



LEAVING CERT ENGLISH  
**EXAM PAPER LAYOUT  
& MARKING SCHEME**



## AN OVERVIEW OF THE EXAM PAPER LAYOUT AND MARKING SCHEME

### PAPER 1 (200 MARKS)

- **Comprehension** – 100 marks

A) Comprehension - 50 marks

B) Short writing task – 50 marks

- **Composition** – 100 marks

#### Things to know for Paper 1: The 5 Language Genres

- Language of Information
- Language of Persuasion
- Language of Argument
- Language of Narration
- Language of Aesthetics

### PAPER 2 (200 MARKS)

- **Single Text** – 60 marks
- **Comparative Study** – 70 marks
- **Poetry** – 70 marks

Unseen poetry – 20 marks

Prescribed poetry – 50 marks

## Things to know for Paper 1: Modes

### Higher Level Modes:

- Theme or Issue
- Cultural Context
- General Vision and Viewpoint
- Literary Genre

### Ordinary Level Modes:

- Hero, Heroine & Villain
- Social Setting
- Theme
- Relationships

## MARKING SCHEME

- Clarity of Purpose (P) 30% of the available marks
- Coherence of Delivery (C) 30% of the available marks
- Efficiency of Language (L) 30% of the available marks
- Accuracy of Mechanics (M) 10% of the available marks

### Clarity of Purpose (P)

To achieve full marks here, you will need to answer the question directly, demonstrate a clear understanding of genre and provide a clear aim and purpose to your answer.

### Coherence of Delivery (C)

To achieve full marks here, you must present a well-structured, well-organised essay with a clear beginning, middle and end. Paragraphs must be used clearly and consistently. Marks are mostly lost in this area when essays are disorganised, lack focus and generally do not “flow” well.



### **Efficiency of Language (L)**

To achieve full marks in this area, you will need to demonstrate your ability to use language effectively. A variety of language, vocabulary and phrasing will strengthen your chances of achieving high marks in this area.

### **Accuracy of Mechanics (M)**

To achieve full marks here, your spelling and grammar must be largely accurate.

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