

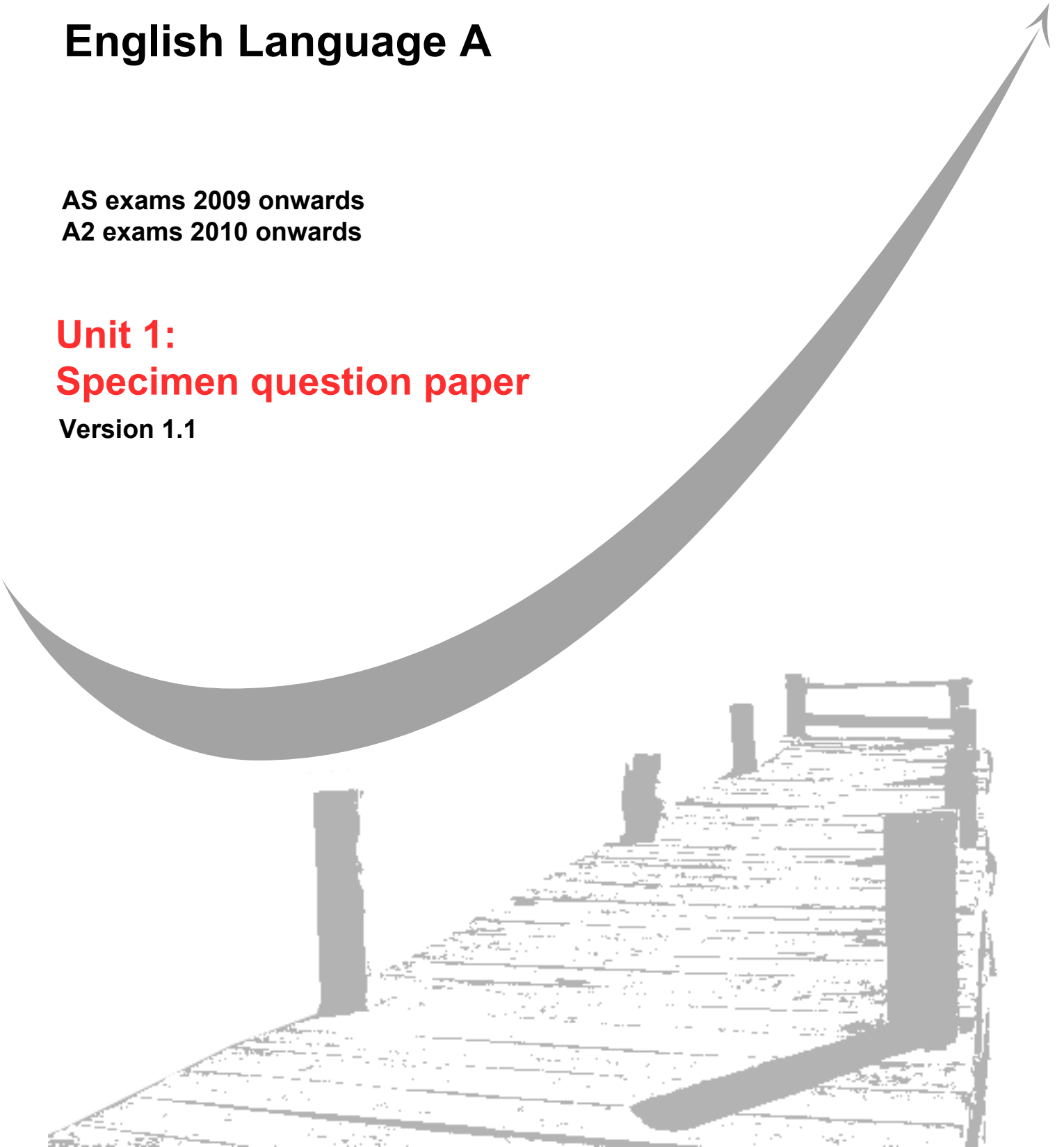
**GCE**  
**AS and A Level**

# English Language A

**AS exams 2009 onwards**  
**A2 exams 2010 onwards**

## **Unit 1:** **Specimen question paper**

**Version 1.1**



**ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SPECIFICATION A)**  
**Unit 1 Seeing through Language**

**ENGA1**

**For this paper you must have:**

- A 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 2 hours

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is ENGA1.
- There are **two** sections:  
**Section A:** Language and Mode  
**Section B:** Language Development.
- Answer Question 1 from Section A and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3 from Section B.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets. There are 45 marks for Question 1 and 45 marks for either Question 2 or Question 3.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- It is recommended that you spend 30 minutes on the reading and preparation of the data to be analysed in answering the questions. It is recommended that you then spend 45 minutes writing your Section A answer and 45 minutes writing your Section B answer.

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**SECTION A – Language and Mode**

 Answer Question 1
 

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**1 Text A** is an internet dialogue conducted via *MSN Messenger*. The participants are Pam and her son Max who is in Rome visiting a friend’s family before returning to Britain.

**Text B** is the introduction to the *Lonely Planet* tourist guide to Rome.

- Identify and describe the main mode characteristics of the texts.
- Examine how the participants in Text A and the writer of Text B use language to achieve their purposes and create meanings.

In your answer you should consider:

vocabulary and meanings  
 grammatical features and their effects  
 topics and how they are structured  
 interactive features of language in Text A  
 how the language of Text B addresses the reader and shapes their response.

(45 marks)

**Text A**

Time	From	To	Message	
18:29:27	Pam	Max	Pam sent the wink “Bouncy Ball” (1) <b>just wondering if you are on line?</b>	
18:29:30	Max	Pam	<b>I am</b>	
18:29:48	Max	Pam	<b>I was just writing you an email</b>	
18:29:55	Max	Pam	<b>but I can talk to you on here now</b>	5
18:30:07	Pam	Max	<b>Brill, I have never done this before. Have you got a room for the weekend?</b>	
18:30:24	Max	Pam	<b>I am going to be ok for accommodation in Rome</b>	
18:30:59	Max	Pam	<b>did I tell you that I am going to watch Milan-Rome in the San Siro on Sunday?</b>	10
18:31:03	Pam	Max	<b>Are you flying straight back to Manchester?</b>	
18:31:41	Max	Pam	<b>via Amsterdam, i fly from Rome to there and then to Manchester</b>	
18:32:00	Pam	Max	<b>Your dad will be mighty jealous. i will tell him. I suppose you want roma to win?</b>	15
18:32:19	Max	Pam	<b>of course</b>	
18:32:54	Max	Pam	<b>also i am going on a ski-ing excursion in France at Easter which should be a laugh eh</b>	

18:34:38	Pam	Max	<b>In rome it is very difficult to cross the road because the green men only last for two secs and it is best to have a nun with you</b>	20
18:35:27	Pam	Max	<b>Brill about the skiing. Whereabouts?</b>	
18:35:49	Max	Pam	<b>ok, thank you for that. i remember it was quite tricky when we were there this summer but luckily we will have a roman with us so it should be alright</b>	25
18:36:00	Max	Pam	<b>Risoul</b>	
18:36:14	Max	Pam	<b>type it into google and you can see a panoramic view</b>	30
18:37:10	Pam	Max	<b>Never heard of it. Sure it isn't Tamworth (2) in disguise?</b>	
18:37:26	Max	Pam	<b>lol. No</b>	
18:37:40	Max	Pam	<b>by the way mum, LOL means Laugh Out Loud</b>	35
18:39:15	Pam	Max	<b>OK, will load up google earth!</b>	
18:40:08	Pam	Max	<b>Glad you told me about LOL Julie sent it to me in a text</b>	
18:43:01	Pam	Max	<b>going now to cook tea. lovely to talk to you like this. I will try again! Take care. I love thinking about you doing all these exciting things x</b>	40
18:44:13	Max	Pam	<b>me too</b>	
18:44:17	Max	Pam	<b>speak to you soon</b>	
18:44:30	Max	Pam	<b>much love to you and dad and girls and boys</b>	45
18:44:32	Max	Pam	<b>x</b>	

*Source: Private data*

**Line 1:** The wink “Bouncy Ball” is an animation sent to the screen of the other participant.

**Line 31:** There is an indoor skiing centre in Tamworth.

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**Text B****Rome**

“I now realise all the dreams of my youth,” wrote German poet Goethe on his arrival in Rome in 1786. Perhaps Rome today is more chaotic, but certainly no less romantic or fascinating. In this city a phenomenal concentration of history, legends and monuments coexist with an equally phenomenal concentration of people going about everyday life. It is easy to pick the tourists, because they are the only ones who turn their heads as the bus passes the Coliseum

Modern-day Rome is a busy city of about four million residents and, as the capital of Italy, it is the centre of national government. Tourists usually spend their time in the historic centre, thereby avoiding the sprawling, architecturally anonymous suburbs. While the look of central Rome is most obviously defined by the Baroque style of the many fountains, churches and palaces, there are also ancient monuments, beautiful churches and buildings of medieval, Gothic and Renaissance periods.

Realistically, a week is probably a reasonable amount of time to explore the city. Whatever time you devote to Rome, put on your walking shoes, buy a good map and plan your time carefully, and the city will seem less overwhelming than it first appears. It is best to avoid Rome during August, when the weather is suffocatingly hot and humid, making sightseeing an unpleasant pastime. Most Romans head for the beaches or mountains at this time, leaving half the city closed down.

*Source: Lonely Planet Guide to Italy (2003)*

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**SECTION B – Language Development**

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3

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**EITHER**

- 2 (a) Read **Data Set 1** below. Comment linguistically on **five** features of language use which you find of interest.

*(10 marks)*

- (b) How far do children acquire their language skills by imitating adults?

In your answer you should:

refer to particular linguistic features and contexts  
 refer to appropriate linguistic research and theory  
 present a clear line of argument.

*(35 marks)***Data Set 1**

(Toby is two years old)

<b>Father</b>	are you going to France
<b>Toby</b>	wa
<b>Father</b>	are you going to France (.) for your holiday
<b>Toby</b>	yeh
<b>Father</b>	where are you going
<b>Toby</b>	Fwance
<b>Father</b>	how (2) you're going on a hovercraft (.) aren't you
<b>Toby</b>	yeh
<b>Father</b>	say hovercraft
<b>Toby</b>	howcwaft
<b>Father</b>	who are you going to see in France
<b>Toby</b>	Kit and Charlo <sup>1</sup>
<b>Father</b>	who else
<b>Toby</b>	Pa' an O'in <sup>2</sup> (3) goin in bowit
<b>Father</b>	what kind of boat
<b>Toby</b>	wha kine will i be (.) wha kine will i be (2) big b (.) big boat

**Key**

<sup>1</sup> Kate and Charlotte

<sup>2</sup> Pat and Owen

OR

- 3 (a) Read **Data Set 2** below. Comment linguistically on **five** features of language use which you find of interest. (10 marks)
- (b) Examine some of the language issues which arise when children begin to make the transition from spoken to written mode.

In your answer you should:

refer to particular linguistic features and contexts  
 refer to appropriate linguistic research and theory  
 present a clear line of argument.

(35 marks)

**Data Set 2**

(The writer is aged 4 years and 10 months.)

I made a time macine. I tuc me to London bac in time.  
 it was darc and silent. Idecided to camp. I had a tent with me.  
 it was cold out side. under me tent ter was a funy noie it whent  
 woowoo. I cep wcking up and the woo cept going on.  
 I wowe up in the moning I whent to buy som brecfest and when I  
 got out of the I Sor a Gost I wheintto the timemachine.  
 I got home and when to bed

**Key**

e - letters reversed in the original

*Source: Private Data*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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