter and laughter and casual innuendo and introductions forgotten on the spot and enthusiastic meetings between women who never knew each other's names.

The lights grow brighter as the earth lurches away from the sun and now the orchestra is playing yellow cocktail music and the opera of voices pitches a key higher. Laughter is easier, minute by minute, spilled with prodigality, tipped out at a cheerful word. The groups change more swiftly, swell with new arrivals, dissolve and form in the same breath—already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the center of a group and then excited with triumph glide on through the seachange of faces and voices and color under the constantly changing light.

Suddenly one of these gypsies in trembling opal, seizes a cocktail out of the air, dumps it down for courage and moving her hands like Frisco dances out alone on the canvas platform. A momentary hush; the orchestra leader varies his

rhythm obligingly for her and there is a burst of chatter as the erroneous news goes around that she is Gilda Gray's understudy from the 'Follies.' The party has begun.

**Extract: The Great Gatsby – S Fitzgerald**

**Analysing the model:**

1. Read through the text and identify all the different types of punctuation that are used.

Challenge: where are semi colons used and why are they effective?

2. Identify where the writer has used simple sentences and what is the impact of this?
3. Underline any unusual and sophisticated vocabulary. Look up any definitions you do not know.
4. Where has the writer used imagery to capture the mood of the event?
5. Thinking about structure where are there discourse markers to move the text along and keep the pace?

**Recreating the model:**

1. Imagine you are attending a banquet or big celebration in a town hall. Describe the moment you walked into the hall. Use the above model to help structure and influence your writing. Try to use sophisticated vocabulary and a range of punctuation.
2. **(Refer back to The Great Gatsby extract for help)**



Your first sentence must start with a verb ending in 'ing'

Your second sentence must contain only three words.

Your third sentence must be a complex sentence

Your fourth sentence must be a rhetorical question

Your fifth sentence will start with an adverb comma -ly,

Your sixth sentence will contain a simile

Your seventh sentence will start with an estimation of time

Your eighth sentence will use

**two** of the senses.

Your ninth sentence will use an exclamation

Your tenth sentence will use dialogue.

## Possessive Apostrophes

**Instructions:** In the following paragraph, no apostrophes have been used. Underline each word that should have an apostrophe and rewrite the word below, using apostrophes where they are needed.

Its hard to understand why people decide to buy certain cars. Even though a persons old car might be running fine, once he sees one of the new models, hes not going to be happy until he has traded in his old car. John, one of my best friends, is a good example of a victim of “new car fever.” Johns 1993 Camaro was running fine, but when he saw the advertisements for the 1996 Camaro, with more valves for extra fuel injection and a sleek, sporty new air foil, he thought of thousands of reasons why he needed a new car.

Johns girlfriend didn’t see much of him for several Saturdays while he was listening to this salesmans sales pitch and looking at that dealers display. Meanwhile, his girlfriend had started going out with an old friend of hers and Johns. She says she doesn’t mind going out in her new boyfriends 1968 pickup at all. Now Johns got a new car, but is looking for a new girl to go out with, preferably one who will be impressed with his new cars extra valves.

**Instructions:** In the following paragraphs, add an apostrophe wherever necessary.

Ethans house is a world of its own. Downstairs lives his Uncle Abe, who takes advantage of his sisters hospitality by living rent-free. Ethans fear prevents him from ever entering Abes apartment. Abes old, yellow teeth and his stringy hair frighten Ethan. Upstairs, in the front room, Ethans parents sit for hours and talk, oblivious to the old man in the basement. Pete, the familys old beagle, sprawls on a hooked rug. In the back room, the boys play ping-pong. Ethans ping-pong table takes up the entire room, leaving a space of less than eighteen inches for each of the players. Ethans and Mikes gentle “pinging” and “ponging” almost covers the noise from the basement.

On the front porch, Ethans girlfriend, Becky, sits with his grandmother and shells peas. The plunk, plunk, plunk of the peas landing in the round tin tray blends with the raindrops drumming on the screens and the ping-pong balls tapping back and forth inside. Becky hasn’t heard Abes sawing and banging in the basement. Of course, no one in the neighborhood realizes what is happening beneath the familys house until the cops sirens tear through the peaceful evening. Perhaps everyones uncle is not an escapee from the state penitentiary, but Ethans is.

**Improve your vocabulary choice!**

	Synonym (1)	Synonym (2)	Synonym (3)	Synonym (4)
Destroy				
Do				
Dull				



Eager				
End				
Enjoy				
Explain				
Fair				
Fall				
False				
Famous				
Fast				
Fat				
Fear				
Fly				
Funny				
Get				
Good				
Great				
Gross				
Happy				

Creative Task 2:



1. Use a mixture of sentence types and lengths. These include compound and complex sentences that are full of information and detail; the variety of punctuation allows the reader to absorb the detail more easily.

## SEMI-COLONS

The semicolon [ ; ] is a powerful mark of punctuation with three uses. a semicolon should be used to separate two independent clauses (or complete sentences) that are closely related in meaning.

The first appropriate use of the semicolon is to connect two related sentences. The pattern looks like this:

Grandma still rides her Harley motorcycle; her toy poodle balances in a basket between the handlebars.

A semicolon can also team up with a transition— often a conjunctive adverb—to connect two sentences close in meaning. The pattern looks like this:

My father does not approve of his mother cruising around town on a Harley motorcycle; however, Grandma has no one else anyone thinks.

Finally, use the semicolon to avoid confusion when you have complicated lists of items. The pattern looks like this:

On a Harley motorcycle, my grandmother and her poodle have traveled to Anchorage, Alaska; San Francisco, California; and Mexico.

**Improve your vocabulary choice!**

	Synonym (1)	Synonym (2)	Synonym (3)	Synonym (4)
Hate				
Have				
Help				
Hide				
Hurry				
Hurt				
Idea				
Important				
interesting				
Keep				
Kill				
Lazy				
Little				
Look				
Love				
Make				
Mark				
Mischievous				
Move				
Moody				
Neat				

The following two paragraphs, you will find a number of empty paired brackets: [ ]. Re-write each paragraph and replace each set of brackets with a comma or a semicolon, keeping in mind that the

primary use of a semicolon is to separate two main clauses not joined by a coordinating conjunction.

### **Exercise: Pasta**

Pasta is a large family of shaped dried wheat pastes and is a basic staple in many countries. Its origins are obscure. Rice pastes were known very early in China and pastes made of wheat were used in India and Arabia long before they were introduced into Europe in the 11th or 12th century.


According to legend Marco Polo brought a pasta recipe with him from Asia in 1295. Pasta quickly became a major element in the Italian diet and its use spread throughout Europe.

Pasta is made from durum wheat flour which makes a strong elastic dough. Hard durum wheat has the highest wheat protein value.

The flour is mixed with water kneaded to form a thick paste and then forced through perforated plates or dies that shape it into one of more than 100 different forms. The macaroni die is a hollow tube with a steel pin in its center the spaghetti die lacks the steel pin and produces a solid cylinder of paste. Ribbon pasta is made by forcing the paste through thin slits in a die shells and other curved shapes are produced with more intricate dies.

The shaped dough is dried carefully to reduce the moisture content to about 12 percent and properly dried pasta should remain edible almost indefinitely. Pastas can be colored with spinach or beet juice. The addition of egg produces a richer yellower pasta that is usually made in noodle form and is often sold undried.

Creative Task 3:



**Write a description using the image as a prompt.**

**Include:**

1. Colours
2. Adjectives / adverbs
3. All 3 sentence structures
4. All 5 senses
5. Metaphor
6. Simile
7. Personification
8. Onomatopoeia
9. Alliteration
10. Emotive language

## Commas

Commas customarily indicate a brief pause; they're not as final as a full stop.

Use commas to separate items in a list of three or more.  
Remember that an "item" may refer to a noun, verb, or adjective phrase.

*I need to buy eggs, milk, lettuce, and bread.*

Use a comma to separate independent clauses (complete thoughts) when they are joined by the following conjunctions: and, or, for, nor, so, but, yet.

Note: The comma should come before the conjunction.

*I want to buy the new jacket, but it is too expensive.*

Use a comma to separate a dependent clause (incomplete thought) from an independent clause (complete thought).

*Without water, the plant will die.*

Use a comma(s) to separate any word or phrase from the rest of the sentence that is not essential to the sentence's meaning. This phrase usually provides extra information about the subject.

*My mother, on the other hand, does not like chocolate.*

**Missing Commas in Paragraphs**-Directions: Read the paragraphs and add any needed commas.

**My Friend's Visit**

Jenny my best friend from summer camp is coming for a visit this weekend. Although she is from a big city with a lot of exciting things to do I am sure she will enjoy visiting our farm. She will enjoy swimming in our pond riding horses and picking berries for pies. My brother is afraid she will get bored on our farm but I think she will love it here. With all of the things Mom and I have planned she won't have time to be bored. I'm afraid she will however be very tired each night. Maybe this visit will be so much fun she will want to come back again next summer.

(9 missing commas)

Amazing Ice Cream If you want to know where to buy the most amazing ice cream in the state of Texas I can tell you. Amy's ice cream owned by my cousin has the creamiest most flavorful ice cream in the South. She offers some really exotic flavors like stinky fruit swirl and chocolate covered grasshopper delight, but she also offers normal flavors like chocolate vanilla strawberry etc. This variety is what makes her shop so popular. If you are ever in Houston you need to be sure and stop in for a taste. She is located at 298 Wesson Avenue Houston Texas. You won't be disappointed.

( 11 missing commas)

## Paragraphs - Quiz

1. What is a paragraph?

- A collection of sentences linked together by a common theme.
- An entire text.
- A collection of adjectives that describe characters.

2. Which of the following describes what a paragraph in a story does?

- Introduces a new scene, setting, character or new speech.
- Introduces a new piece of information such as where animals live or the effects of global warming.
- Rounds up the main points of the argument and concludes it.

3. Which of the following describes what paragraphs in newspaper reports do?

- Tells the story in a few words that capture attention.
- Breaks up the report into chronological order making it easier to read and understand.
- Introduces the main story.

4. Which of the following sentences would you expect to find at the beginning of a paragraph that introduces a new character?

- When the smoke had cleared, I saw him, six feet tall and covered in mud and blood.
- The forest floor was littered with leaves, bark and broken twigs.
- I was anxious when I walked into the classroom, but I knew I

had to do it.

5. Paragraphs in a non-fiction text are used to...

- Introduce a new character.
- Introduce a new scene.
- Introduce a new piece of information.

6. A sub-heading is...

- A short title that informs the reader what a paragraph is about.
- A short title that informs the reader what the whole text is about.
- A connective.

7. Why does a plan help when writing paragraphs?

- It helps you concentrate.
- It helps to organise your writing into clear sections.
- It helps you to organise your adjectives.



8. Which of the following connectives is a good one to use in the final paragraph of an argument?

- Secondly
- Firstly
- In conclusion

9.

Which of the following is a connective?

- Furthermore
- Beautiful
- Unusual

10.

Which of the following is a good story plan that will help you to organise your writing into paragraphs and write an effective story?

- Headline, tag line, first paragraph, subheadings, conclusion
- Beginning, middle, end
- Beginning, set the scene, introduce problem, build the tension, resolution, conclusion

Creative Writing Task 4:



1. There are some effective ways to improve your descriptive sentences by adding extra detail. The first is by adding adjectives.
2. See if you can come up with some ways to add detail to verbs - the words that tell what is happening.
3. Can you add extra detail to make it a compound or even a complex sentence?
4. Can you add a new detail to make the whole sentence a simile?

**SENTENCE VARIETY**

You must vary your sentence structure. Try the following to help you.

### 1. Two adjective beginnings

The aim here is to start your sentence with two adjectives which describe the subject of the sentence. For example:

**Exhausted and frustrated, the students finally finished their GCSE exams.**

### 2. Starting with an 'ing' word

Starting your sentence with an *ing* word, leads into a clause which tells us more about the subject of the sentence.

### 3. Beginning with an 'ly' word

For this third example of sentence variety, we begin the sentence with an adverb (an 'ly' word) which gives us more detail on how the verb is performed.

### Editing Exercises

Read the paragraphs. Rewrite all the sentences. Correct the writing mistakes.

did you no that bats are mammals. we no they are mammals just lik us becaus they are warm blooded they are the only mammals that no how to fly bats are Nocturnal which means thay sleep during the day and are awak at nite?

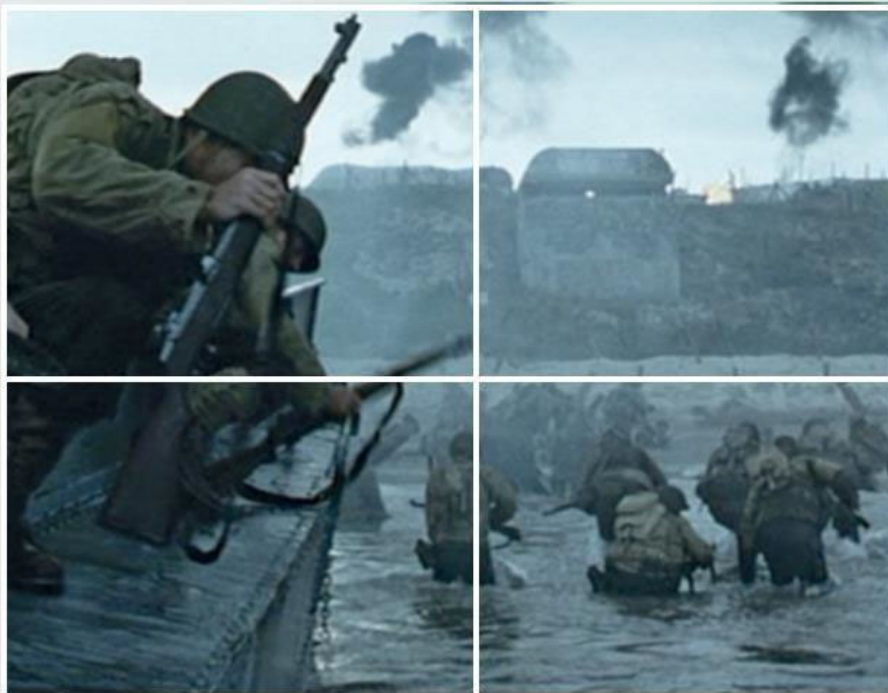
bes are intresting anumals. the honey be can fly at a sped of 15 miles per houre a hive of honey bees has about 40,000 bees in it? the honey bee has five eyes! a worker bee will mak 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey over it's lifetime? Bees have been makeing honey for about 150 million years

did you no that a person can live with out food for more than a hole month a person can only live four about won week with out water we need water more then we need food. 97 % of earths water is in the oceans. Just 3 % of the earths water can bee used four drinking water. 75 % of the worlds fresh water is frozen in the North and South polar ice caps? did you no that a person can live with out food for more than a hole month a person can only live four about won week with out water we need water more then we need food. 97 % of earths water is in the oceans. Just 3 % of the earths water can bee used four drinking water. 75 % of the worlds fresh water is frozen in the North and South polar ice caps?

Do you know where the longest road on Earth can be found. The Pan-American Highway begins in Alaska. It passes through Canada, the United States and Mexico. Then it continues down the west coast of South America all the way to Chile. Altogether, the highway passes through 12 countries. It passes through jungles and mountains the road is about 16,000 miles long. At this time, only one 54-mile stretch of the road remains to be completed.

Are you familiar with the work of Marie Curie. Born in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867, Curie was a chemist and physicist. She and her husband, Pierre, won the Nobel Prize in 1903 for their discovery of the element radium. In 1911, Marie became the first person to win the Nobel Prize twice; she won the second award for her study of radioactivity. Marie died in 1934 from cancer caused by her long contact with radiation.

#### Creative Task 4:



1. One method that can be used to help with descriptive writing is to imagine you are looking at a photograph, almost as if you are a swivelling camera aiming at parts of a scene to record what is there. You can then home in on different parts of the scene.
2. Now, imagining you are that camera, choose two key parts of the image that you would like to zoom in on; these will each be a close-up picture that will be described in its own paragraph and in great detail.
3. To start the description, you might, instead of zooming in, do what film makers often do when they begin with an 'establishing shot' and start your description with a 'wide angle shot'.

#### Creative Task 5



1. An effective and straightforward way of including such detail is by concentrating on how what you are describing appeals to