



Year 10 English

## Task 2: Semester One Exam

**Due Date:** Monday, 18th of May 2026

(during the 7-10 Semester One Exam Period)

**Task Distributed:** Monday 4th May, 2026

**Unit:** *'Powerful Voices'* AND *'The Art of the Author'*

**Task Type:** Half Yearly Examination

**Task Weighting:** 25%

**Outcomes:**

EN5-RVL-01:uses a range of personal, creative and critical strategies to interpret complex texts

EN5-URA-01:analyses how meaning is created through the use and interpretation of increasingly complex language forms, features and structures

EN5-URB-01:evaluates how texts represent ideas and experiences, and how they can affirm or challenge values and attitudes

EN5-ECA-01:crafts personal, creative and critical texts for a range of audiences by experimenting with and controlling language forms and features to shape meaning



### Task Description

Students will sit an **80-minute exam** (plus 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.

**Section 1 - Short Answer Responses (15 marks):** This is a reading and comprehension section where students will answer a variety of short answer questions. These will be in response to a selection of unseen texts that reflect their study of 'Powerful Voices'. Questions will reflect student understanding of text types and how language techniques are used to create meaning.

The recommended time for this section is 35 minutes.

**Section 2 - Extended Writing - Imaginative Response (15 marks + 5 marks literacy):** Students will develop a piece of imaginative writing in response to a stimulus or prompt. In your response you should demonstrate your ability to include figurative and sensory **language devices** to help build **character, voice** and **setting**. This stimulus on the day will be ONE of the following:

<p>A. Create a short imaginative piece which involves a family heirloom</p>	
<p>B. Create a short imaginative piece which contains the line: "the music stopped and everything went quiet"</p>	

C. Create a short imaginative piece where a central character harbours a long-kept secret



The recommended time for this section is 45 minutes.

## 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.

**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 7-10 Semester One Examination period.

## Teacher Feedback and Student Self-Reflection

- The task will typically be returned to students within two school 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 10. 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 also relates to the following reporting outcomes:

- *Effectively analyses and evaluates language forms and features and embeds textual evidence within their responses to support their articulation of the ideas in texts*
- *Composes a sustained imaginative text, using effective language choices and appropriate structural conventions to apply an authentic narrative voice*

## 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.