



Year 7 English 2026

Task 2: Semester One Examination

Due Date: Tuesday 18th May Week 5A (The exam will take place in the allocated exam periods on the exam timetable.)

Task Distributed: Monday 4th May 2026

Unit: 'Personal Voice and Identity' & 'Creating Stories'

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-URC-01-identifies and explains ways of valuing texts and the connections between them.

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 One Exam (60 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; *Personal Voice and Identity (Term 1)* and *Creating Stories (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 and use of a clear narrative arc and figurative language within their imaginative writing.

There are two sections in this examination:

- **Section 1 (15 marks)** will examine the *Personal Voice and Identity* unit and 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 examine the *Creating Stories* unit and will require students to compose a piece of imaginative writing in response to an unseen stimulus. Students should spend approximately 30 minutes on this section of the exam.

For this section of the exam students will be given ONE of the following stimulus prompts on the day of the exam:

“Sometimes the smallest act of kindness can make the biggest difference.”

OR

“It’s okay to be different — that’s what makes you unique.”

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
- **EXPLAIN:** provide why and/ or how.
- **DISCUSS:** Identify issues and provide points for and/or against.
- **COMPOSE:** Develop and/or produce spoken, written or multimodal texts in print, visual, oral or digital forms.

Check the NESAs 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 One 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**, made up of 5 minutes of reading time and 60 minutes of writing time.

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

- The units: Personal Voice and Identity (Term 1), and Creating Stories (Term 2).
- Different figurative language techniques and their effects (similes, metaphors, hyperbole, inclusive language, rhetorical questions etc).
- How to answer short answer style questions.
- The narrative arc and how action can develop in a story.
- How to write descriptively and in correct tense.
- How messages, morals, values and ethics can be communicated in a story.
- Students should plan a rough character or story with a meaning, and practice adapting that story to both stimuli.

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.

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 One Exam will allow students to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts studied in the first two 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 Semester 2. 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 One report outcomes-

- *Describes language forms and features, and embeds textual evidence within sentences to support their articulation of ideas in texts..*
- *Composes an imaginative text, using effective language choices, that explores a key theme and develops a central complication or conflict.*

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.