



Year 12 HSC English Standard

Task 2: Half Yearly Exam

Due Date: Monday 23rd March 2026

(Check the final examination timetable to confirm time of the exam)

Task Distributed: Tuesday 10th March 2026

Unit: Module B and Module C

Task Type: Examination

Task Weighting: 25%

Outcomes:

EN12-1 independently responds to and composes complex texts for understanding, interpretation, critical analysis, imaginative expression and pleasure

EN12-3 analyses and uses language forms, features and structures of texts and justifies their appropriateness for purpose, audience and context and explains effects on meaning

EN12-4 adapts and applies knowledge, skills and understanding of language concepts and literary devices into new and different contexts

EN12-5 thinks imaginatively, creatively, interpretively, analytically and discerningly to respond to and compose texts that include considered and detailed information, ideas and arguments

Task Description

During the Half Yearly Examination period, students are to complete their Half Yearly English (Standard) Exam. Students will have 1.5 hours + 5 minutes reading time. The outline of the exam is as follows:

Section 1: Module B – Close Study of Literature

Extended Response

This section will require students to develop an extended response that responds to the given question. This question may or may not include a stimulus. In developing this response, students will need to make detailed reference to the distinctive stylistic features of their prescribed text, *Feed* by M.T Anderson.

Students should allow 45 minutes for this section.

Section 2: Module C – Craft of Writing

There will be one question which may contain up to two parts. The question will require an imaginative response and may require a reflection. The question may contain stimulus or a quote and may ask you to draw inspiration from your prescribed texts. The prescribed text from Module C is '*The Pedestrian*' by Ray Bradbury.

Students should allow 45 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.

- **ANALYSE** – Identify components and the relationship between them; draw out and relate implications
- **ASSESS** – Make a judgement of value, quality, outcomes, results or size
- **EVALUATE** – Make a judgement based on criteria; determine the value of
- **EXPLAIN** - Relate cause and effect; make the relationships between things evident; provide why and/or how

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 task will be completed in exam conditions during the Half Yearly Exam Period. Students should consult their examination timetable to confirm the official date and time of the exam.

Students must bring the required equipment for the examination, which is a blue or black pen. Writing booklets will be provided. Students are NOT permitted to bring notes into the exam.

To help prepare for this task, use the following checklist:

- I have revised the techniques within my prescribed texts, including language techniques, and am able to discuss their effect on meaning.
- I have revised the Module B and C rubric and understand the key concerns of both modules.
- I have experimented with various stylistic devices as practice for Module C.
- I have revised both the structure of an extended response and relevant PETAR paragraphing.

Teacher Feedback and Student Self-Reflection

- The task will be typically returned to students at the beginning of Term 2.
- At this time feedback including information on how to improve will be provided through teacher annotations, general markers comments and marking guidelines. Students should consult all carefully to inform their future improvement.
- Students can clarify or seek further feedback by speaking with their teacher or the specific marker of the respective section of the exam.
- Upon return of the task, students will also be expected to complete a self-reflection. This will be done in class with the classroom teacher and will involve goal setting for future HSC assessments.

How does this link to my learning?

- Completion of Section 1 provides an opportunity for students to display their knowledge of Module B: Close Study of Text and their prescribed text *Feed*.
- Completion of Section 2 allows students to demonstrate their skills in creating and reflecting based on a given stimulus, while also linking to their study of Module C: Craft of Writing

The Half Yearly Exam also relates to the following Reporting Outcomes:

Section 1: Develops a sustained, critical response that demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the distinctive features of a substantial text, and how the relationship between these features shape meaning.

Section 2: Crafts an engaging piece of writing using language to shape meaning, and justifies the language features used that reflect their broader study.

Assessment Procedures

All students should be fully aware of the school and NESA assessment procedures. Students who are absent from the examination, or have a legitimate reason for missing the task, must notify the school before the exam commences. To avoid a zero mark being awarded, any absence must be supported by valid misadventure/illness documentation as outlined in the Year 12 Assessment Guide. Students should access this guide for more information.