1.28-4 Creative Writing Focus Set 4: 30-minute Pack

GL ASSESSMENT / CSSE 11+ Entrance English (GL Assessment / CSSE style) · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Write a full descriptive piece (approximately 250 to 350 words) titled 'The Bell Foundry'. You are describing a place, not telling a story: there should be no significant sequence of plot events. Plan briefly before you write, and use the whole page.

(20)

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2 The paragraph below is flat and repetitive. Rewrite it as a single improved paragraph. Do not simply add adjectives to every noun. You must: vary your sentence openers and lengths; combine at least THREE of the short sentences into more complex sentences using subordination; add at least one piece of figurative language; and remove the monotonous 'I' plus verb pattern used throughout: 'I walked home from practice. It was raining. I saw a cat. I saw a puddle. I got home. I opened the door. My sister laughed. I dripped everywhere.'

(10)

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Mark scheme · 1.28-4 Creative Writing Focus Set 4: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

Content and organisation (AO5)

Level 4 Sophisticated, original description that sustains atmosphere and viewpoint throughout; ambitious figurative language used precisely for effect; a deliberately crafted structure (for example a shifting focus, or contrast between heat and stillness) shapes the reader's response. **10-12**

Level 3 Detailed, engaging description using a range of the senses and some figurative language; a clear and controlled viewpoint with effective paragraphing. **7-9**

Level 2 Clear description with some relevant detail and a recognisable viewpoint; organisation is mostly logical, with some paragraphing. **4-6**

Level 1 Simple description with limited detail; little sense of viewpoint or structure; ideas may be listed rather than developed. **1-3**

Level 0 Nothing worthy of credit. **0**

Technical accuracy (AO6)

Level 3 Spelling and punctuation are accurate throughout, including ambitious vocabulary and a wide range of punctuation used confidently and precisely for effect; sentence structures are varied and skilfully controlled. **6-8**

Level 2 Consistently accurate spelling and punctuation, used to support meaning; a good range of sentence structures used with some control for effect. **3-5**

Level 1 Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation and sentence structure that may obscure meaning. **1-2**

Level 0 Nothing worthy of credit. **0**

Indicative content:

- intense heat, glowing metal, and the controlled danger of a working foundry
- the contrast between deafening moments of casting and sudden, heavy stillness afterwards
- sensory detail across sound (hammering, hissing metal), smell (hot metal, smoke) and sight (sparks, molten glow)
- a controlling image or motif sustained throughout, for example fire, weight, or sound
- a structural device such as moving from a wide shot to close-up detail, or tracking the process from raw metal to finished bell
- award up to 12 marks for content and organisation (AO5) and up to 8 marks for technical accuracy (AO6), using the grids above; do not itemise individual points as marks, use best-fit judgement across each grid

Question 2

Technical accuracy (sentence variety) (AO6)

Level 3 At least three original short sentences are successfully combined using accurate subordination; sentence openers and lengths are varied confidently and correctly punctuated throughout. **5-6**

Level 2 Some successful combination of sentences using subordination; a little more variety in sentence openers and lengths than the original. **3-4**

Level 1 Limited combination of sentences; sentence openers are still mostly repeated; at most one clause is joined by subordination. **1-2**

Level 0 Nothing worthy of credit. **0**

Content (descriptive improvement) (AO5)

Level 2 Effective, original descriptive detail and figurative language are woven naturally into the improved paragraph, genuinely enhancing it. **3-4**

Level 1 Some added descriptive detail and one piece of figurative language, though it may be undeveloped or only loosely connected to the sentence. **1-2**

Level 0 Nothing worthy of credit. **0**

Indicative content:

- combining at least three of the original short sentences using subordinating conjunctions such as 'as', 'although', 'because' or 'when'
- varied sentence openers, so that not every sentence begins with 'I'
- one original simile or metaphor describing the rain, the puddle, or arriving home soaked
- the content and meaning of the original paragraph (walking home from practice, rain, a cat, a puddle, arriving home, sister laughing, dripping) is preserved
- award up to 6 marks for technical accuracy (AO6) and up to 4 marks for content (AO5), using the grids above; do not itemise individual points as marks

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