Section A: Reading				
	Answer <b>all</b> questions in this section. You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this sec	etion.		
	Read again the first part of the source, from <b>lines 1 to 8.</b>			
	Answer <b>all</b> parts of this question.			
	Tick (✓) one box for each question.			
01.1	What time of year is it?			
	Late autumn/early winter			
	Late spring/early summer			
	Late winter/early spring	[1 mark]		
01.2	1 . 2 What colour is the sky now that the weather has changed?			
	Pale blue			
	Stone grey			
	Sunset orange			
		[1 mark]		

Reformatted by Claire's Notes to match the revised AQA English Language Paper 1
(8700/1) structure for 2026. [Specimen paper]

01.3	What has covered the hills as the afternoon has progressed?	
	A layer of fog	
	A blanket of snow	
	A fall of leaves	[1 mark]
01.4	How do the coach seats feel to the touch?	
	Soft	
	Warm	
	Moist	
		[1 mark]

## **0.2** Look in detail at this extract, from **lines 9 to 15** of the source:

The wind came in gusts, at times shaking the coach as it travelled round the bend of the road, and in the exposed places on the high ground it blew with such force that the whole body of the coach trembled and swayed, rocking between the high wheels like a drunken man.

The driver, muffled in a greatcoat to his ears, bent almost double in his seat in a faint endeavour to gain shelter from his own shoulders, while the dispirited horses plodded sullenly to his command, too broken by the wind and the rain to feel the whip that now and again cracked above their heads, while it swung between the numb fingers of the driver.

The wheels of the coach creaked and groaned as they sank into the ruts on the road, and sometimes they flung up the soft spattered mud against the windows, where it mingled with the constant driving rain, and whatever view there might have been of the countryside was hopelessly obscured.

How does the writer use language here to describe the effects of the weather?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- · language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

[8 marks]

**0.3** You now need to think about the structure of the source as a whole.

This text is from the beginning of a novel.

How does the writer use structure to create a sense of tension in this extract?

You could write about:

- how the sense of tension has built or changed by the end of the source
- how the writer uses structure to create an effect
- the writer's use of any other structural features, such as changes in mood, tone or perspective.

[8 marks]

**0.4** For this question, focus on the second part of the source, **from line 18 to the end.** 

In this part of the source, it could be said that the passengers inside the coach are vividly brought to life.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

In your response, you could:

- consider your own impressions of the characters and how they behave
- comment on the methods the writer uses to bring the characters to life
- support your response with references to the text

[20 marks]

## **Section B: Writing**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section. Write in full sentences. You are reminded of the need to plan your answer. You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

0.5 You are going to enter a creative writing competition.

## Either

Write a description of travelling through a storm from your imagination. You may choose to use the picture provided for ideas.



## Or

Write the opening part of a story about a place that is severely affected by the weather.

(24 marks for content and organisation 16 marks for technical accuracy) [40 marks]