Lord of the Flies sample exam questions

How to use this resource:

A useful revision activity is to practice planning a response to an exam question. Use the blank planning sheet to plan a response to a question of your choice.

You could also practice writing up parts of an essay or a whole essay and self -assessing your work using the checklist in the Study Skills booklet.

Practice makes perfect!

Sample Question 1:

"A stick sharpened at both ends". What does Golding have to say about the nature of evil in Lord of the Flies?

In your answer you could:

- Explore what Golding has to say about evil
- How Golding uses the boys and their behaviour to demonstrate ideas about evil

(30 marks)

Sample Question 2:

"Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart and the fall through the air of a true, wise friend called Piggy." What does Golding have to say about human nature in Lord of the Flies?

In your answer you could:

- Write about what Golding has to say about human nature
- How Golding presents these ideas by the way he writes

(30 marks)

Sample Question 3:

How does Golding present Simon as character who is very different to the other boys in Lord of the Flies?

In your answer you could:

- Write about what Simon does or says in the novel
- Write about the ideas Golding uses Simon to present

(30 marks)

Sample Question 4:

How far does Golding present Jack as a character who changes in Lord of the Flies? In your answer you could:

- Write about what Jack says and does
- Write about how far Golding presents Jack as a boy who changes

(30 marks)

Sample Question 5:

How far does Golding present the island as a dangerous place?

In your answer you could write about:

- what happens to the boys on the island
- how far Golding presents the island as a dangerous place.

(30 marks)

Sample Question 6:

At the start of Lord of the Flies, Piggy asks Ralph: 'Aren't there any grown-ups at all?'

How does Golding present ideas about being a 'grown-up' in Lord of the Flies?

Write about:

- what some of the ideas about being a 'grown-up' are
- how Golding presents these ideas by the ways he writes

(30 marks)

Sample Question 7:

'The head is for the Beast. It's a gift.'

How does Golding present the importance of the Beast to different characters in Lord of the Flies?

Write about:

- the ways that some characters react to the Beast
- how Golding presents the importance of the Beast

(30 marks)

Sample Question 8:

In Chapter 8 of Lord of the Flies Ralph asks, 'What makes things break up like they do?'

How does Golding present the reasons why society on the island breaks up?

Write about:

- what happens on the island
- how Golding presents the reasons why society on the island breaks up.

(30 marks)

Sample Question 9:

How far does Golding present Piggy as an important character in Lord of the Flies?

Write about:

- What Piggy says and does
- How far you agree Golding presents Piggy as an important character

(30 marks)