

## Getting Started With GCSE Language Paper 1 Q4

Steps	Tips & Techniques
1. Draw a box around the section of the text that the question directs you to focus on. E.g. from line 16 to the end.	
2. Identify the focus(es) of the pupil's statement in response to the extract.	It is useful to consider the bullet points in relation to the statement, but you <b>must</b> focus on the pupil's statement in your response.
3. Write an initial response to the pupil's statement.	Although the question asks to what extent you agree with the statement, it is okay to agree completely. You do not have to propose alternative interpretations.
4. Paying attention to the lines you have been directed to in the question, read the extract and highlight textual references <b><i>which support your response to the statement.</i></b>	
5. Look at the quotations that you have identified. Which 'methods' has the writer used to create a particular impression, or to convey certain information? It is important to use the correct terminology when writing about methods.	Has the writer chosen positive or negative words to describe character/ setting? Has she chosen words because of their connotations (associations)? <i>What techniques has the writer used to describe character/setting/mood/atmosphere?</i>
6. Identify the writer's use of syntactic (word order/choices) effects to guide your response to the event, character or setting.	Has the writer used short, simple sentences to create a sense of drama, or to emphasise a particular idea? Has the writer used elliptical and minor sentences to create an informal 'chatty' tone? Has the writer used effects like listing? What effect do they have on the reader?
7. Identify the writer's use of structural effects to guide your response to the character and add these to your mind-map.	Are there any repeated words or images? Is the extract in the first or third person? What is the effect of this? How does the extract begin and how does it end? Is there a contrast (e.g. over confident boxer at the beginning of the bout, but physically crushed by the end)? Does the focus shift during the course of the extract (e.g. from one character to another?) What is the effect of this? <b>Make sure all comments link back to the question</b>