



The Thomas Adams
School



English Department

Class workbook

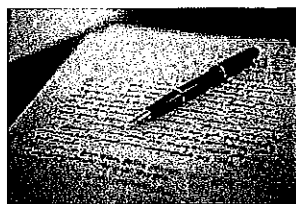
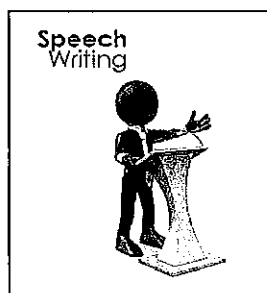
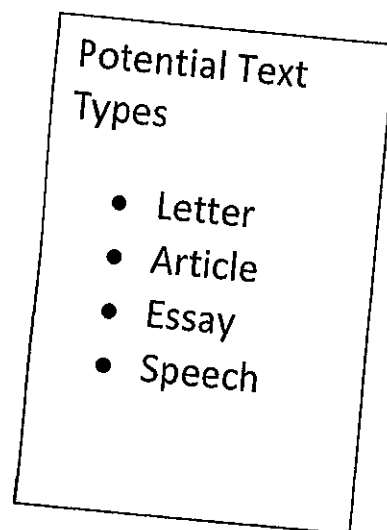
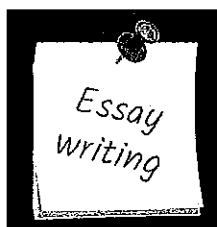
Language

Paper 2B

GCSE English Language Paper 2

Section B: Writing

*Writing to **argue, persuade or explain***



Assessment Objectives

AO5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicates clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences.• Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence and cohesion of texts.
AO6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates must use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

Exam Style Questions

Newspaper Articles

“In order to prepare young adults for the challenges of raising a family, it should be compulsory for them to spend time volunteering with young children.”

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you argue for or against this statement.

(40 marks)

“Young people today have it too easy; they lack challenges and don’t have to work for anything.”

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper *agreeing* or *disagreeing* with this point of view.

(40 marks)

“The use of smartphones is detrimental to young people – they should be banned in schools.”

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you argue for or against the use of smartphones in schools.

(40 marks)

“*What is the difference between someone wearing makeup and body art in the form of a tattoo?*”

Write an article in which you persuade your audience tattoos *are* or *are not* suitable for the work place.

(40 marks)

“Violent video games are to blame for an increase in violent crime among the young.”

Write an article in which you explain your point of view on this statement.

(40 marks)

Essays

The government wants to encourage teenagers to exercise more in order to combat the obesity crisis in the UK.

Write an essay for the board of school governors in which you persuade them to spend more of the school's budget on sports equipment. (40 marks)

"Progress and change are a fact of life and should be embraced." Thinking about your local area, write an essay in which you argue what you would change about your community.

(40 marks)

"It is important to preserve nature so future generations can enjoy the natural beauty which surrounds us."

Write an essay in which you explain the importance of looking after the environment.

(40 marks)

Speeches

One of your classmates has said: "I think going to bed early is a waste of time. All good television programmes are on late at night."

Write a speech in which you try to persuade your class that it's important to get a good night's sleep.

(40 marks)

You have been asked to attend an animal welfare conference which is about the practice of keeping animals in captivity.

Write a speech to be delivered at the conference, in which you persuade your audience to agree with your point on this issue.

(40 marks)

Letters

A proposal has been made to build new houses in a rural area near you.

Write a letter to your local newspaper in favour of or against the proposal.

(40 marks)

You have read a newspaper article bemoaning the expense of international travel. It states, "International travel is not worth the cost."

Write a letter to the newspaper in which you argue for **or** against this statement.

(40 marks)

"Helping other would make the world a better place."

Write a letter to the Head Teacher in which you explain your point of view on how this could improve the school.

(40 marks)

A local study suggests that, "School uniform has no bearing on a pupil's academic performance."

Write a letter to your school governor, **either** persuading them to abolish school uniform, or to keep it.

(40 marks)

Jamie Oliver is campaigning for the government to provide only healthy options in school canteens. Write a letter to Mr Oliver, explaining why you agree **or** disagree with his ideas.

(40 marks)

Style Models

The following examples should provide you with some useful samples of the appropriate tone and register required for each text type.

Example Speeches

Nelson Mandela's speech at the Make Poverty History Campaign in London

I am privileged to be here today at the invitation of The Campaign to Make Poverty History.

As you know, I recently formally announced my retirement from public life and should really not be here.

However, as long as poverty, injustice and gross inequality persist in our world, none of us can truly rest. Moreover, the Global Campaign for Action Against Poverty represents such a noble cause that we could not decline the invitation.

Massive poverty and obscene inequality are such terrible scourges of our times – times in which the world boasts breathtaking advances in science, technology, industry and wealth accumulation – that they have to rank alongside slavery and apartheid as social evils.

The Global Campaign for Action Against Poverty can take its place as a public movement alongside the movement to abolish slavery and the international solidarity against apartheid. And I can never thank the people of Britain enough for their support through those days of the struggle against apartheid. Many stood in solidarity with us, just a few yards from this spot.

Through your will and passion, you assisted in consigning that evil system forever to history. But in this new century, millions of people in the world's poorest countries remain imprisoned, enslaved, and in chains.

They are trapped in the prison of poverty. It is time to set them free.

Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings.

And overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.

While poverty persists, there is no true freedom. The steps that are needed from the developed nations are clear. The first is ensuring trade justice. I have said before that trade justice is a truly

meaningful way for the developed countries to show commitment to bringing about an end to global poverty.

The second is an end to the debt crisis for the poorest countries. The third is to deliver much more aid and make sure it is of the highest quality.

In 2005, there is a unique opportunity for making an impact. In September, world leaders will gather in New York to measure progress since they made the Millennium Declaration in the year 2000. That declaration promised to halve extreme poverty.

But at the moment, the promise is falling tragically behind. Those leaders must now honour their promises to the world's poorest citizens.

Tomorrow, here in London, the G7 finance ministers can make a significant beginning. I am happy to have been invited to meet with them. The G8 leaders, when they meet in Scotland in July, have already promised to focus on the issue of poverty, especially in Africa.

I say to all those leaders: do not look the other way; do not hesitate. Recognise that the world is hungry for action, not words. Act with courage and vision.

I am proud to wear the symbol of this global call to action in 2005. This white band is from my country. In a moment, I want to give this band to you – young people of Britain – and ask you to take it forward along with millions of others to the G8 summit in July. I entrust it to you. I will be watching with anticipation.

We thank you for coming here today. Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom.

Of course the task will not be easy. But not to do this would be a crime against humanity, against which I ask all humanity now to rise up.

Make Poverty History in 2005. Make History in 2005. Then we can all stand with our heads held high.

Thank you

President Kennedy made this speech to a large audience at Rice University in Houston, Texas. He was keen to persuade the American people to support NASA's work in sending a manned spaceship to the moon.

Going to the Moon

Those who came before us made certain that this country rode the first waves of the industrial revolutions, the first waves of modern invention, and the first wave of nuclear power, and this generation does not intend to founder in the backwash of the coming age of space. We mean to be a part of it—we mean to lead it. For the eyes of the world now look into space, to the moon and to the planets beyond, and we have vowed that we shall not see it governed by a hostile flag of conquest, but by a banner of freedom and peace. We have vowed that we shall not see space filled with weapons of mass destruction, but with instruments of knowledge and understanding.

Yet the vows of this Nation can only be fulfilled if we in this Nation are first, and, therefore, we intend to be first.

We set sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained, and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people. For space science, like nuclear science and all technology, has no conscience of its own. Whether it will become a force for good or ill depends on man, and only if the United States occupies a position of pre-eminence can we help decide whether this new ocean will be a sea of peace or a new terrifying theatre of war.

There is no strife, no prejudice, no national conflict in outer space as yet. Its hazards are hostile to us all. Its conquest deserves the best of all mankind, and its opportunity for peaceful cooperation may never come again.

But why, some say, the moon? Why choose this as our goal? And they may well ask why climb the highest mountain? Why, 35 years ago, fly the Atlantic? Why does Rice play Texas¹?

We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too.

It is for these reasons that I regard the decision last year to shift our efforts in space from low to high gear as among the most important decisions that will be made during my incumbency in the office of the Presidency.

¹ The President was speaking at Rice University which was not known for the success of its football team. Texas University's team was much stronger.

Example Letters

Dear Mr Smith,

Responsible and mature, the young adults at Vunderschool are eagerly looking for ways to prove to you just how trustworthy they are. Will you give them the chance? Clearly this is a great opportunity for you to strengthen your relationship with the student body. Because you are undoubtedly a busy man, I will get straight to the point: I am writing today to ask you to consider the abolishment of school uniform.

In a recent Vunderschool survey, 85% of students said they want to wear their own clothes to school; you cannot ignore this statistic. As I walked past your office this morning I was reminded of our school motto 'Developing independence is the route to success'. Well, what better way to create independence in students than by letting them choose their own clothes?

You may begin by enquiring 'what exactly is wrong with the school uniform'? Well, I'm glad you asked. To begin with, the jumper is so itchy I would not be surprised to see that it is made from loft insulation. The tie is a health and safety hazard – it threatens to choke us on an hourly basis. There are 1400 students at Vunderschool who travel around the building every hour; I think this is an accident waiting to happen. And the trousers are just ridiculous. Rigid and cold, I feel like I am wearing a pop up tent rather than a pair of trousers.

I imagine you will say that school uniform encourages good behaviour, but I disagree. At the moment students are using their poor behaviour to express their individuality. Allow students to wear what they want to school and their clothing choices will become their expression of self, resulting in better behaviour across the school. Have you ever been into the city centre and seen the youths who frequent the sun-dial? These teens wear long leather jackets and black boots. On first inspection, they may seem intimidating but nothing could be further from the truth; these children do not engage in anti-social behaviour! They simply spend time together with their friends. You see, their clothes are expressing their individuality.

Can I ask you a question? What are your career aspirations for your students? I imagine you want us to be rich and successful. Well I have bad news for you – by making us all wear the same uniform day in day out you are simply preparing us for workplaces that do the same, namely fast food restaurants and shop workers. You see, the high powered business-men and entrepreneurs of this world choose their own clothes. Indeed – YOU choose your own clothes. You have the freedom to choose your own suits, your own shirts, your own ties (even the whacky ones you wear every Friday). You are operating within the constraints of a dress-code, but you wear what you choose. We deserve the same. Give us a dress code by all means, but don't keep us in this barbaric uniform.

You may also feel that wearing our own clothes would lead to a reduction in our academic achievement. To prove you wrong I need only point to our transatlantic cousins in America. America is the richest, most powerful and most successful nation in the world and guess what: school students wear what they want to school. Surely this proves that there is no link between what we wear to school and how we will succeed in life.

I look forward to your reply,
Yours sincerely

Andrew Bruff

Example Article

Mobile Phone Master-Class: Smart Phone = Smart Student

The world of education is changing. Your children need calculators, planners, cameras and online research skills.

In this article, year 11 student Andrew Bruff explains the good news: if your child has a mobile phone then they've already got all that they need.

Schools today are nothing like those of the 80s and 90s: fact. Gone are the blackboards and OHPs, in are the iPads and interactive white-boards. Yes, the schools of today are unrecognisable from their historic counterparts. In fact, walking through a school these days feels more like walking through the fancy Apple Store in the mall than a group of classrooms. Modern and exciting, the technological age is upon us. More than ever before, students are utilising technology to own their learning; will you let your children become a part of this exciting development?

It can seem very intimidating for a parent who, despite having their child's best interests at heart, is simply overwhelmed when it comes to technology. Well, let me help you with that. Students today need to be able to do a number of things which can all be achieved through using a simple, off the shelf mobile phone. If you buy them a smartphone, it really will smarten up your child.

Firstly, imagine your child is sat in a Mathematics class and needs to use a calculator. Do you know how many students these days carry around those bulky calculators? None! No, students use the calculators built into their phones. Now imagine it's homework time. The homework is written on the board for your lovely son or daughter to copy up but whoops! Where's that homework planner? Is it the same one that got soaked in the bottom of his bag last week? Well it doesn't matter: they can use their phone to take a photo of it.

But it doesn't stop there. Studies show that students who have regular ICT access learn at a faster rate. Well we'd love to give every student their own laptop but it just isn't feasible in the current budget. However, a smartphone can perform all of the online functions that you would find on a laptop.

Let me explain. Although it gets a bad press, the internet is a wonderful place these days. Sites such as mrbruff.com are packed with revision videos, eBooks and podcasts which help thousands of students to achieve their exam potential. Don't you want the same for your child? All they need is a

phone and they can forget the laptop – they can even access the school wi-fi to surf for free, meaning they're not racking up a high bill. With our own safety filters in place, there is no chance of them finding something inappropriate online either.

Think back to your own education – wouldn't you have loved the chance to use the internet, take photos, set reminders and more? Well you can make that dream become a reality for your child. Of course there are other benefits too – for example safety. With a mobile phone, you never need to worry again about your child's whereabouts. Not only can they get in touch with you when they need to, but you can get in touch with them too. I know you want your child to be safe, and I also know that the average contract price of £15 a month is nothing compared to the peace of mind you will receive knowing that your child can contact you whenever they need to.

So, in conclusion, I hope that you can see now that buying your child a mobile phone is one of the smartest things you can do. Please choose to be a smart parent and buy your child a smart phone.

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST WE DO?

Young people are embracing social media as it is proves the only remaining option for children's spare time. Recent government statistics show that a staggering 80% of teenagers now use social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Parents, teachers and politicians have voiced their concern about the negative impact these sites have on the easily influenced, suggesting that their lives are being taken over by the obsessive nature of these sites. I disagree.

To begin with, let's be clear about one thing: social media can have a negative impact. The news is regularly filled with stories of desperate teens who have committed suicide over the bullying they've been subjected to online. However, let's not make any mistake here: bullying, whilst not at all condonable, has been around since the dawn of time. Social media cannot be blamed for an age old problem which is more indicative of the nature of mankind.

So what's the alternative? What SHOULD teens be doing with their time? My father tells me he spent his childhood climbing trees and making dens in the woods. What woods? In the last 30 years the incessant sprawl of industrialisation has reduced the green areas of the country to an all-time low. My mother tells me she went to the cinema every weekend without fail. Well excuse me – have you seen the price of a cinema ticket these days? Add popcorn to the mix and I'll need a full time job to afford the £15 price. And talking about jobs, don't even try to persuade me that young people should have jobs. The minimum wage for under 18s is a measly £3.79! This ridiculous sum is convincing teenagers not to work! How about taking a stroll around the local area with your peers? Last year's dispersal powers ensure that the police break up any groups. In fact, there's only one way to meet with a group of teenagers: online!

Creative and original, teenagers today are embracing the richness of social media to benefit the world. Sites such as www.justgiving.com and www.gofundme.com offer a platform for people to give generously where there is need. But how are these needs noticed in the first place, and why do we all hear about them? The answer lies in social media. Heard the story of the disabled man who was mugged and received donations of £300,000? How about the \$350,000 raised for the Texas man who walked 20 miles to work every day? The common theme? Both of these stories were noticed and publicised by teenagers. This is just one example of how teens are using social media for good. It seems clear – social media isn't evil. Young people today use it as one of their only remaining outlets and methods for doing good.

Teenagers are working harder than ever before. Exam pressure is threatening to topple us, Surely we deserve a quick break? Social media offers that break – it gives us everything we need: mindless, easy and relaxing down time. We deserve it.

Do you have young, innocent, vulnerable children? Are you really suggesting that we get them off social media and throw them out onto the streets to socialise? The same streets that see abductions, violent attacks and rapes occur every day? No! Like you, I want the young to be safe indoors, where

responsible parents can keep an eye on them. Of course, it's only natural that they will want to use social media sites whilst safely cocooned in the warmth of their houses. The issue is clear: we need to change the way we look at social media. We need to realise that young people are safer indoors, using their online skills to make the world a better place.

SECTION B: WRITING

1. "As a developing continent, Africa should be given financial aid by richer countries in the West to support them to improve the quality of life for its citizens".

Write a letter to a Government Minister in which you argue your opinion on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

2. "Western tourists are slowly but surely destroying the natural habitat of hundreds of animals in what they describe as 'safaris'".

Write the text for a leaflet aimed at people attending a safari park that advises them how to ensure they do not damage the ecosystems they visit.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

3. "Regardless of their crimes or misdemeanours, children in prison still deserves love, care and support. They are currently not receiving this".

Write the text for a speech to be delivered to a local Prison Governor in which you explain your opinion on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

4. "Every council should be expected to provide decent, high-quality services to support and care for homeless people in their area".

Write an article for a local newspaper in which you persuade its readers to support your opinion on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

5. "Festivals like Easter and Christmas is nothing to do with family and presents; it should be preserved as a memory to the religious nature of its history".

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper in which you argue your point of view on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

40 remembrance of what really passed), came running up to me and implored me to help
him find his wife, who was afterwards found dead. No imagination can conceive the ruin
of the carriages, or the extraordinary weights under which the people were lying, or the
complications into which they were twisted up among iron and wood, and mud and
water.

45 I don't want to be examined at the inquest, and I don't want to write about it. I could do
no good either way, and I could only seem to speak about myself, which, of course, I
would rather not do. I am keeping very quiet here. I have a--I don't know what to call it--
constitutional (I suppose) presence of mind, and was not in the least fluttered at the
time. I instantly remembered that I had the MS. of a number with me, and clambered
50 back into the carriage for it. But in writing these scanty words of recollection I feel the
shake and am obliged to stop.

Ever faithfully.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Balloon – Hot Air Balloons carry passengers in a basket suspended by a number of strong ropes.

² Stirring - Moving

6. "All young people should be given the opportunity to participate in overseas expeditions as part of their school experience".

Write the text of an essay in which you explain the possible reasons either for or against this opinion and proposal.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

7. "While public transport is by far the safest method of transport, all passengers should be ready for a disaster".

Write the text for a leaflet to be distributed on board trains that seeks to instruct passengers how to conduct themselves in an emergency situation.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

8. "Public sector workers such as nurses and teachers deserve higher wages, not underworked and selfish footballers".

Write a letter to your local MP in which you persuade them to agree with your opinions on this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

