



Year 9 English

## Task 2: Semester One Exam

**Due Date:** Week 5 A

Thursday 29th May, Periods 1 and 2

( During the Semester One Examination Period)

**Task Distributed:** Monday 12th May, 2025

**Unit:** Term 1: 'Conflicting Voices' AND Term 2: 'A Glimpse into the Future: Dystopian Writing'

**Task Type:** Half Yearly Examination

**Task Weighting:** 25%

### Outcomes:

EN4-RVL-01: uses a range of personal, creative and critical strategies to read texts that are complex in their ideas and construction

EN4-URA-01: analyses how meaning is created through the use of and response to language forms, features and structures

EN4-URB-01: examines and explains how texts represent ideas, experiences and values

EN4-ECA-01: creates personal, creative texts for a range of audiences by using linguistic and stylistic conventions of language to express ideas

### Task Description

The Semester One Exam (70 minutes + 5 minutes reading time) will provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate the depth of their knowledge and understanding of the first two topics; *Conflicting Voices (Term 1)* and *Dystopian Writing (Term 2)*. The Exam will require students to demonstrate their understanding of the key concepts explored in these two topics, as well as their comprehension skills, use of the narrative arc and figurative language, in imaginative writing.

Students will sit the 70-minute exam with 5 minutes reading time, in the hall under exam conditions. They will be expected to follow all instructions of the supervising teachers and attempt ALL questions.

**There are TWO sections in this examination:**

**Section 1 (15 marks):** Reading and comprehension section where students will answer a variety of short answer questions in response to a selection of unseen texts based on their study of 'Conflicting Voices'. Students should allocate 35 minutes for this section.

**Section 2 (20 marks):** Creative writing response based on their study of 'A Glimpse into the Future: Dystopian Writing'. Students may be given a stimulus and should focus on their creation of an original character, mood and atmosphere, as well as utilising Dystopian conventions, to create an imaginative text. Students should allocate 35 minutes for this section.

# NESA Glossary of Key Words

Understand the verb associated with the task. The verb will provide an understanding of the detail needed to successfully answer the question.

**Identify** - Recognise and name

**Discuss** - Identify issues and provide points for and/or against

**Explain** - Relate cause and effect; make the relationships between things evident; provide why and/or how

**Analyse** - Identify components and the relationship between them; draw out and relate implications

**Compose** - write or create

Check the NESA Glossary of Key Words for further guidance

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-student-guide/glossary-keywords>

## Details of Submission

Students are required to study for the Semester One Exam at home, in the weeks preceding the examination. Students will complete the exam under exam conditions in the hall during the allocated English exam period. Below is a checklist that may help in the preparation of your exam.

- I have studied the key concepts in the 'Conflicting Voices' unit from Term 1.
- I have studied the key concepts in the 'Dystopian' Creative Writing unit from Term 2.
- I have revised my knowledge of literary devices and their effects, especially focusing on the narrative devices included in the Dystopian genre.
- I have revised the key vocabulary from Term 1 and 2.
- I have practised deconstructing questions to help me understand what the question requires.
- I have practised PETAR paragraphs and extended response structures.
- I have reviewed all the elements of narratives.
- I will remember to utilise all my literacy skills.
- I will remember "marks = minutes"

## Teacher Feedback and Student Self-Reflection

- The task will typically be returned to students within two weeks of the exam sitting date. At this time feedback including information on how to improve will be provided through the marking criteria as well as written comments.
- Students can clarify or seek further feedback by speaking with their teacher or the assessment marker.
- You will also receive feedback on your literacy performance based on the criteria in the school's literacy marking rubric. Upon return of the task, students will also be expected to complete a self-reflection.

## How does this link to my learning?

The completion of the Semester One Exam will allow students to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts studied in Term 1 and the beginning of Term 2 of Year 9. Upon completion of the exam, students may reflect on their results in order to set new learning goals for themselves. The Semester One Exam will allow students to be familiar with assessment procedures, which will assist them in further studies and future examinations.

This task links to the following reporting outcomes:

- *Effectively analyses language forms and features to interpret and infer meaning from a wide range of texts*
- *Uses language forms, features and structures specific to the Dystopian genre to compose a sustained imaginative text*

## Assessment Procedures

All students should be fully aware of the School Assessment Procedures for their year group. These were provided at the beginning of the school year and are available off the school website under the Learning Tab for each year group.