Smart Edge!
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EDEXCEL · GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1EN0

Paper 1 — Fiction and Imaginative Writing

June 2025 exam series

QUESTION PAPER

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Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Friday 23 May 2025

Morning (Time: 1 hour 45 minutes)

Paper reference **1EN0/01**

English Language

PAPER 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing

You must have:
Reading Text Insert (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** questions in Section A and **ONE** in Section B.
- You should spend about 1 hour on Section A.
- You should spend about 45 minutes on Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*
- Plan your answers in the lined spaces/planning box provided. Plans will not be marked unless no other response is provided

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 64.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
  – *you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ▶

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SECTION A

Reading

Read the text in the Reading Text Insert provided and answer ALL questions.

You should spend about 1 hour on this section.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1 From lines 1–4, identify a word or phrase which shows that Bobby is going somewhere that is dangerous.

.....

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

2 Read this extract.

> … somehow, it became clear to us that, if God left him alive, and if the war ever came to an end, he and I should belong to one another. When he went he kissed me, I kissed him back again, most lovingly, with many tears.
>
> Ah! parting. And so Bobby got into a carriage and drove away, and then I wept as one that would not be comforted.

From the extract, give **two** ways in which the narrator shows how much she loves Bobby.

You may use your own words or quotations from the text.

1 .....

.....

2 .....

.....

(Total for Question 2 = 2 marks)

3 Read this extract.

> One night, one hot night, having prayed even more heartily and tearfully, I had lain down to sleep. The windows were left open, that all possible air might reach me from the still and scented garden below. Thinking of Bobby, I had fallen asleep, and he is still mistily in my head, when I seem to wake. The room is full of clear light, but it is not morning: it is only the moon looking right in. I can see my own ghostly figure sitting up in bed, reflected in the looking-glass opposite. I listen: surely I heard some noise: yes—certainly, there can be no doubt of it—someone is knocking loudly at the hall-door. At first I fall into a deadly fear; then reason comes to my aid. If it were a robber, or person with evil intent, would he knock so openly and clamorously*? At worst it is some drunken sailor; at best, it is a messenger with news of our dear ones. At this thought I instantly spring out of bed and hurrying on whatever garments come most quickly to hand, I open my door, and fly down the passages, into which the moon is looking with her ghostly smile.
>
> As I near the door I meet our old butler.
>
> 'Who *can* it be, Stephens?' I ask, trembling with excitement and fear.

How does the writer use language and structure to show what the narrator experiences on the night that Bobby returns home?

Support your views with reference to the text.

(6)

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(Total for Question 3 = 6 marks)

4 In this extract, there is an attempt to show the narrator's changing emotions.

Evaluate how successfully this is achieved.

Support your views with detailed reference to the text.

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(Total for Question 4 = 15 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 24 MARKS

SECTION B

Imaginative Writing

Answer ONE question. You should spend about 45 minutes on this section.

Write your answer in the space provided.

EITHER

***5** Write about a time when you had to be away from someone who was important to you.

Your response could be real or imagined.

**Your response will be marked for the accurate and appropriate use of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.*

(Total for Question 5 = 40 marks)

OR

***6** Look at the images provided.

Write about a time when you, or someone you know, went on an interesting journey.

Your response could be real or imagined.

You may wish to base your response on one of the images.

**Your response will be marked for the accurate and appropriate use of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.*

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

BEGIN YOUR ANSWER ON PAGE 12.

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Image 1

Image 2

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 5** ☒ **Question 6** ☒

Plan your answer to Section B here:

Write your answer to Section B here:

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 64 MARKS

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Source information:

Image 1: © forest_strider / Getty Images

Image 2: © SolStock / Getty Images

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Friday 23 May 2025

Morning (Time: 1 hour 45 minutes)

Paper reference **1EN0/01**

English Language

PAPER 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing
Section A: Reading Text Insert

Insert Booklet
Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Advice

- Read the text before answering the questions in Section A of the question paper.

Turn over ▶

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Read the text below and answer Questions 1–4 on the Question Paper.

In this extract, the narrator remembers how the young man she was planning to marry went off to join the navy and fight in the war. She recalls what happened when he returned home unexpectedly.

***Poor Pretty Bobby*: Rhoda Broughton**

Before he went … as we walked in the garden, with our monstrously long shadows stretching before us in the moonlight … somehow, it became clear to us that, if God left him alive, and if the war ever came to an end, he and I should belong to one another. When he went he kissed me, I kissed him back again, most lovingly, with many tears.

Ah! parting. And so Bobby got into a carriage and drove away, and then I wept as one that would not be comforted.

The days passed by and now the corn harvest had come and the sun still shone with broad power.

One night, one hot night, having prayed even more heartily and tearfully, I had lain down to sleep. The windows were left open, that all possible air might reach me from the still and scented garden below. Thinking of Bobby, I had fallen asleep, and he is still mistily in my head, when I seem to wake. The room is full of clear light, but it is not morning: it is only the moon looking right in. I can see my own ghostly figure sitting up in bed, reflected in the looking-glass opposite. I listen: surely I heard some noise: yes—certainly, there can be no doubt of it—someone is knocking loudly at the hall-door. At first I fall into a deadly fear; then reason comes to my aid. If it were a robber, or person with evil intent, would he knock so openly and clamorously*? At worst it is some drunken sailor; at best, it is a messenger with news of our dear ones. At this thought I instantly spring out of bed and hurrying on whatever garments come most quickly to hand, I open my door, and fly down the passages, into which the moon is looking with her ghostly smile.

As I near the door I meet our old butler.

'Who *can* it be, Stephens?' I ask, trembling with excitement and fear.

It seems to me as if the endless bolts would never be drawn—the key never be turned in the stiff lock; but at last the door opens slowly and cautiously. I peep out eagerly, expecting I know not what.

Good heavens! What do I see? No drunken sailor, no messenger, but, oh joy! oh blessedness! my Bobby himself—my beautiful boy-lover! Even *now*, even after all these weary years, I cannot forget the unutterable happiness of that moment.

'Open the door, Stephens, quick!' I cry, stammering with eagerness.

The chain rattles, the door opens wide, and there he stands before me. At once, a feeling of cold disappointment steals unaccountably over me. He makes no movement towards me; he does not catch me in his arms, nor even hold out his hand to me. He stands there still and silent, and though the night is dry, I see that he is dripping wet; the water is running down from his clothes, from his drenched hair, and even from his eyelashes, on to the dry ground at his feet.

'What has happened?' I cry, hurriedly, 'How wet you are!' and as I speak I stretch out my hand and lay it on his coat sleeve. But even as I do it a sensation of intense cold runs up my fingers and my arm. How is it that he is so chilled to the marrow of his bones on

this sultry, breathless, August night? To my extreme surprise he does not answer; he still stands there, dumb and dripping. 'Where have you come from?' I ask. 'How is it that you are so wet?'

'It was cold,' he says, shivering, and speaking in a slow and strangely altered voice, 'bitter cold. I could not stay there.'

'Stay where?' I say, looking in amazement at his face, which, whether owing to the ghastly effect of moonlight or not, seems to me ash white. 'Where have you been? What is it you are talking about?'

But he does not reply.

Glossary

*clamorously** – very noisily

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Acknowledgement:

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