



How do I successfully complete Language Paper 1?

STARTER: READING THE EXTRACT

Begin by reading the extract you have been given.

It is taken from the beginning of a novel, 'Half of a Yellow Sun', published in 2006. The novel is set in Nigeria in 1960. Ugwu, a thirteen-year-old boy, is starting work as a cleaner for a University professor in the city.

You should spend 30-35 minutes carefully reading and annotating the extract, before completing any questions.



Compare the presentation of the
ceremony + the birth in 'The
Merchant's Tale'

Welcome to **BLISS**

At **BLISS**, we're proud to work closely with a carefully selected group of outstanding schools across the UK to offer short-term academic placements for international students. Whether you're considering a state or private school experience, we're here to guide you at every step. Here we explore our Academies, a popular, ever-growing alternative to the traditional boarding school model. Our Programmes run from 2 weeks to 6 Months all year round.

About the **UK**

The UK is a small but very popular country. Its rich culture, long history, and world-class universities have made it one of the top choices for international students for many years. There's something for everyone here – from beautiful countryside and lively cities like London, Manchester, and Edinburgh, to impressive buildings and historic landmarks. The weather is usually cold in autumn and winter, while spring and summer bring warmer, sunnier days. The UK is also known for being welcoming to people from all over the world.

Practical Information

- Age range: 14–18, with Sixth Form available.
- Curriculum: Focus on core academic subjects, plus creative arts, technology, and vocational options.
- Language support: While not detailed online, students new to English are typically supported on an individual basis. Online language lessons can be tailored with **BLISS** online
- Enrichment: Strong emphasis on the arts, workshops with visiting professionals, and extracurricular events.

English Education System

Level of Education	Age	School Year	Form
University	18 +	NA	NA
A Level / BTEC / 2nd Year	17 /18	13	Upper Sixth
A Level / BTEC / 1st Year	16/17	12	Lower Sixth
GCSE 2nd Year	15	11	Fifth
GCSE 1st Year	14	10	Fourth



School Overview

Coombeshead Academy is an 11–18 coeducational academy offering both secondary and Sixth Form education, with around 900 students enrolled. It is located in Newton Abbot, Devon.

Educational Mission & Values

The school's motto is "Inspiring Excellence" Promoting the values of Positive Attitude, Endeavour, Achievement, Community, and Enrichment. It places strong emphasis on attendance, commitment, respect, and high academic standards, supported by a uniform policy and structured behaviour expectations.

Curriculum & Sixth Form

Coombeshead Academy offers a broad, balanced academic curriculum designed to develop students both academically and personally. The Sixth Form caters to students aged 16–18 and provides A-levels and Level 3 vocational qualifications.

Inspection & Quality

In February 2023, Coombeshead Academy received a Good rating from Ofsted. This included good evaluations in the quality of education, student behaviour, personal development, leadership, and Sixth Form provision.

Community, Arts & Enrichment

As part of the Education South West Trust, Coombeshead works closely with other schools across South Devon to uphold high standards. The campus includes the Bushell Theatre.

Why It Is a Good Choice for International Students

- A well-regarded school with a strong academic record .
- A welcoming and inclusive community that supports personal development.
- Excellent opportunities in creative arts and enrichment programmes.
- Access to Sixth Form courses and collaborative pathways with other local institutions.



King Edward VI Community College

School Overview

King Edward VI Community College is a coeducational academy for students aged 11 to 18, located in Totnes, Devon, serving the Dart Valley region.

Educational Mission & Values

The school values a calm, respectful learning environment built on kindness and mutual respect. Ofsted noted high expectations of behaviour and strong student pride in their school community. Support for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) is proactive and tailored; a dedicated SEN Unit for autistic students is planned to open in late 2025 or early 2026

Curriculum & Sixth Form

The curriculum follows the English National Curriculum. At Key Stage 4, students study compulsory subjects—including English, Maths, Sciences, PE—and choose four additional GCSE options, including modern languages such as French or Spanish. Kennicott Sixth Form offers Alevels, ASlevels, BTEC National Diplomas, and EPQs. Entry requirements for Level 3 study typically include five GCSEs at grades 5–9, with a minimum of grade 4–5 in English and Maths

Inspection & Quality

The school received a full Ofsted inspection in June 2019 and was rated Good across all areas. In June 2025, an ungraded Section 8 inspection confirmed that KEVICC has maintained its good standards, with inspectors praising its ambitions and curriculum design

Community, Arts & Enrichment

KEVICC offers a broad range of extracurricular and enrichment activities. Ofsted highlighted ambitious, well-sequenced curriculum planning. Careers education is robust, helping students make informed progression decisions to further education, apprenticeships, or employment. Originally formed in 1966 by merging several local schools, KEVICC carries a history of academic and artistic achievements. The school community draws from Totnes and the surrounding rural areas and reflects notable diversity in student interests & ambitions.

Why It's a Good Choice for International Students

- Offers a balanced, structured academic programme with flexible SixthForm pathways.
- Inclusive environment including support for SEND students and strong pastoral care.
- A wide range of enrichment and career support programmes.
- Situated in South Devon, with community engagement & a comprehensive curriculum.



Kingsbridge Community College

School Overview

Kingsbridge Community College (also known as Kingsbridge Academy) is a coeducational secondary school and Sixth Form located in Kingsbridge, Devon, serving students aged 11–18. The school, originally founded in 1670, became an academy in January 2011. The student population is approximately 1,200–1,300, with around 240 in the Sixth Form, and a student teacher ratio of about 1:6

Educational Mission & Values

The school promotes academic ambition, personal development, and resilience. Its ethos emphasises support, care, and high expectations, aimed at preparing students for success in further and higher education, employment, and. The college is also a Teaching School Hub and part of the Devon Research School, promoting evidence based educational practice across the region.

Curriculum & Sixth Form

Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11): All students study core GCSE subjects (English, Maths, Sciences, Religious Studies, and a Humanities option), plus a modern language and three or more elective subjects. PSHE continues via fortnightly lessons on relationships, wellbeing, and careers. Most students study three A Levels (or equivalent), with opportunities to take a fourth or an EPQ. Vocational qualifications and BTEC options are available as well. Comprehensive support is offered for university applications, including Oxbridge, medical (BMAT/UKCAT), and law entrance exams.

Inspection & Quality

The Good School Guide “Academic performance is strong: GCSE and A Level results are generally above the national average.

Community, Arts & Enrichment

The college offers a broad range of extracurricular activities—including arts, sport, music performances, exhibitions, leadership and regional/national competitions.

Why It's a Good Choice for International Students

- Consistently ‘Good’ Ofsted rating and high academic achievement.
- Strong Sixth Form provision, including guidance for university admission.
- An inclusive, caring community with support for SEND and multilingual students.
- Rich enrichment opportunities including arts, sport, leadership and research collaborations.
- Located in scenic South Devon with a supportive school environment.



School Overview

Budmouth Academy is a coeducational secondary school and Sixth Form for students aged 11–18, located in Weymouth. It is part of the Aspirations Academies Trust, with approximately 1,500 Students, including around 230 in the sixth form.

Educational Mission & Values

The academy follows the Aspirations Trust’s mission to empower students to follow their goals.

Curriculum & Sixth Form

It operates the “No Limits” curriculum, integrating National Curriculum requirements with project-based, trans-disciplinary learning to prepare learners for real-world scenarios

Inspection & Quality

The school’s most recent full inspection rated its overall effectiveness with Key findings including

- Behaviour & Attitudes: Good
- Personal Development: Good

Community, Arts & Enrichment

- Extracurricular activities are a strength, including Combined Cadet Force, Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, leadership roles, sports, arts, and more. The
- Aspirations Employability Diploma (AED) and Careers Hub provide structured pathways via internships, work experience, and scholarship programs, including access to UCAS, Oxbridge, and apprenticeship guidance.

Why It’s a Good Choice for International Students

- Large school with diverse provision from 11 to 18 and inclusive culture.
- Sixth Form rated Good by Ofsted, with a wide array of courses and strong support.
- Real-world and employability-focused curriculum preparing for university or career pathways.
- Modern facilities and active student society encouraging leadership and confidence development.
- Autism support unit and individualised SEND provision promote inclusion.



Some Final Thoughts

Coombeshead Academy offers a high-quality education in a supportive and inclusive environment. With strong academic standards, a wide range of extracurricular activities, and a clear focus on personal growth, it is a great choice for international students seeking a well-rounded UK education experience.

King Edward VI Community College offers a welcoming and academically solid environment, ideal for international students seeking a balanced education in South West England. With a supportive ethos, strong enrichment programmes, and a successful Sixth Form centre, it provides a nurturing pathway for future academic or vocational success.

Kingsbridge Community College offers a strong, supportive, and enriched learning environment for international students. With a well-balanced academic curriculum, personalised support, excellent Sixth Form pathways, and a focus on student growth both in and out of the classroom, it's an excellent option for global learners.

Budmouth Academy offers a vibrant learning community, strong employability and enrichment schemes, and excellent Sixth Form provision. The academy's inclusive environment, modern facilities, and support for progression make it a solid option for international students seeking a comprehensive education in Dorset.

Something Else we offer a range of boarding schools around the UK and so please contact one of the BLISS Team if you want to study in with us in



The Process and how to Contact us

1. Student Focus for Placement
 - Discuss interests, goals, academic background
 - Identify preferred host region (if any)
2. Fill in Application Form and share with BLISS
3. School Acceptance
 - BLISS coordinates with school
4. Deposit Paid
5. Host Family Connection
 - Student introduced to host family
6. GuardMe Insurance Arranged through BLISS
7. BLISS Shares Arrival Time & Date
8. Pre-departure Webinars
 - Orientation, travel guidance, culture tips
9. On-Programme Orientation
 - In-person check-in with BLISS staff
 - Programme overview & expectations
10. Monthly check-in with BLISS local team
11. Feedback session half way through the stay
12. Departure

Your **UK** academic success starts here with **BLISS** –
get in touch today and make your future
unstoppable



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