ASSESSMENT IN YEAR 8 ENGLISH 2010

In the junior school the English Department operates on the ratio of 30% test/examination and 70% continuous assessment.
In Year 7 we have class tests rather than formal exams. These tests are in the same proportion as each class's continuous assessment. This is 30% speaking and listening, 30% reading and 40% writing.
This will be tested in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaking and Listening</th>
<th>Public Speech</th>
<th>15%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Listening Test</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading/Viewing</td>
<td>2 Reading tasks</td>
<td>15% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>2 Writing tasks</td>
<td>20% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
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Half of these will be tested in the first semester and half in the second.

- Class assessment will cover all outcomes, but specifically Outcomes 3, 8, 10 and 11 will only be covered in class.
- Literacy testing will be an important part of your assessment.
- Performance descriptors will be supplied to every student before assessment tasks begin.
- Students absent on the day of an assessment task will receive zero marks unless a medical certificate or written evidence of a genuine absence is provided within a week. If the task has not been returned to students, the task will be administered as long as this maintains the integrity of the task. If the task has been returned to students, an estimate will be given. To maintain the validity of marks and outcomes, only in exceptional circumstances will more than one estimate be included in a student's overall mark.
- School policy states that work handed in over a week late, with no extension requested, will earn no marks or grades.
- Work completed after reporting at the end of the year will be part of the following year’s assessment.

ASSESSMENT DATES SEMESTER 1
Public Speaking week 8 Term 1 Monday March 15
Writing Task week 1 Term 2 April 20 (Writing Competition)
Reading Task week 2 Term 2 April 27

ASSESSMENT DATES SEMESTER 2
Listening Task week 7 Term 3 August 30
Reading Task week 1 Term 4 July 20
Writing Task week 2 Term 4 July 26 (Competition)
(all as close as possible to the first day of the week)
Outcomes for Year 8 reporting are as follows:

**SEMESTER ONE**
1. Responds to and composes texts for understanding, interpretation, critical analysis and pleasure.
2. Uses a range of processes for responding and composing texts.
3. Makes informed language choices to shape meaning with accuracy, clarity and coherence.
4. Thinks critically and interpretively about information, ideas and arguments to respond to and compose texts.
5. Demonstrates understanding that texts express views of their broadening world and their relationships within it.

**SEMESTER TWO**
3. Responds to and composes texts in different technologies.
4. Uses and describes language forms and features, and structures of texts appropriate to different purposes, audiences and contexts.
5. Draws on experience, information and ideas to imaginatively respond to and compose texts.
6. Identifies, considers and appreciates cultural expression in texts.
7. Uses, reflects on and assesses individual and collaborative skills for learning.

There are set topics for the public speaking competition held in term 1.
Students will choose from one of the following topics:
1. Happiness is…
2. Where are we going?
3. Overcoming Adversity
4. We should forget the past
5. Culture is important

Topics do not have to be taken literally or seriously. You don’t have to agree with them. You could take an abstract, contrary or humorous view. Students who would like to choose a different topic may negotiate with their teacher on a suitable alternative.

Note: On the due date for Public Speaking (the first day of the competition), students will be required to submit a written copy of their speech to their teacher. This is to ensure that the assessment task has been done by the due date, and to counter malpractice. Non-submission of this written copy will mean the task is not completed by the due date and it will attract zero marks. Students are not required to stick precisely to the wording of that copy as the main criteria is to speak well, not to read or memorise. The marking criteria are discussed with all students prior to the task.