**The Synthesis**

**The Hardest Part**

* The synthesis section is the hardest part of the exam
* It is worth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ % of the entire exam!
	+ 17 % -- multiple choice
	+ 30% -- essay
* You should devote 1hr and 25 min to the synthesis section (multiple choice and essay)

**Part B and C: The Synthesis**

* You will be asked to read \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ texts and answer multiple choice questions about each (14 in total)
* There will be *2 multiple choice questions* (about both texts together)
* There will be *one written response* (synthesis essay)
	+ You will need to *discuss both texts*

**A Synthesis is….**

* A true synthesis = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ideas from two different texts
* You will be given a prompt and you must find a way to talk about both texts in relation to the prompt.

**Hints for Success**

* *Before reading*
	+ Before starting section B or C, read the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the synthesis
	+ Write the prompt at the top of the page you are reading
		- This way you can refer back to it when reading and read with the prompt in mind
	+ Circle or underline any quotes that relate to the prompt
* *Before you start writing*
	+ Read the prompt carefully – make sure you understand what it is asking
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out your essay
		- Take 5 min to plan – it will pay off.
		- Exam day is not the time to finish early!
	+ Find quotes that will support your points
* *Introduction*
	+ Address the prompt
	+ Include the titles and authors of the texts
	+ Write a strong \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* *Body paragraphs*
	+ Be specific with your examples
	+ Give lots of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (one or two examples is not enough!)
	+ Don’t fence sit – it looks like you didn’t understand the text.
	+ Be obvious and make the link for the reader
	+ Use character names
* *Conclusion*
	+ Make sure you have a strong conclusion, which ties back to your introduction
	+ Don’t just \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your intro – you want to say something that makes an impact!

**Style**

* Focus on proper quote \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and citation.
	+ This is very important!
* Use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ words.
* Avoid contractions and personal pronouns.

**Method of Comparison**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Avoid block method of comparison
	+ Ex. A + B = AB
* This is not a synthesis!
 | * Use point by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ comparison
	+ Ex. 1AB, 2AB, 3AB
 |
| * Block Method
	+ Para 1 apples
		- Everything about apples
	+ Para 2 pears
		- Everything about pears
	+ Para 3 both
		- Comparing both pears and apples
 | * Point by Point Method
	+ Para 1
		- Apples and pears: texture
	+ Para 2
		- Apples and pears: taste
	+ Para 3
		- Apples and pears: colour
 |

**5 Types of Questions**

* 1. Compare/ Contrast
* 2. How would character X respond to character Y
* 3. Who is the better ….
* 4. Discuss similarities between X and Y
* 5. Assess (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**The Question**

* Read the question with care and identify the (1) **key \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and** (2) **key \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**
* Keep in mind that the exam marker *only* marks the responses to the key words in the question!

**Breaking Down the Question**

* **Assess** the **role** that **optimism plays in the lives of Jenny** in “Circus in Town” and **Chris Gardner** in “Happyness for Sale.”
* Assess = key verb
* Role/Optimism = key words
* Lives of Jenny and Chris Gardner = key words
* **“Assess”** — the key verb tells you how to structure your essay.
	+ For example, assess means to estimate the value of something based on some criteria and present a well-informed judgment.

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