# 1.28-4 Creative Writing Focus Set 4: 10-minute Pack

GL ASSESSMENT / CSSE 11+ Entrance English (GL Assessment / CSSE style) · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

**Answer ALL questions.**

**1** Write ONLY the turning-point (climax) scene from a story, in which a swimmer at an outdoor lido realises the current has carried them further from the steps than they intended. Do not write the whole story: focus on building tension and use sentence structure and punctuation deliberately to control pace. Approximately 150 to 200 words.

**(12)**


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# Mark scheme · 1.28-4 Creative Writing Focus Set 4: 10-minute Pack

## Question 1

**Content and organisation (AO5)**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Level 3** A tightly controlled, gripping turning-point scene; both the realisation and the physical danger are vividly dramatised, sustaining tension throughout. | **6-7** |
| **Level 2** Clear building of tension with a recognisable turning point; the realisation is described with some immediacy. | **3-5** |
| **Level 1** Some sense of danger or urgency, but pacing is inconsistent, or the turning point is not clearly dramatised. | **1-2** |
| **Level 0** Nothing worthy of credit. | **0** |

**Technical accuracy (AO6)**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Level 3** Sentence structures and punctuation are deliberately and skilfully controlled to build tension and control pace, with full accuracy. | **5** |
| **Level 2** Some use of sentence length or structure to affect pace; mostly accurate punctuation. | **3-4** |
| **Level 1** Sentence structures are not varied or controlled for pace; punctuation errors may distract from the tension being built. | **1-2** |
| **Level 0** Nothing worthy of credit. | **0** |

**Indicative content:**

- a physical or sensory trigger for the realisation, for example arms suddenly tiring, or the steps looking smaller than expected
- the exact moment the swimmer understands the distance, and the immediate sensory change (cold, breathlessness, the pull of the water)
- short sentences or a deliberate sentence fragment used to speed up pace at the moment of realisation
- physical detail showing the character's reaction (gulping air, glancing towards the lifeguard chair) rather than simply stating they are frightened
- award up to 7 marks for content and organisation (AO5) and up to 5 marks for technical accuracy (AO6), using the grids above; do not itemise individual points as marks


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