

Throughout this course, you will build a portfolio of written tasks. There are two types of written tasks, known as written task 1 (WT1) and written task 2 (WT2). These are very different in nature. This unit we will only be focusing on WT1

Written task 1 is an 'imaginative piece' in which you demonstrate your understanding of the course work and a type of text. For example you could write a journalistic review of a speech that was studied in Part 1. Because the possibilities are endless, it is easy to write irrelevant work.

Remember: An essay is not an acceptable type of text for the written task 1. Students are encouraged to step into someone's shoes, explore a different role and practice writing different types of texts.

WT1 basic

- Written task 1s are between 800-1000 words long.
- Students must write a rationale of 200-300 words, explaining the decision making process behind the task. The rationale should offer the examiner the necessary background information for a good understanding of the task.
- For future WT1s that are submitted to IB, the teacher can give limited feedback.
- HL Students submit two tasks from their portfolio: one WT1 and one WT2.

What it is not	What it is
<p>A creative writing assignment WT1 is not the opportunity to write a fantastical short story, a hypothetical play script or a cryptic poem. If you want to write a new ending to a novel or a missing chapter, it has to be in the spirit of the author's intentions. WT1 is not solely the product of your imagination.</p>	<p>A type of text Instead, you have to show that you have understood a 'text type'. Each text has structural conventions. For example, if you write a speech, it has to have rhetorical devices that are characteristic of speech writing. Be sure that the text type lends itself well to the content you are writing about. Study a few examples of the text type that you want to write.</p>
<p>Out of context It is not enough to state in your rationale, "I'm writing a opinion column about advertising." In which magazine or newspaper does your column appear? Is it in the style of a particular columnist?</p>	<p>In context Place your WT1 in a context. For example, if you want to write an opinion column about advertising, write about a particular ad campaign that has received attention in the news. Imitate the style of a famous columnist. What would he/she say in response to a topic?</p>
<p>A persuasive essay WT1 is not a test of your opinion. This is not your chance to vent your frustrations about a particular topic that you feel passionate about.</p>	<p>An understanding of course work Instead, WT1 is a test of the course work. How will you demonstrate your understanding of language and/or literature? Is your written task rooted in a particular text?</p>
<p>A summary Examiners are not interested in reading the summary of a text that you read. This is not a 'book report'.</p>	<p>An interpretation There should be some evidence of critical thinking. For example, writing a letter from one character to another provides you the chance to show that you've understood the work thoroughly.</p>

The right ingredients

Although there is no one guaranteed recipe for a successful written task 1, you can avoid these 'pitfalls' by including all of the following ingredients:

- **Text type** - If you write a speech, your speech should look and sound like a speech. If you write a letter to the editor, it should look and sound like a letter to the editor. In other words, each type of text has its own set of stylistic and structural conventions. Ask yourself what characteristics define the type of text you plan to write.
- **Primary source** - Your written task should be rooted in a primary source that comes from our class. Be sure you comment on a primary text. If you looked at the representation of women in advertising, comment on an actual ad. If you looked at a political campaign, focus on one ad, website or poster.
- **Secondary source** - Since the written task is not an essay, you are not asked to give your personal opinion on a subject matter. Instead, you are expected to be knowledgeable on the subject matter or the literary text. Even the best opinion columns inform readers to a great extent. You want to prove to the examiner that you have understood the course work and you have done your homework! This can also be achieved through the rationale, where applicable terms and concepts can be explained. Find secondary sources that comment on the texts you have worked on. For example, if you explored women in advertising, you will want to find some statistics or articles on the effects of these ads on women.