



ENGLISH LANGUAGE REVISION

Focus: To improve you must use a full range of sentence forms for effect.

THERAPY:

In exam, you will be tested on your writing skills. As part of **AO6 (technical accuracy)** you need to demonstrate that you can use a full range of appropriate sentence forms for effect. These need to be accurately punctuated. In the exam too many students use the same opening word for many of their sentences- this is usually I or the. They also use too many short sentences or long sentences. This means that you are not crafting your writing which will get you the highest marks.

TASK:

Read the following extract, what do you think of the sentences that the student has used? How can they improve their writing?

I didn't see them at first in the darkness, which was descending as I set off at a brisk pace from the station towards the lights of the city. Then I noticed that they were following me so I began to increase my pace almost without thinking. Behind me I could hear their steps speed up too, so I increased mine again, beginning to panic, and then began to be aware of something else. I had been wrong about the road, too, as it led nowhere, and there was just a dead end with no escape.

TASK:

Now read the improved version, how has the student improved it?

I didn't see them at first. Gradually, the darkness descended as I set off at a brisk pace from the station towards the lights of the city-towards safety. Harsh footsteps echoed in the biting air; I noticed that they were following me. Increasing my pace, almost without thinking, I focused on the lights. Behind me, I could hear their steps speed up, too, so I increased mine, beginning to panic, and then began to be aware of something else. Desperate, I had been wrong about the road as it led nowhere. There was just a dead end. No escape.

TEST:

Task: Read the sentences below. Consider how you could improve them- aim to use different ways to open and close them. You can either add an additional sentence with a semicolon or a word, phrase or clause with a dash. You can also add additional vocabulary but you must keep all of the words of the original sentence.



The moon was high in the night sky

The sky covered the beach in darkness.....

The sea rolled on to the beach.....

Soft sounds filled the air.....

He walked across the beach.....

She followed him.....

Footsteps were left in the sand.....

Reaching out she touched his shoulder.....

Together they escaped.....

SELF REVIEW:

Reread your sentences- are they accurate? Have you used a range of sentences? What effects have they created?

Return to the Paper 1 that you completed this term. Find places where you could change the sentences for effect.