Use your English

IGCSE First Language English 0500

Name: _____ Date: _____

Plan before you begin

Check the audience, purpose and required length. Organise your ideas, write or speak, then check meaning and accuracy.
Example: A clear paragraph has one main idea with useful supporting detail.
Complete both activities. Plan your ideas first. Use your own details when requested. Continue on another sheet if needed.
දී ඇති උපදෙස් අනුව ඔබේම පිළිතුර ලියන්න.

Try it yourself

1. Write a descriptive passage of 180-220 words about arriving somewhere before the usual crowd. Use carefully selected detail and a controlled change of focus. This is shortened preparatory writing.

2. In 30-40 words, explain one choice you made for your audience or intended effect.

Choose details that develop an atmosphere

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Understand the idea

Read once for the main idea. Read again to find the detail or evidence needed for each answer.
Example: A question beginning Why needs a reason supported by the text.
Read this new situation carefully. Use only the stated facts for the first answer. Then improve the sentence and apply the idea to a new situation. Check meaning, punctuation and the reader's needs.
පාඨය කියවා තොරතුරු සොයන්න. පසුව ඔබේම අදහස පැහැදිලිව ලියන්න.

Before the first visitors arrived, the caretaker opened a side door. Cool air slipped across the stone floor. A single chair stood in the centre of the room, its polished seat catching a narrow stripe of sunlight. From the corridor came the soft scrape of a broom, then silence again. Outside, someone tested the gate.
අමුත්තන් පැමිණීමට පෙර කාමරයේ නිහඬ බව ආලෝකය, සීතල සහ සියුම් ශබ්දවලින් විස්තර වේ.

Try it yourself

1. Select two sensory details and explain how they contribute to the atmosphere.

2. Improve this sentence: The room was very, very quiet and nice and really beautiful.

3. Write a short continuation that shifts the focus from a small object to a wider space. Maintain the atmosphere through selected detail rather than listing adjectives.