

Language Paper 1, Question 5

START: A paragraph planning resource for creative writing

First, decide where 'you' are in the image and the atmosphere and attitude you want to evoke. Then, START.

Sky	Begin this paragraph with a single word sentence. Then use an extended metaphor: <i>'Chaos. Perpetual chaos. The sky was a deafening scream; a piercing shout; a metaphysical yell.'</i>
Tiny features of the scene (zoom in)	On the... On one side... On the other side... Scattered about the... wereon which...
Away (zoom out)	Everything... All... Outside... It was a place / palace of... It was a time of..... and of..... and of..... It was a space that...
Reaction of weather, person, animal	Begin this paragraph with a form of repetition: <i>'It was choked in rain; black rain; sorry rain; tears of rain; rain that covered and dulled everything and nothing'</i> . Here, something small happens to you or a character or the weather.
To.... was to..... One sentence paragraph	e.g. <i>'To wander these streets was to subject oneself to the dismal reality of humanity.'</i> <i>'To be here was to be in a perpetual utopia'</i> <i>'To stare at the sky was to stare at the infinite darkness of my inescapable future'</i>

Writing Nuts and Bolts

1	Use full stops and capital letters. Every sentence. Every time.
2	Plan using 'START' before you <i>start</i> .
3	Make your writing fill a minimum of two pages and a maximum of three.
4	When you start a new paragraph, miss a line or indent.
5	Use at least full stops, commas and semi-colons. Correctly.
6	Use short simple sentences.
7	Use longer, complex sentences.
8	Include 'Versatile Vocabulary' in every paragraph (p.7).
9	Use the 'Big Hitter' Techniques (p.8).
10	If you think you're finished, you're not! Re-read, edit and re-read again; use the whole allotted 45 minutes.