SPECA QUESTION 5 PLANNING MAT

Paper 1, Question 5: description or story

Plan for about five minutes before you write. A clear plan is the quickest way to a well-shaped piece.

24 **Content and organisation (AO5)**
Ideas, tone, techniques and a clear shape from start to finish.

16 **Technical accuracy (AO6)**
Vocabulary, sentence variety, spelling and punctuation.

Step 1: Read the task (one minute)

I am writing a: description / story (circle one)	My reader will be	The mood I want	My one big idea

Step 2: Five-minute plan (fill in the side you chose)

If you choose a story

1. Opening: where and when, and a hook

2. Build: something starts to go wrong or change

3. Turning point: the big moment

4. After: what changes or what is left

5. Ending: the last image or line

If you choose a description

1. Wide view: the whole scene

2. Closer: one part of it

3. Smallest detail: something easy to miss

4. Shift: a change in sound, light or mood

5. Last image: the one I want remembered

Step 3: Make it vivid

Senses I will use

- [ ] sight
- [ ] sound
- [ ] smell
- [ ] touch
- [ ] taste

Three precise words to use

One comparison to try (simile or metaphor)

Step 4: Check as you write

Opening checklist

- [ ] My first two lines drop the reader into a moment
- [ ] The place or mood is clear early on
- [ ] I have not started with waking up or the weather forecast
- [ ] The first sentence is not the same shape as the second

Ending checklist

- [ ] I have kept time to finish, not rushed
- [ ] The last image links back to the opening or the mood
- [ ] It leaves the reader with a feeling
- [ ] I have not ended with “it was all a dream”

Accuracy checklist (AO6)

- [ ] Spelling: I checked tricky words and homophones (their, there, they’re)
- [ ] Punctuation: capital letters, full stops, commas in lists, apostrophes
- [ ] Sentence variety: a short sentence for impact, a long one for detail
- [ ] Vocabulary: I swapped three plain words for precise ones

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