



Western Cape
Government

Western Cape Education Department

Directorate: Curriculum FET

ENGLISH FAL

REVISION BOOKLET

2026

TERM 1

Grade 11

This revision programme is designed to assist you in revising the critical content and skills required in test 1 of the first term.

COMPREHENSION SKILLS:

Here are some steps to follow when you answer the comprehension:

- You have enough time to READ and DO the comprehension. Do not rush.
- Leave a line open after each answer.
- Read through the passage quickly to get a general understanding of the passage. Try to picture what you are reading. This helps you to focus and read for meaning.
- The **title** may offer a clue to the contents and purpose of the passage.
- Read each paragraph and try to find the main idea in each paragraph.
- Circle and work out the meaning of difficult words in the context of each paragraph.
- Read through the comprehension questions. When you do this, keep the passage in mind. This will give you clues leading to the answers in the passage.
- It is important to interpret and follow the instructions exactly as they are given:
- Does the answer need a full sentence, a word or a phrase?
- Highlight the **key words** in the question, e.g. **Quote**
- Find the restriction words, e.g. **NINE consecutive words**
- Find or underline **the focus/content of your answer**, e.g. which suggest that spending money on experiences can be a risk.
- Avoid starting sentences with conjunctions such as because, and, but and so.
- The mark allocation is usually a suggestion of the number of points needed.

Your numbering must correspond to the numbering of the questions – if the number is 1.1.1 you must not answer 1 or A.

- **Irony questions** must have two parts – use words like '**but**', '**however**', '**instead of**'
- **Comment on:** Present an informed opinion on ...
- Explain in OWN WORDS – do not quote. Use your own words as far as possible: shuffle word order, use synonyms, rephrase. Just do not use it as it appears on the text.
- QUOTE – then you must quote exactly. That means quotation marks, no words left out, no spelling mistakes, not a comma or full stop missing. It must look like a photocopy.
- Quote ONE word/sentence/phrase, use quotation marks and make sure you have the **exact number** of words required.
- Answer in a SENTENCE, make sure there is a **verb** (predicate) and a **subject** in your answer. For example: The scientists (subject) found (predicate/verb) evidence in the cave.

- Why is the following FALSE?
The scientists found the evidence in a museum.
Reply simply: It is false because they found it in a cave.
DO NOT answer - They did not find it in a museum. X
You have to correct the false statement.
- Do you agree what the title of the text is appropriate, your answer has to be **based on** the **TEXT**. Do not refer to anything from your own experience. Remember the question is based on the specific given text. Your opinion does not really matter. They simply want to know whether you understand what you have read.
- **. RESPONDING TO TEXT B**
- Step 1: Look at the picture.
- Step 2: Read the words and link them to the picture and to Text A.
- Step 3 - Answer the questions.
- Do not rush. Take your time. Read through your work again.

Let's practise!!

- Read both texts below.
- Use the points above to analyse the text.
- Then, analyse the questions before answering each of the questions.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1

Read BOTH TEXT A and TEXT B and answer the set questions.

Well done; now get to work!

1. Getting to matric is one thing, passing well enough to get into university is another. The fact that you made it to Grade 12 tells me that you are a very special group of students.
2. You represent only a fraction of the total number of learners who had started with you in Grade 1 many years ago. And now you stand on the verge of the single most important examination of your life. From what I understand from results over the past few years, the odds are stacked against you. You can lay the blame on South Africa's apartheid past, and you would have an open and shut case. You may have every reason to blame your teachers, the state of your school or your home circumstances, and few would argue with you. Yet right now, the outcome of what happens to you, when you sit down for your examinations in June, September and most importantly November, rests solely on your shoulders. 5
3. Be warned though, passing matric is no longer enough. What makes a difference in Grade 12 is whether you pass poorly or well enough to enter university. Many of you have to go to university, because no matriculant gets a decent job in this day and age with just a matric certificate. The problem is that the system has low expectations of you. By now you know that you can pass a matric subject with as little as 30%? You must really make a special effort these days to fail. If you simply wish to pass with 30% you might just as well leave school today! You should set the bar much higher, for everyone, including your teachers and parents, and believe that in each matriculant lies the potential to do much better than what you believe you are capable of. For that to happen, you must overcome two problems. 15
4. First, you have to change your attitude towards your work. I'm a soccer fanatic, and for years I had watched young men like Lucas Radebe, Benni McCarthy and others play local soccer. They were hopeless...Then they went to Europe, and suddenly they became great soccer players. What happened? They learned that to succeed and play at international level they had to train four times as hard... In short, they had to "up" their work rate. If you choose to party on a Friday night rather than prepare for test or task due the Monday, you are in trouble, and you may just as well not show up at school, or even for the Matric exam. If you think you can pass Grade 12 with less than five hours of study every day after school hours, including weekends, you are wrong! 20
5. Second, you have to change your attitude towards yourself. If you grew up where I did, then I am sure that there are enough negative messages in your environment to make you feel lousy. Some of your peers might tell you that there are other ways to make quick money than to spend another four years studying at university. And the more you hear these messages, 25

the more likely you are to believe them, and when you start to think that the teachers are wrong when they tell you that your chances of passing matric are fading because you do not put in the time or effort into preparing for your tasks and tests, you are already far gone.

6. Shakespeare once wrote, "Can the devil speak true?" Therefore, you can overcome these negative messages by changing how you think about yourself. When I was in my first year at university, I failed chemistry twice, and I blamed everybody and everything, from my poor schooling, my old teachers and the racist professors. When I complained to one of my former teachers, I realised that I need not be the victim of other people's thoughts. I was convinced that day that I could do whatever I wanted, provided that I changed how I thought about myself. If I could make it out of a miserable schooling and dangerous township, then I am convinced any matriculant from anywhere in this beautiful country can soar above the expectations that others hold of you. 45 50 60

[Adapted from an article by Prof. Jonathan Jansen in *THE TIMES*]

Refer to paragraph 1.

- 1.1 From what narrative point of view is this article written? (1)
- 1.2 Why did the narrator choose this narrative point of view? (2)
- 1.3 State the reason the author says, "you are a very special group of students." (1)

Refer to paragraph 2.

- 1.4 "You represent only a fraction of the total number of learners who had started with you in Grade 1 many years ago." (2)
- What does the narrator imply with this sentence. (2)
- 1.5 Correctly quote a line from the paragraph that proves the following FALSE. (1)
- "Matric exams are not that important," said a matriculant. (1)
- 1.6 Choose the correct answer that explains the following idiomatic expression used in the text. (1)
- "...the odds are stacked against you."
- A keep things going.
- B in the same circumstances and misfortune
- C of no consequence
- D things are not in your favour (1)
- 1.7 List the three reasons the author believes that can be used as excuses by matriculants as to why they would find their matric year difficult. (3)

Refer to paragraphs 3 and 4.

- 1.8 Which two factors does the narrator suggest could possibly lead to a matriculant possibly failing tests or even their matric exam? (2)

Refer to paragraph 5.

- 1.9 Which are the factors the narrator discusses in the paragraph that could possibly cause you to stop believing that you will be a successful matriculant? (3)

Refer to paragraph 4 and 5.

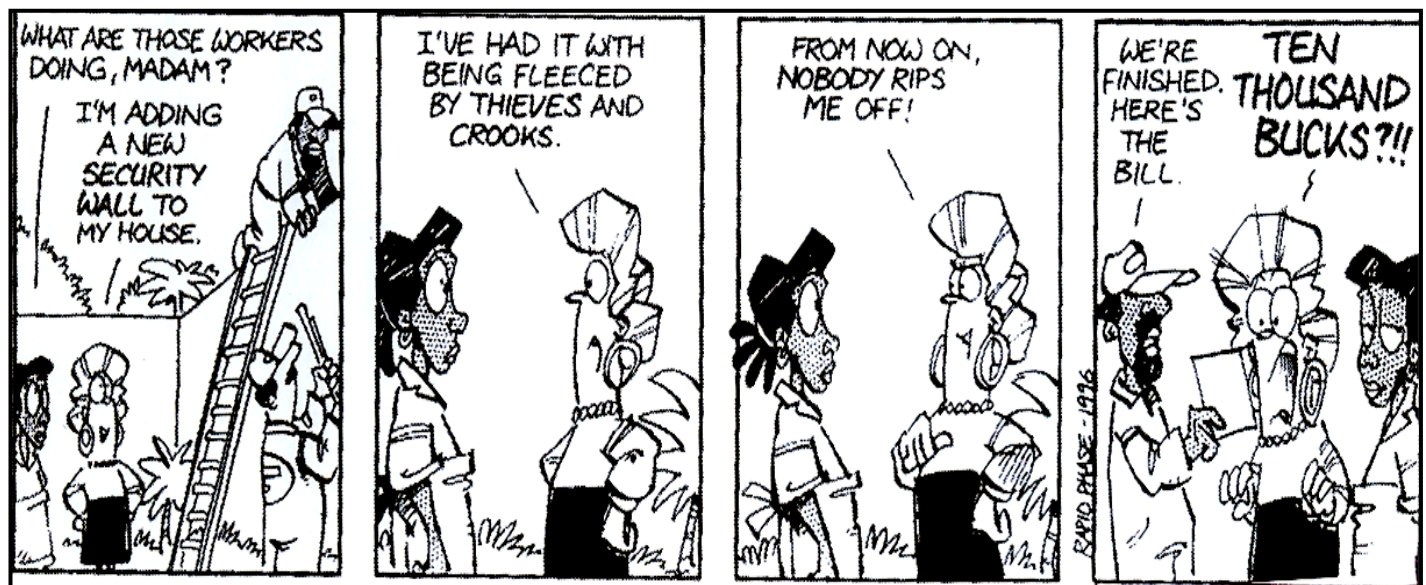
- 1.10 State two major influences according to the narrator that will determine whether you will be successful as a matriculant or not. (2)

Consider the text as a whole.

- 1.11 Explain what makes, "**Well done; now get to work!**", suitable as a title for this article. (2)

TEXT B

Madam and Eve



FRAME 1

FRAME 2

FRAME 3

FRAME 4

- 1.12 Give a synonym for the word 'fleece' in Frame 2. (1)

- 1.13 Refer to frames 3 and 4.

Explain the irony considering the meaning of Madam's words in Frame 3 and Frame 4. (2)

- 1.14 Give one verbal and one facial expression that portrays the Madam's shock in Frame 4. (2)

25 marks

SECTION B: SUMMARY**HOW TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE SUMMARY****A summary tests two main skills:**

1. Understanding the content of a given text.
2. Condensing it effectively into a shorter form using your own words.

1. Read the Question Carefully

Before reading the text, check:

- What exactly must be summarised? (e.g., "reasons why...", "effects of...", "problems caused by...")
- Word limit (usually 70 words).
- Number of points required (normally seven).

This prevents you from including irrelevant information.

2. Read and Understand the Text

You should:

- Read the entire passage once to understand the main idea.
- Read again and underline only the points related to the summary topic.
- Avoid examples, descriptions, statistics, anecdotes, quotations, and explanations unless essential to meaning.

The focus is on key ideas, not details.

3. Identify the Main Points

To find the seven points:

- Look for topic sentences in paragraphs.
- Look for repeated ideas or emphasised concepts.
- Distinguish between main ideas (include) and supporting details (exclude).

A main point usually answers: *What is the author saying about the topic?*

4. Use Your Own Words

You must avoid lifting sentences directly from the text.

To rewrite in their own words, they can:

- Use synonyms ("essential" → "important")
- Change structure ("Parents fear emergencies" → "Emergencies worry parents")
- Use simpler language
- Combine related ideas into one sentence

This shows comprehension and prevents plagiarism-like lifting.

Let's practice!!

QUESTION 2

Read the passage below and write down **SEVEN main points** about **the benefits of positive thinking**.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. List **SEVEN points** in full sentences using **no more than 70 words**.
2. Number your sentences from **1 to 7**.
3. Write only **ONE fact per line**.
4. **DO NOT QUOTE** from the text, use your **OWN words** as far as possible.
5. **INDICATE** the total **number of words** in brackets at the end of your summary.

THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

Positive thinking is a mental attitude that admits into the mind thoughts, words and images that are conducive to growth, expansion and success. It is a mental attitude that expects good and favourable results. A positive mind anticipates happiness, joy, health and a successful outcome of every situation and action. Whatever the mind expects, it finds.

Not everyone accepts or believes in positive thinking. Some consider the subject to be just nonsense, and others scoff at people who believe and accept it. Among the people who accept it, not many know how to use it effectively to get results.

It is quite common to hear people say: 'Think positively!' to someone who feels down and worried. Most people do not take these words seriously, as they do not know what they really mean, or do not consider them to be useful and effective. How many people do you know, who stop to think what the power of positive thinking means?

All of us affect, in one way or another, the people we meet. This happens instinctively and on a subconscious level, through thoughts and feelings transference, and through body language. People are affected by our thoughts, and vice versa. Is it any wonder that we want to be around positive people and avoid negative ones? People are more disposed to help us if we are positive, and they dislike and avoid anyone broadcasting negativity.

When the mind is negative, negative poisons are released into the blood, which causes more unhappiness and negativity. This is the way to failure, frustration and disappointment. Always visualise the favourable and beneficial situations. Use positive words in your inner dialogues or when talking with others. Smile a little more, as this helps one to think positively. Disregard any feelings of laziness or a desire to quit. If you persevere, you will transform the way your mind thinks.

[10]

MARKING GUIDELINES**SECTION A: COMPREHENSION****QUESTION 1****TEXT A**

Refer to paragraph 1.

- 1.1 From what narrative point of view is this article written? (1)

It is written in the 1st person narrative. ✓

- 1.2 Why did the writer choose this narrative point of view? (2)

The article would be more believable/truthful✓ as it is written from a personal point of view. ✓

OR

The article would be more believable✓ as the author is writing from his own personal experience. ✓

- 1.3 State the reason the author says, "that you are a very special group of students." (1)

The reason he says that is because the students made it to matric. ✓

Refer to paragraph 2.

- 1.4 "You represent only a fraction of the total number of learners who had started with you in Grade 1 many years ago."

What does the narrator imply with this sentence. (2)

He implies that many of the learners who had started grade one did not make it to matric✓ and left school for one reason or the other. ✓

- 1.5 Correctly quote a line from the paragraph that proves the following FALSE.

"Matric exams are not that important," said a matriculant. (1)

" you stand on the verge of the single most important examination of your life." ✓

- 1.6 Choose the correct answer that explains the following idiomatic expression used in the text..

"...the odds are stacked against you."

D✓ OR things are not in your favour✓ (1)

- 1.7 List the three reasons the author believes that can be used as excuses by matriculants as to why they would find their matric year difficult. (3)

You can blame it on the legacy of Apartheid✓ /South Africa's Apartheid past✓, your teachers✓ /the teachers✓, the state of your school✓ /vandalism✓ or your home environment✓ /circumstances at home. ✓ (any 3)

Refer to paragraphs 3 and 4

- 1.8 Which two factors does the narrator suggest could possibly lead to a matriculant possibly failing tests or even their matric exam? (2)

The factors that could lead to them failing tests or exams is them not preparing enough after school every day and even during holidays. ✓

The second factor is that if they choose to party on a weekend instead of studying for a test of exam. ✓

Refer to paragraph 5.

- 1.9 Which are the factors the narrator discusses in the paragraph that could possibly cause you to stop believing that you will be a successful matriculant? (3)

- **The negative messages in your environment. ✓**
- **Peers telling you that there are other ways to make money quickly. ✓**
- **When you start to think that your teachers are wrong when they tell you that you do not put in enough time and effort into your studies. ✓**

Refer to paragraph 4 and 5.

- 1.10 State, two major influences according to the narrator that will determine whether you will be successful as a matriculant or not. (2)

You have to change your attitude towards your work. ✓

You have to change your attitude towards yourself. ✓

- 1.11 Explain what makes, “**Well done; now get to work!**”, suitable as a title for this article. (2)

Just like the article the title suggest that it is good to make it to matric ✓, but that it is only the first step as there is a lot of hard work ahead ✓ in order to make a matric year successful.

TEXT B

- 1.12 Give a synonym for the word ‘FLEECED’ in Frame 2. (1)

Robbed ✓

- 1.13 Refer to Frames 3 and 4.
Explain the irony considering the meaning of Madam's words in Frame 3 and Frame 4. (2)

In frame 3 Madam says that nobody is going to rip her off / scam her / cheat her out of money ✓ BUT in frame 4 she clearly is in shock as she realises that price is exorbitant / over-charged. ✓

- 1.14 Give one verbal and one facial expression that depicts Madam's shock in Frame 4. (2)

Verbal: The bold font / Larger font / the exclamation marks

Facial expression: Wide open mouth / clenched hands / eyes wide

TOTAL SECTION A: 25 marks

SECTION B: SUMMARY**QUESTION 2**

Quote from the Text	Point
"Positive thinking is a mental attitude that expects good and favourable results."	Helps the mind expect success and good outcomes.
"A positive mind anticipates happiness, joy, health and a successful outcome of every situation and action."	Brings happiness, health, and confidence in success.
"All of us affect, in one way or another, the people we meet... People are more disposed to help us if we are positive."	Positive thinking attracts others and makes people more willing to help.
"They dislike and avoid anyone broadcasting negativity."	Negative thinking pushes people away.
"When the mind is negative, negative poisons are released into the blood, which causes more unhappiness and negativity."	Negative thoughts harm health and lead to frustration and failure.
"Always visualise the favourable and beneficial situations."	Visualising good outcomes builds confidence and hope.
"Use positive words in your inner dialogues or when talking with others."	Positive language strengthens positive thinking.
"Smile a little more, as this helps one to think positively."	Smiling encourages a positive attitude.
"Disregard any feelings of laziness or a desire to quit. If you persevere, you will transform the way your mind thinks."	Positive thinking builds perseverance and transforms the mind.

TOTAL SECTION B: 10