

Task 2: Semester One Exam

Due Date: Week 5A

Wednesday 20th May, 2026 (p1-2)

(During the Semester One Examination Period)

Task Distributed: Monday 4th May, 2026

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

Task Type: 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 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 '*A Glimpse into the Future*' (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 and imaginative writing skills.

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 Literature*'. 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.

Students will be given ONE of the following stimulus prompts on the day of the exam-

The first thing they took was the sound of my mother's laugh, and the silence it left behind was louder than anything I'd ever heard.

OR

I am the only person left who can be alone—and that is why they are trying to kill me.

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 and reviewed the key concepts in the 'Conflicting Voices' unit from Term 1
- I have studied and reviewed the key concepts in the 'Dystopian' Creative Writing unit from Term 2
- I have revised my knowledge of literary devices and their effects, focusing on the conventions of Dystopian Literature
- I have practised deconstructing questions to help me understand how to address them effectively
- I have practised PETAR paragraphs
- I will remember "marks = minutes"

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 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 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, specific to the Dystopian genre*

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.