



Year 7, English

## Task 5: Semester Two Examination

**Due Date:** In the allocated exam period within the Junior Examination Block  
Week 5 12/11/25

**Task Distributed:** Monday 27th October 2025

**Unit:** Have You Got Something to Say? and Overcoming Adversity with Courage

**Task Type:** Semester Two Examination

**Task Weighting:** 20%

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

### Task Description

The Semester Two English Exam will provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate the depth of their knowledge and understanding of the topics: *Have You Got Something to Say? (Term 3)* and *Overcoming Adversity Through Courage (Term 4)*. The Semester Two Exam will require students to demonstrate their understanding of the key concepts explored in these two topics, as well as their comprehension skills and use of appropriate paragraph and analytical writing structures. The Exam will run for a total of **60 minutes + 5 minutes** reading time.

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

- Section 1 (15 marks) will consist of a series of unseen texts with short answer questions. **Students should spend approximately 30 minutes on this section of the exam.**
- Section 2 (20 marks) will require students to compose an extended response for their study of the unit: Overcoming Adversity Through Courage. This response will use evidence from their class text of study (*Holes, Trash, Two Wolves or Jurassic Park*) and will also use appropriate PETAR paragraphing structures. **Students should spend approximately 30 minutes on 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.

- **DESCRIBE:** provide characteristics and features
- **DISCUSS:** Identify issues and provide points for and/or against.
- **IDENTIFY:** recognise and name
- **EXPLAIN:** Relate cause and effect; make the relationships between things evident; provide why and/or how.
- **COMPOSE:** Develop and/or produce spoken, written or multimodal texts in print, visual, oral or digital forms.

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

This exam will be completed during the Junior Semester Two Examination block in the hall. Students are expected to arrive on time and complete the examination under timed-conditions. The examination will consist of two sections with a total time of **65 minutes** to complete.

Students will be given **5 minutes reading time and 60 minutes writing time.**

In order to prepare for this examination, students should revise:

- The units: *Have You Got Something to Say? (Term 3)* and *Overcoming Adversity Through Courage (Term 4)*.
- How to identify and analyse different figurative language techniques and their effects (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, inclusive language, rhetorical question etc)
- How to answer short answer style questions.
- The structure of an extended response, including PETAR paragraphs.
- How their class novel showcases the idea of *Overcoming Adversity Through Courage*. Students should prepare quotes and techniques from their novel to support their response.
- The use of literacy skills (paragraphing, punctuation, text structure, sentences and cohesion).
- Remember that marks= minutes.

## Teacher Feedback and Student Self-Reflection

- The task will typically be returned to students within TWO school weeks of the due date.
- At this time feedback including information on how to improve will be provided through the marking rubric and general marker's feedback.
- Students can clarify or seek further feedback by speaking with their teacher or the assessment marker.
- Students will also receive feedback on their literacy performance based on the criteria in the school's literacy marking rubric. The marks achieved for literacy will account for between 10% – 20% of the maximum task value.

Upon return of the task, students will be asked to reflect on their performance in class. This will be done on the day that their Semester Two Examinations are returned.

## How does this link to my learning?

Completing the Semester Two Exam will allow students to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts studied in the third and final terms of Year 7.

The results of the exam will enable students to identify areas for improvement and to set new learning goals that they wish to strive towards for further studies in English. In addition to this, familiarising oneself with exam procedures and expectations will support students' completion of exams throughout high school.

The completion of this assessment task will translate into the following Semester Two report outcomes-

- *Describes language forms and features to interpret and infer meaning from texts.*
- *Thinks critically about information and themes in the novel set for study and explains these connections through an extended response.*

## 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