

How to present a document for an English exam

This is not an exhaustive list.

Pour donner la liste des texte à l'examineur vous pouvez dire: "Here is the list".

Veillez à ce que l'examineur ait un exemplaire du document. Pour lui en proposer un, dites "Do you need a copy of the text?", ou « Would you like a copy of the text ? »

INTRODUCTION

- Pour prendre votre respiration avant de vous lancer: Well, so, for starters,
- As an introduction I'd (would) like to say that ...

WHAT ?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The document I'm going to talk to you about is a • I'm going to present to you a • This is a • What we have here is a/the document about a | <p>poem
text
news article
passage / (an) extract from a novel
short story
tale</p> | <p>entitled / called [+title]
(taken) from [+source]
about [+topic]
that deals with [+topic]
that addresses the issue of [+topic]
that takes a look at [+topic]
(written) by [+author]</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text is about a/the • It's about a/the • The text raises a/the | <p>crucial question of ...
controversial issue
(an) important topic
old problem of ...</p> | |

WHERE?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The setting is / was • The incident took place in • The event occurred in • The scene takes place in | <p>a big American city
the countryside
a small English village
a school</p> |
|---|---|

WHEN?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The incident took place • The event occurred | <p>recently
long ago
during the winter
in the winter
at night</p> |
|---|---|

IN the top left hand corner	AT the top	IN the top right hand corner
	IN the background	
ON the left	IN the middle	ON the right
	IN the foreground	
IN the bottom left hand corner	AT the bottom	IN the bottom right hand corner

Describing in 2D

WHO?

- The different characters depicted are
- The main character(s) is (are)
- The persons involved are / were ...

SUMMARY

- Basically the story is that of ...,
- the plot (l'intrigue)
- the heart of the problem is ...
- the core of the question is
- the main issue is
- the key topic is

GAP-FILLERS

A la place d'un "euh.. " bien français essayez:

- Eh ..
- Well ..
- You see ..
- Anyway to get back to the subject ...
- What I'm trying to say is that
- What I'm trying to get at is that ...
- What I mean to say is that ...

PARTS in the text or in your commentary:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text falls into 3 parts • The text can be divided into 3 parts • It is possible to divide the text into 3 parts • The passage is made of 3 paragraphs | <p>the first one, from line xx to line xx,
the second one ...
the last one ...</p> | <p>concerns ...
is centered on ...
is focused on ...
deals with ...
is based on ...</p> |
|--|--|---|

ANALYSYS

• By doing this	The singer The director The actor The journalist The writer The author	wants to	show that... suggest that ... indicate that make us feel that .. make us realize that .. make us understand that ..
		intends to	
		wants	the reader to feel that ... the viewer to realize that ... the audience to understand ... us to

REACT by stating your personal opinion.

• What I find the most	striking incredible interesting ironical ridiculous impressive threatening unpleasant	in	this is that
		about	
• What strikes me the most		in	the fact the notion the idea
		about	

ALLUDING

- It makes me think of
- It reminds me of
- This obviously refers to, alludes to ...

LINKING

- Then, there is ... / we have
- Now, we find / we have ...
- Also, we can observe that ...
- Besides ...
- Next, the text shows (that) ...
- In the same way ...
- On the one hand, ... but on the other hand,we can see that ...
- As a result, therefore
- However

QUOTING

- I'd (would) like to quote from the text : " ... ".
- In this passage / paragraph / sentence /line / stanza / verse / part →

1. We are told that " ..."

2. The writer The poet The journalist The novelist	seems to	insist on emphasize underline	such phrases as "...". such words as "...". words like "...".
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CONCLUSION

- Drawing a conclusion about the document, we can say that →

1. this is all based on	the fact that the notion that the idea that
2. it all revolves around	
3. what matters most throughout this text is	
4. what it actually boils down to is	
- to sum up, in a word, in short, in brief, to conclude, in conclusion