

# Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January

**What are we learning?**

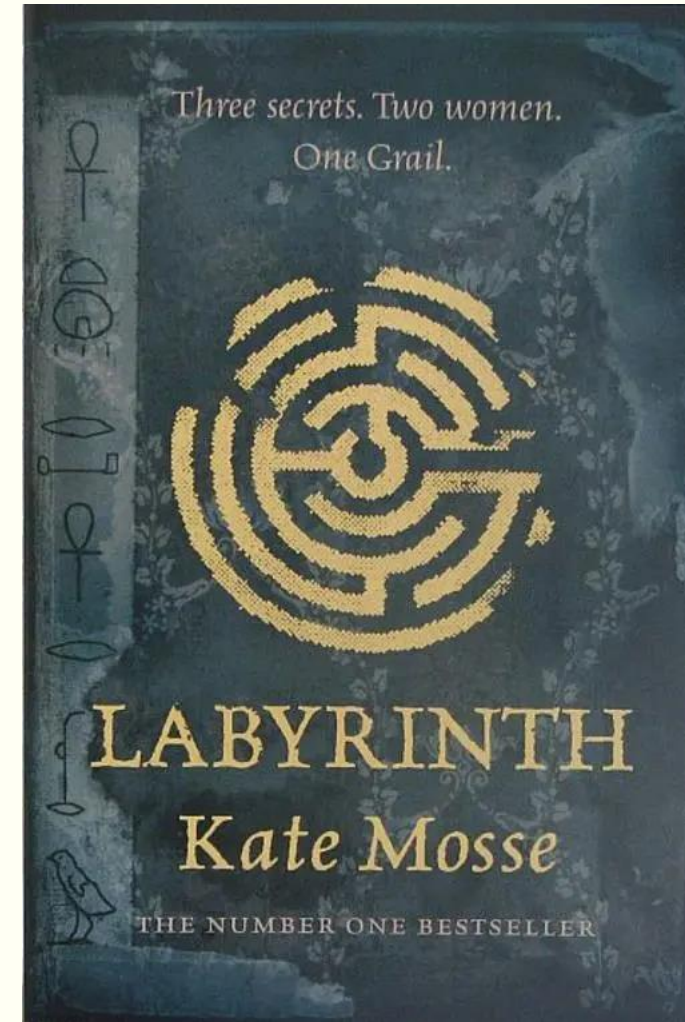
How to improve our *active reading skills*.

**Why?**

To prepare for our PPEs

**Words**

Pre-reading, Five Ws,  
Structure



# Term 3 Weekly Focus -

10/1/22	- ACC revision
17/1/22	- ACC and Anthology Poetry
24/1/22	- Language Paper 1
31/1/22	- Language Paper 1
7/2/22	- Language Paper 1
14/2/22	<b>PPEs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English Language Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb</li><li>• English Literature Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb</li></ul>
HALF-TERM	- REVISION
28/2/22	- PPEs continue

# Language Paper 1 - Reading

In this lesson we are going to think about how to use **the 15 minutes reading time effectively** for Language Paper 1.

The main ideas we will be looking at are:

1. Pre-reading
2. Five W's
3. Structure



Copy these into  
your book.

# Making the most of your 15 minutes reading time...

Source A

Alex told Alex with his parents and two younger sisters, Andrea and Nicole, in a small American town, but when his mother becomes ill, family life changes beyond recognition.

1 Alexander told awakened at dawn, startled by a nightmare. He had been dreaming that an enormous black bird had crept against the window with a cluster of shattered glass, flown into the house, and landed on his mother. In the dream, he had watched helplessly as it clamped her clothing in its yellow claws, flew out the same broken window, and disappeared into a sky heavy with dark clouds. *Distress and fear happened to his mother*

2 What had awakened him was the noise from the storm, wind beating the trees, rain on the roof, and thunder. He turned on the light with a sensation of being adrift in a boat, and pushed closer to the bulk of the large dog sleeping beside him. He pictured the roaring Pacific Ocean a few blocks from his house, spilling a furious sea against the rocks. He lay listening to the storm and thinking about the black bird and about his mother, waiting for the pounding in his chest to die down. He was still tangled in the images of his bad dream. *Angry waves = waves*

Alexander looked at the clock, 6.30, time to get up. Outside, it was beginning to get light. He decided that this was going to be a terrible day, one of those days when if a best to stay in bed because everything is going to turn out bad. There had been a lot of days like that since his mother got sick, sometimes for air in the house felt heavy, like being at the bottom of the sea.

At breakfast, Alex was not in the mood to assist his father in making pancakes. His father was not exactly a good cook, the only thing he knew how to do was pancakes, and they always turned out like rubber tyre tortillas. His children didn't want to hurt his feelings, so they pretended to eat them, but any time he wasn't looking, they spit them out, kindness towards dad.

3 "What's Momma going to get better?" Nicole asked, trying to spear a rubbery pancake with her fork.

"Shut up, Nicole," Alex replied.

"Momma's going to die," Andrea added.

"Liar! She's not going to die!" shrieked Nicole.

4 "You two are just kids. You don't know what you're talking about!" Alex exclaimed.

Here, girls. Quiet now. Momma is going to get better," his father interrupted, without much conviction.

Alex was angry with his father, his sisters, life in general - even with his mother for getting sick. He rushed out of the kitchen, ready to leave without breakfast. *Rage and fury*

5 Except for his father's pancakes and an occasional tuna-and-mayonnaise sandwich, no one in the family had cooked for months. There was nothing in the refrigerator but orange juice, milk and ice cream; at night they ordered pizza or Chinese food. At first it was almost like a party, because each of them ate whatever and whatever they pleased, mainly sweets, but by now everyone missed the balanced diet of normal times. *Unhealthy lack nutrients.*

Insert to Paper 1

Annotations:

- Focus = Alex and his mind
- Focus = weather
- Focus = Alexander
- Focus = Characters (family)
- Focus = mother
- Focus = Alex, fury
- Focus = Alex

Other notes:

- Focus mean = boy and his mind
- Focus = weather = waves
- Angry waves = waves
- Feel supported
- Focus = Alexander
- Focus = Characters (family)
- Focus = mother
- Focus = Alex, fury
- Focus = Alex

Other phrases:

- END OF SOURCE
- Nutritious
- Focus - Back to mother

Other notes:

- Always taken by a witch
- Color Score - water rain
- Nothing was good anymore
- Conversation by Alex and Andrea
- Wanted to get away

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Handwritten notes on the right page:

- She used to always be happy and excited but now she's really down but it's normal.
- Focus = Alex

## The importance of reading time:

- What do you notice about these annotated exam papers?

# Active Reading 1 - Pre-reading

This involves looking ahead at the exam paper questions **before** reading the insert to help focus your reading.

The first step involves reading the information given to you on page one and at the beginning of the extract.

Read and underline **key information** about the text (name, author, when written, text-type, where it is set, etc)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

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### Insert

The source that follows is:

Source A: 21<sup>st</sup> Century prose-fiction

*Labyrinth* by Kate Mosse

An extract from a novel written in 2005.

### Source A

Alice, a university student, has volunteered to help on an archaeological dig looking for any evidence of the past. She is in the Pyrenees Mountains in France during her summer holidays.

# Active Reading 1 - Pre-reading

**Now look at the question paper.**

Identify the section you will be looking at for Question 4.

Look at the information from the 'reader' – **what do you learn about the main ideas in text?**

Write what you find at the top of the insert.

0	4
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Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from line 21 to the end.

A reader said, 'This part of the story, where Alice decides to continue digging for the object, is very mysterious, and suggests her discovery may be life-changing.'

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

- consider the reasons why Alice decides to continue digging
- evaluate how the writer creates a sense of mystery
- support your response with references to the text.

[20 marks]

# Active Reading 1 - Pre-reading

You can also identify the section you will be looking at for Question 2.

Draw a box around this section on the insert.

0 2

Look in detail at this extract, from **lines 5 to 11** of the source:

It's her first time in the Pyrenees, although she feels very much at home. She's been told that in the winter the jagged peaks of the mountains are covered with snow. In the spring, delicate flowers of pink and mauve and white peep out from their hiding places in the great expanses of rock. In early summer, the pastures are green and speckled with yellow buttercups. But now, the sun has flattened the land into submission, turning the greens to brown. It is a beautiful place, she thinks, yet somehow an inhospitable one. It's a place of secrets, one that has seen too much and concealed too much to be at peace with itself.

How does the writer use language here to describe the mountain area?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

[8 marks]

Alice, a university student, has volunteered to help on an archaeological dig looking for any evidence of the past. She is in the Pyrenees Mountains in France during her summer holidays.

1 Alice unscrews the top of her water bottle. It's warm, but she's too thirsty to care and drinks it down in great gulps. Below, the heat haze shimmers above the dented tarmac of the road. Above her, the sky is an endless blue. The cicadas\* keep up their unrelenting  
4 chorus, hidden in the shade of the dry grass.

5 It's her first time in the Pyrenees, although she feels very much at home. She's been told that in the winter the jagged peaks of the mountains are covered with snow. In the spring, delicate flowers of pink and mauve and white peep out from their hiding places in the great expanses of rock. In early summer, the pastures are green and speckled with yellow  
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11 secrets, one that has seen too much and concealed too much to be at peace with itself.

In the main camp on the lower slopes, Alice can see her colleagues standing under the big canvas awning. She can just pick out Shelagh in her trademark black outfit. She's  
15 surprised they've stopped already. It's early in the day to be taking a break, but then the whole team is a bit demoralised.

It's painstaking and monotonous work for the most part, the digging and scraping, the cataloguing and recording, and so far they've turned up little of significance to justify their efforts. They've come across a few fragments of medieval pots and bowls, and a couple of  
20 late twelfth- or early thirteenth-century arrowheads, but certainly no evidence of the Stone Age village which is the focus of the excavation.

21 Alice is tempted to go down and join her friends and colleagues. Her calves are already aching from squatting. The muscles in her shoulders are tense. But she knows that if she stops now, she'll lose her momentum.

25 Hopefully, her luck's about to change. Earlier, she'd noticed something glinting beneath a large boulder, propped against the side of the mountain, neat and tidy, almost as if it had been placed there by a giant hand. Although she can't make out what the object is, even how big it is, she's been digging all morning and she doesn't think it will be much longer before she can reach it.

30 She knows she should fetch someone. Or at least tell Shelagh, her best friend, who is the deputy on the dig. Alice is not a trained archaeologist, just a volunteer spending some of her summer holiday doing something worthwhile. But it's her last full day on site and she wants to prove herself. If she goes back down to the main camp now and admits she's on to something, everybody will want to be involved, and it will no longer be her discovery.

35 In the days and weeks to come, Alice will look back to this moment. She will remember the quality of the light, the dust in her mouth, and wonder at how different things might have been had she made the choice to go and not stay. If she had played by the rules.

She drains the last drop of water from the bottle and tosses it into her rucksack. For the next hour or so, as the sun climbs higher in the sky and the temperature rises, Alice carries on working. The only sounds are the scrape of metal on rock, the whine of insects and the  
40 occasional buzz of a light aircraft in the distance.

\* cicadas – small winged insects which make a clicking song-like noise

Read the text slowly and carefully – spend 5 to 10 minutes on this.



# Active Reading - 2 The Five 'W's

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Make **notes** on the insert in answer to the following questions:

- **Who?** Main characters – what do we learn about them (age, gender, motivation, etc)?
- **Where?** Country, area, inside/outside, buildings, rooms, vehicle, etc?
- **When?** Historical period, year, time of year, time of day, etc?
- **What?** What is going on? What happens?
- **Why?** Why do the characters do what they do? What is their motivation?

# Active Reading - 3 Structure

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## Focus on how the text is structured.

- **Number the paragraphs**
- **Highlight the first sentence of each paragraph**
- **Give each paragraph, or section, a brief label (eg *Alice drinking – scenery*) for the first paragraph.**
- **Where can you see any conflict? How is tension created?**
- **What do you notice about any shifts in focus (places, people, time, mood)? Beginning/ending? Patterns? Repetition?**

**Section A: Reading**

Answer **all** questions in this section.  
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

0 1

Read again the first part of the source, from **lines 1 to 4**.

List **four** things about Alice and her surroundings from this part of the source. **[4 marks]**

1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How many  
marks?  
How many  
minutes?

What do you have  
to do?

—  
4

## Q1 Mark your answers

- Alice has a water bottle
- Alice drinks water in great gulps
- There is a heat haze
- There is a road below her
- The tarmac on the road is dented
- The sky is an endless blue
- The cicadas are hidden in the shade
- The grass is dry