GCSE Paper 1 – Section a

Timed practice feedback, year 10/11, NHO’s class

**“1984” – model answer**

***Question 2***

***NB – only focus on the passage – “vile winds” is NOT in the passage, it’s earlier! Follow instructions!***

Orwell’s use of senses – “boiled cabbage”, unpleasant

Sense of sight – poster, repetition of “face” – this is dominating image – adjectives “enormous”

Some simple sentences – slow, drab – “it was no use trying the lift.” Feels sort of lifeless.

It’s the **opening** of novel – look for narrative **“hooks”** to “catch you” – eg the **enigma** surrounding “Hate week” – not explained what this is, negative

“Enormous face gazed” – repetition of enormous, personification of gazed

BIG BROTHER – capitalised, makes it seem threatening, loud, dominating

Some longer, complex sentences can create a slow pace, supported by negative words – adverb like “slowly”, “resting”

**Question 3**

**NB: This is STRUCTURE, not language. Don’t talk about language in detail here!**

Starts with famous opening line – sense of time that is **typical of opening of novel**, but strange, as clocks don’t strike thirteen, only 12

First focus is **close up** on single person – “chin nuzzled”

**Attention shifts** to the building which he enters – Victory Mansions, wider focus on PLACE, not PERSON

**Passage focuses on long journey upstairs** and introduces idea of poster and Big Brother. Focus on stairs, life and the tough journey

**Next passage is INSIDE the flat** and we are introduced to the telescreen. **Focus Shifts** between **PLACE** and physical description of **PERSON** (Winston) to help us sympathise with him – “smallish” , “frail”

**Finishes with PLACE**: looking OUT of flat at the **OUTSIDE** – “every corner”, “street level”, “helicopter”, finishes ominously/mysteriously with the “Thought Police”, focus is on the frightening **outside world**

**General feedback: no waffle, no intros or conclusions, make short, precise points, with one point for each paragraph, as above, but in full sentences. Be CHRONOLOGICAL on structure!**