

VCE English Unit 3 Exam Preparation & Exam Technique

Over the past couple of years, you have not had the opportunities to participate in the number of examination cycles that are normally part and parcel of preparing students for the end of the year VCE Units 3&4 exams.

Please make sure that you make the most of this opportunity to make sure that you are the best prepared for the exams at the end of the year.

**DOING WELL IN EXAMS IS AS MUCH ABOUT HOW YOU PREPARE FOR
THE EXAM AS IT IS ABOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

VCE English Unit 3 Exam Preparation & Exam Technique

RULE #1:

**DON'T
PANIC!**

VCE English Unit 3 Exam Preparation

There are 3 main things that you need to keep in mind in relation to preparing for your upcoming English Exam

1. KNOW “YOUR STUFF”

2. KNOW WHAT TO DO

3. KNOW WHEN TO DO IT

(... simple really, isn't it ...

...well ... seems so ... but it still means you have to work at it ...)

VCE English Unit 3

Exam Preparation:

KNOW “YOUR STUFF”

This is probably the most obvious point to make, but it is also the one that often is not approached as well as it should be:

- ❑ FIRST of all – there is an assumption that you have done and understood the classwork relating to *False Claims Of Colonial Thieves*, and **Argument and persuasive language (Analysing Argument)**

- ❑ **DO NOT JUST READ THROUGH YOUR CLASS NOTES**

- ❑ You should have already summarised your work down to the themes studied and quote sheets in *False Claims ...* and the PLT’s for **Argument and persuasive language** – **USE THESE AS YOUR**

- STUDY NOTES**

- ❑ If you have not summarised your notes, you need to do this asap
- ❑ Please also look at the “Study hints” that are included in the next slides

VCE English Unit 3

Exam Preparation:

KNOW WHAT TO DO

Structure of the Exam:

The exam is divided into three sections:

SECTION 1 – **Analytical interpretation of a text**
20 marks *(recommended time : 1 hour)*

SECTION 2 – **Argument and persuasive language**
20 marks *(recommended time : 1 hour)*

SECTION 1: Analytical interpretation of a text

Instructions for Section 1:

- Section 1 requires students to write an analytical interpretation of a selected text in response to **one** topic (either i. or ii.) on **one** text.
- Your response should be supported by close reference to the selected text.
- If your selected text is a collection of poetry or short stories, you may write on several poems or stories, or on **at least two** in close detail.
- Indicate which text you have chosen to write on and whether you have chosen to answer i. or ii.
- Your response will be assessed according to the assessment criteria set out on page XX of this book.
- Section 1 is worth one-half of the total marks for this examination.

Task:

Plan and write up a response to one of the prompts provided (approx. 650+ words)

STUDY HINT:

- Go over your revision/study notes (1 page per theme) for *False Claims Of Colonial Themes* & your study sheet for your first SAC
- Revisit a your quote banks (try to keep to less than 10 or so words) – up to 5 per theme

SECTION 2: Argument and persuasive language

Instructions for Section 2:

- Section 2 requires students to write an analysis of the ways in which argument and language are used to persuade others to share a point(s) of view.
- Read the background information on this page and the material on pages XX - XX, and write an analytical response to the task below.
- For the purposes of this task, the term 'language' refers to written, spoken and visual language.
- Your response will be assessed according to the assessment criteria set out on page XX of this book.
- Section 2 is worth one-half of the total marks for this examination.

Task:

To plan out and write an expository analysis of the articles supplied (approx. 650+ words)

STUDY HINTS:

- ❑ Please refer to your recent work from term 2 and your preparation for our Analysing Argument SAC

VCE English Unit 3

Exam Technique:

KNOW WHEN TO DO IT

TIME MANAGEMENT IN EXAM

READING TIME (15 MINUTES):

1. READ BOTH PROMPTS FOR SECTION 1 – CHOOSE ONE
2. SPEND THE REST OF THE TIME READING THROUGH THE ARTICLES FOR SECTION 2

WRITING TIME (2 HOURS):

1. DIVIDE YOUR TIME INTO 2 X 1 HOUR PERIODS OF TIME
2. **FIRST ESSAY** – START OFF DOING SECTION 2
3. **SECOND ESSAY** – SECTION 1
4. ROUGH TIMING GUIDE FOR ALL SECTIONS
 - 15 MIN PLANNING
 - 40 MIN WRITING
 - 5 MIN REVIEW