



STATE

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2021

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS
IN YEARS 9, 10 & 11



ENGLISH

TEAM NUMBER _____

1	2	3	4	5	Total	Rank
/10	/10	/10	/15	/6	/51	

QUESTION ONE

SENTENCE STRUCTURE

10 MARKS

Your challenge is to create a number of different sentences using the words allocated for each one. Each sentence must reflect the key concept of 'Chance'.

- a. Create a **complex sentence** using the words: car, road and mountains. (2 marks)

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Requirement	Mark	Mark
All 3 words used to create a sentence about chance	0	1
Correct form for a complex sentence	0	1
Total		

- b. Create a **compound sentence** using the words: dice, six, hope. (2 marks)

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Requirement	Mark	Mark
All 3 words used to create a sentence about chance	0	1
Correct form for a compound sentence	0	1
Total		

c. Create a **truncated sentence** using the words: second, life. (2 marks)

Requirement	Mark	Mark
Both words used to create a sentence about chance	0	1
Correct form for a truncated sentence	0	1
Total		

d. Create an **exclamatory sentence** using the words: final, angry, rejection. (2 marks)

Requirement	Mark	Mark
All 3 words used to create a sentence about chance	0	1
Correct form for an exclamatory sentence	0	1
Total		

e. Create an **imperative sentence** using the words: Remember, danger, many. (2 marks)

Requirement	Mark	Mark
All 3 words used to create a sentence about chance	0	1
Correct form for an imperative sentence	0	1
Total		

QUESTION TWO

POETRY ANALYSIS – ‘CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF POEMS’

10 MARKS

Read the following poem about chance and respond the questions.

Cloudy with a chance of poems By Lawrence Schimel

The Weatherman predicts
a partially sunny day.
But the Poet doesn't care
if it rains or if the sun shines;
there's poetry in every kind of weather.
An idea for a poem
blows in like a sudden storm,
words dropping into the Poet's mind
in a clear, quick rhythm
like the pitter-pat of rain
against the rooftop.
An image seen in the shadow of a cloud
suddenly sparks another poem
quick as lightning forking the sky.
Fair weather or foul,
the Poet welcomes all possibilities.
The Poet predicts today will be
a day with a chance of poems.

Question	Response
a. What well-known saying is the poem playing with? (1 mark)	
b. What literary device is this? (1 mark)	

c. What technique is 'but'? (1 mark)	
d. Select one of the similes in the poem and explain why it is effective? (1 mark)	
e. The entire poem plays with the comparison of the chance of a poem to the weather. What is this literary device? (1 mark)	
f. Find an example of onomatopoeia. (1 mark)	
g. Find an example of sibilance. (1 mark)	
h. Provide THREE reasons why this is an effective poem. You must provide textual evidence. (3 marks)	

QUESTION THREE

SHORT STORY RESPONSE – A SECOND CHANCE

10 MARKS

The following short story is about discovering that there are second chances in life. “A Second Chance” by Anne Davey won a Newcastle Morning Herald short story competition. Read the story and provide responses to the questions that follow.

Newcastle Herald short story: A Second Chance

by Anne Davy

DON wiped his paintbrush on the tin hooked to his ladder and boldly stroked the cobalt across the rough brick.

It was his third day and he was gaining in confidence. This was the last square in the chalked grid at the top. He gathered his brushes and rollers and carefully climbed down.

Removing his old paint-splattered cap from his bristled head he mopped his forehead and stretched his aching leg.

Don stepped back to survey the mural and his shoulder met chipped brick.

This alley curved around to meet King Street. It was a local shortcut and he'd often used it when on the town in his younger days. He suppressed a grin.

“Makes a change from painting walls,” muttered Dylan as he squatted down to daub on flaming orange.

This job had been his idea. He'd met the Melbourne artist at his pub. She'd been looking for locals to complete this commission. He'd often wondered how these murals were constructed.

Don lowered himself down onto a battered old milk-crate, hearing it groan beneath his weight. Taking the makings from his pocket he rolled a smoke studying the work. He narrowed his eyes and focused on the gap in the grid. Miranda had given strict instructions to leave this bit for her to finish. He reached into the back pocket of his faded jeans and unfolded the artist's sketch. It needed just a few brush-strokes for the shoulder and eyes. If it were up to him he would close that right eye in a saucy wink. He liked the exaggeration of the perspective, it made the woman's shoulder seemed to jump out.

They were interrupted by the crunch of boots on gravel as Miranda made her way towards them. Miranda was something, in her thirties, tall with long chestnut hair tied beneath her colourful scarf.



She reminded him of the girl at the art school in Sydney before his call-up to Vietnam in '68. Cecily, that was her name.

He hurriedly stuffed the paper in his jeans and reached for the paint tin in Miranda's hands. "Here, let me open it for you."

As he crouched down to lever up the lid the pain ripped through him. Not again. It must be the ladder work. He eased himself up and leaned against the bricks until the pain in his thigh settled to a dull throb. Dylan had set up the scaffold and they watched Miranda paint.

She'd chosen a stark white for the lower half of the face with dark, madder lips and grey tones for the shoulder. The space for the right eye was blank, hollow, creepy really. He studied the long, sharp angled line dividing the face. Genius. It almost looked like torchlight pinned her.

Miranda clambered down from the scaffold and enveloped him in a hug. She smelt of shampoo, soap and sunshine. His heart beat erratically. He couldn't stop himself from beaming.

"Where's mine?" laughed Dylan.

"You're not the true artist, Don is," she answered smartly. "His work is perfect. Don't think I missed the small changes from the sketch. Glad you picked it up. My fault. Busy with the kids that day."

This, with a warm smile for Don as she handed him an envelope plump with cash.

"There is bonus in it as well. I've included my card as I have other commissions you might like." She grasped Don's hand and held it firmly. "I would like to work with you again."

Dylan, dismantling the scaffold and collecting the paint tins and the esky, couldn't resist a dig, "Think you won a heart there chief."

They loaded the truck in silence. During the short drive to Dylan's place he thought about the mural.

He returned the wave from Dylan's mum and headed for home. It didn't feel much like home now since Deidre, his childhood sweetheart, had passed 18 months ago. They had married young, soon after his return from Saigon. He'd spent months recuperating from his shrapnel.

Turning into the familiar street with the old pub on the corner he felt like a man coming to the end of something. The first spits of rain broke on the glass.

Framed by the windscreen, a flock of cockatoos screeching and squabbling flew low directly in front of the truck, their white feathers imprinted on the glowering sky. What a painting that would make.

He'd dig out his easel and the old sketch-books from Vietnam. Maybe he could go back to art school. He was approaching retirement and his injuries were causing him lost time.

Perhaps it was time to start a new life.

Question	Response
a. How do you know that Don has suffered in life? (2 marks)	
b. Find an example of tricolon. (1 mark)	
c. Find an example of a simile and explain why it is effective. (2 marks)	
d. What is the significance of the line "The first spits of rain broke on the glass."? (1 mark)	
e. Find an example of onomatopoeia. (1 mark)	
f. Find an example of sibilance. (1 mark)	
g. The final line is very predictable and clichéd. Provide a far more	

effective final line and
explain why you have
ended the story this way.
(2 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

MICRO-STORY – A SECOND CHANCE

15 MARKS

The short story you have just read is about how we all have more than one chance at finding happiness, a new career or a new pathway that fills us with hope and optimism.

Your challenge is to compose a micro-story about second chances that features a haiku at the start to reflect symbolically the idea of second chances. The haiku must use the image of the cockatoos used in the previous short story. You must also use a powerful final line that is original and highly effective. It could link back into the haiku.

Please ensure that you do not use more than the lines provided.

Haiku

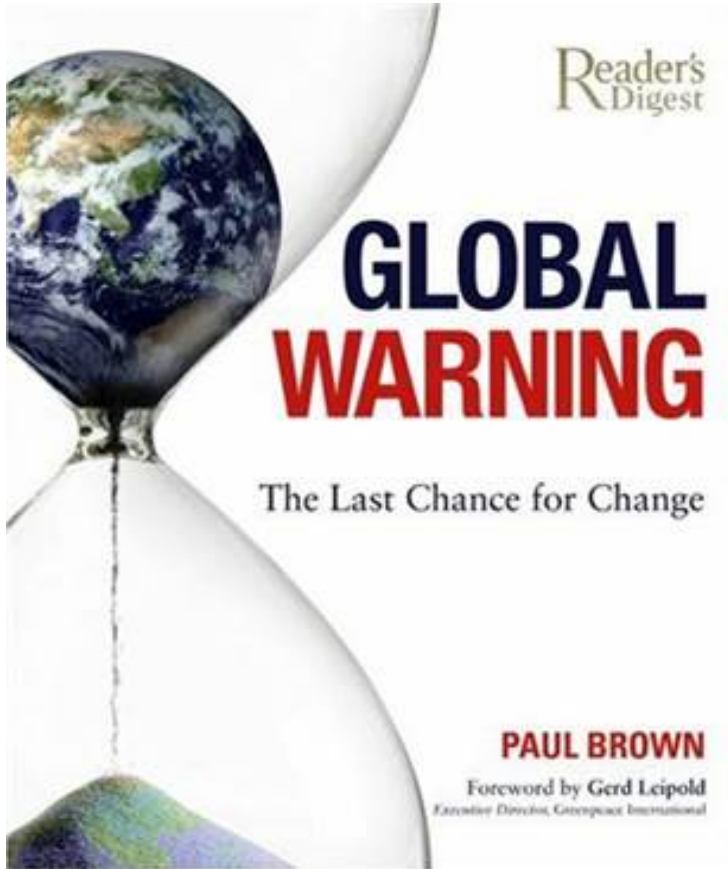
Micro-story

QUESTION FIVE

VISUAL REPRESENTATION

6 MARKS

View the following images and respond to the set questions.



QUESTION	RESPONSE	MARKS
a. Describe TWO ways that the global climate change poster represents the last chance for change? You must include visual techniques.		/2

b. Describe TWO ways that the film poster represents the title? You must include visual techniques.		<i>12</i>
c. If you were asked to provide another image for the climate change poster what would it be and why?		<i>12</i>

END OF PAPER