Revision practice

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Language A: Language and Literature · HL

1 English non-literary analysis

- register
- visual hierarchy

■ Question 1

What is the best analysis of the countdown?

Available marks: 2.

Worked answer

It makes the time limit prominent and supports the advert's pressure to act quickly.

■ Question 2

Explain the mechanism or reasoning in this original case: An advert says only three days left beside a large countdown. Words and layout cooperate to create urgency rather than simply deliver information.

Available marks: 4.

Worked answer

Only three days left combines a restrictive word with a time limit; the large countdown makes urgency visible. Explain how this could prompt quick action, while acknowledging that different readers may resist the message.

- Accurate relevant concept (1)
- Specific evidence from the case (1)
- Connected reasoning (2)

Do not list techniques without their function or assume an effect occurs for every reader. / HL analyses both unseen texts in Paper 1; SL chooses one. Practise complete analysis rather than doubling an SL answer.

2 Literary comparison and context

- intertextuality
- narrative voice

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■ Question 1

What is suitable evidence for Paper 2?

Available marks: 2.

Worked answer

Specific authorial choices from two studied literary works linked to the question.

■ Question 2

Explain the mechanism or reasoning in this original case: Two works can explore exclusion through different voices and structures. A comparison must explain these choices, not merely identify a shared theme.

Available marks: 4.

Worked answer

One narrator may withhold a character's motives while another presents interior thought. Compare how these choices position readers to judge exclusion. Select precise evidence from the school's texts and connect it to your thesis.

- Accurate relevant concept (1)
- Specific evidence from the case (1)
- Connected reasoning (2)

Do not compare one literary and one non-literary text for Paper 2. / Context informs an interpretation but cannot replace close reading or prove a single fixed meaning.

3 A global issue across literary and non-literary work

- global issue
- authorial choice

■ Question 1

Which pairing belongs to this course's oral?

Available marks: 2.

Worked answer

One literary work and one non-literary body of work exploring the same global issue.

■ Question 2

Explain the mechanism or reasoning in this original case: Access to education is broad; how language labels outsiders in institutions is more focused. An oral needs a debatable issue visible in both selected works.

Available marks: 4.

Worked answer

Select an extract where labels shape a character's treatment and a related text from

an approved non-literary body of work. Compare how diction and framing operate, then show where the pattern continues or changes across each work.

- Accurate relevant concept (1)
- Specific evidence from the case (1)
- Connected reasoning (2)

The oral is supervised spoken assessment, not an essay submitted in its place. / Teacher verifies text eligibility, extract limits, notes and scheduling against the guide.

4 A sustained line of inquiry

- line of inquiry
- thesis

■ Question 1

What gives the essay coherence?

Available marks: 2.

Worked answer

A focused inquiry advanced through connected analysis and precise evidence.

■ Question 2

Explain the mechanism or reasoning in this original case: A catalogue of every technique in a text rarely produces a coherent essay. A narrow question about one pattern can support deeper analysis.

Available marks: 4.

Worked answer

Ask how a recurrent contrast constructs belonging across a selected work. Trace changes in the pattern and analyse moments that resist the initial reading. Revise topic sentences so each contributes a distinct step in the argument.

- Accurate relevant concept (1)
- Specific evidence from the case (1)
- Connected reasoning (2)

Do not recycle the oral or Paper 2 material without checking assessment reuse rules with the teacher. / The essay is coursework with supervision and authenticity checks, not an invented timed paper.