

# **Writing Specimen Items – Testing Reading**

## **Testing Reading (1)**

Literal comprehension questions  
Inferential comprehension questions  
Vocabulary questions  
Own words questions  
Questions on writer's craft  
Quotation questions  
Summary questions – selecting content

Task 1 is to produce bank of short passages of around 100 words.

Task 2 is to produce 4 literal comprehension questions, each carrying 1 mark, on each short passage.

Task 3 is to produce 2 literal comprehension questions, each carrying 2 marks, on each short passage

**Assessment Objective 1** : To write in a variety of forms (personal, descriptive, narrative (?))

1. There is some limited attempt to write relevantly, although it may be only a single paragraph. There will be at least six correctly punctuated sentences, although these will probably be only simple sentences. Vocabulary will be limited and there will probably be spelling errors.

2. The topic is addressed but the ideas may be rather thin. There should be at least two paragraphs. There are stretches of correctly punctuated sentences although sentences may be simple with either no complex sentences or errors when complex sentences are attempted. Vocabulary will be fit for purpose but rather pedestrian or repetitive. There may be some spelling errors.

3. The topic is addressed relevantly with some development into at least three paragraphs, showing beginning, middle and end. Punctuation of simple sentences will be generally accurate. Some complex structures will be attempted, although accuracy will not be sustained for long. Vocabulary will be appropriate and spelling of basic vocabulary will be accurate.

4. The topic is clearly addressed with real development. Paragraphing gives the writing structure and focus. Punctuation of simple sentences will be accurate. Complex structures will be used and many of these will be punctuated accurately. Vocabulary will be quite ambitious and add interest as well as meaning to the writing. Spelling of ambitious as well as basic words will be accurate.

5. The topic is addressed stylishly and interests the reader. Paragraphing is helpful and gives the writing clear structure and focus. Sentences show variety of structure and, apart from occasional slips, are always accurately punctuated. Vocabulary is ambitious and stylish, and spelling is always accurate.