

2015 Comp B

Introduction to a Book

The Question

- ❖ Write the introduction for a collection of writing (e.g. poems, stories and articles) by young people about older people. In it you should discuss the importance of older people, such as grandparents, in the lives of young people today and the contribution made by older people to society in general.

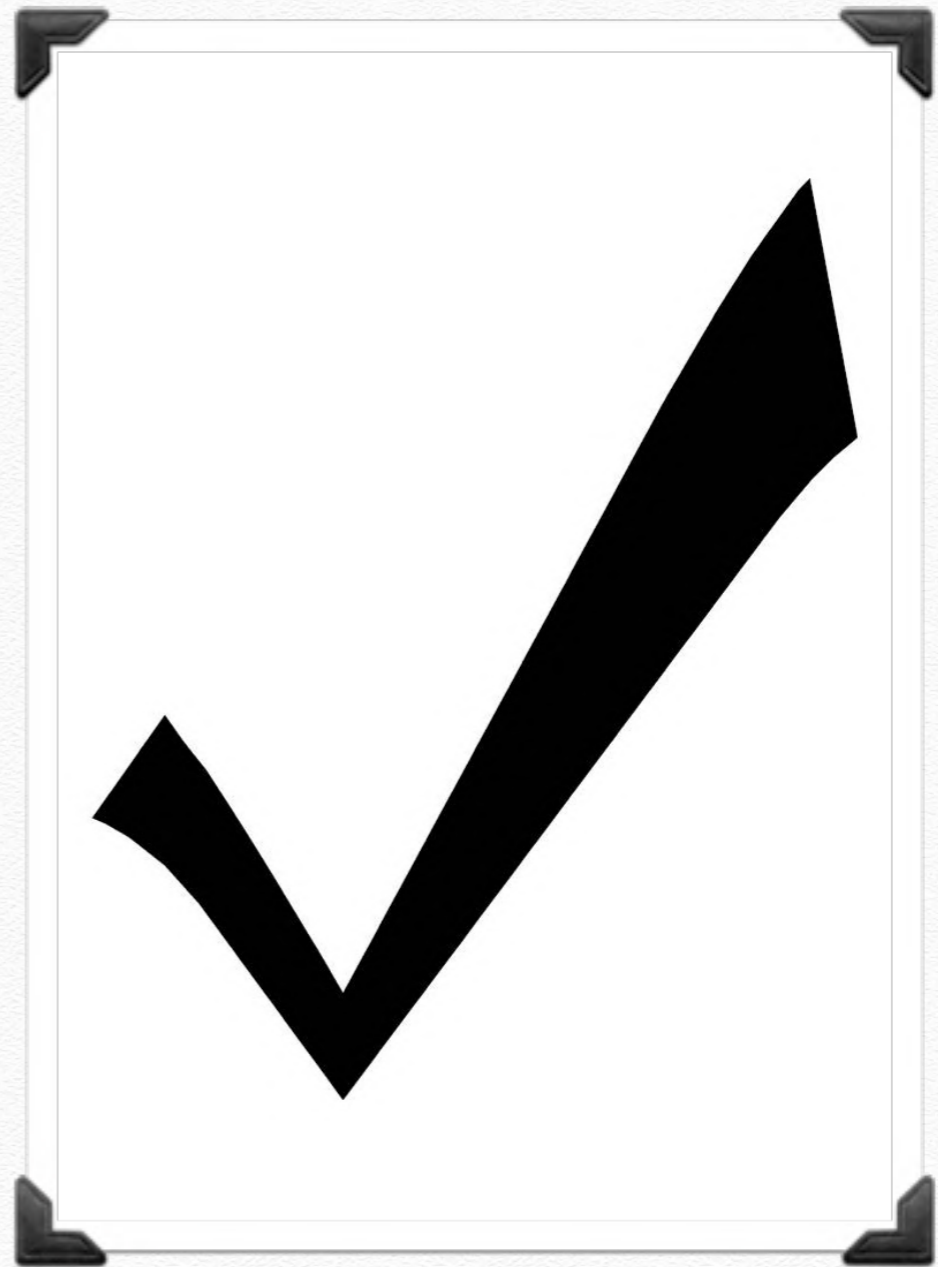


An Introduction...

- ❖ An introduction presents something new to an audience.
- ❖ Used by publishers to pitch a publication to prospective readers.
- ❖ An endorsement, often by a celebrity or expert, adds credibility to the text and puts a stamp of approval on the work.
- ❖ Introductions simulate curiosity and interest
- ❖ Tone can be informative, persuasive, confident, encouraging etc.
- ❖ Includes title, hook, benefits, content, invitation and signature

The Marking Scheme

- ❖ Expect candidates to write an introduction that is appropriate in tone and content for a collection of writing by young people. Allow for a variety of approaches (personal, serious, humorous, discursive, etc.). Candidates should engage with all aspects of the task, discussing both the importance of older people in the lives of young people today and the contribution made by older people to society in general.



Four Questions...

- ❖ **1. What form should this task take?**
- ❖ This is an introduction to a book, so the form is quite relaxed. All you need to do is share your opinions with the readers. Remember, they have probably bought the book already if they are reading the introduction.
- ❖ **2. What should the content be?**
- ❖ You must discuss:
 - ❖ (a) the importance of older people in the lives of young people and
 - ❖ (b) the contributions older people make to society in general.

❖ 3. Who is my audience?

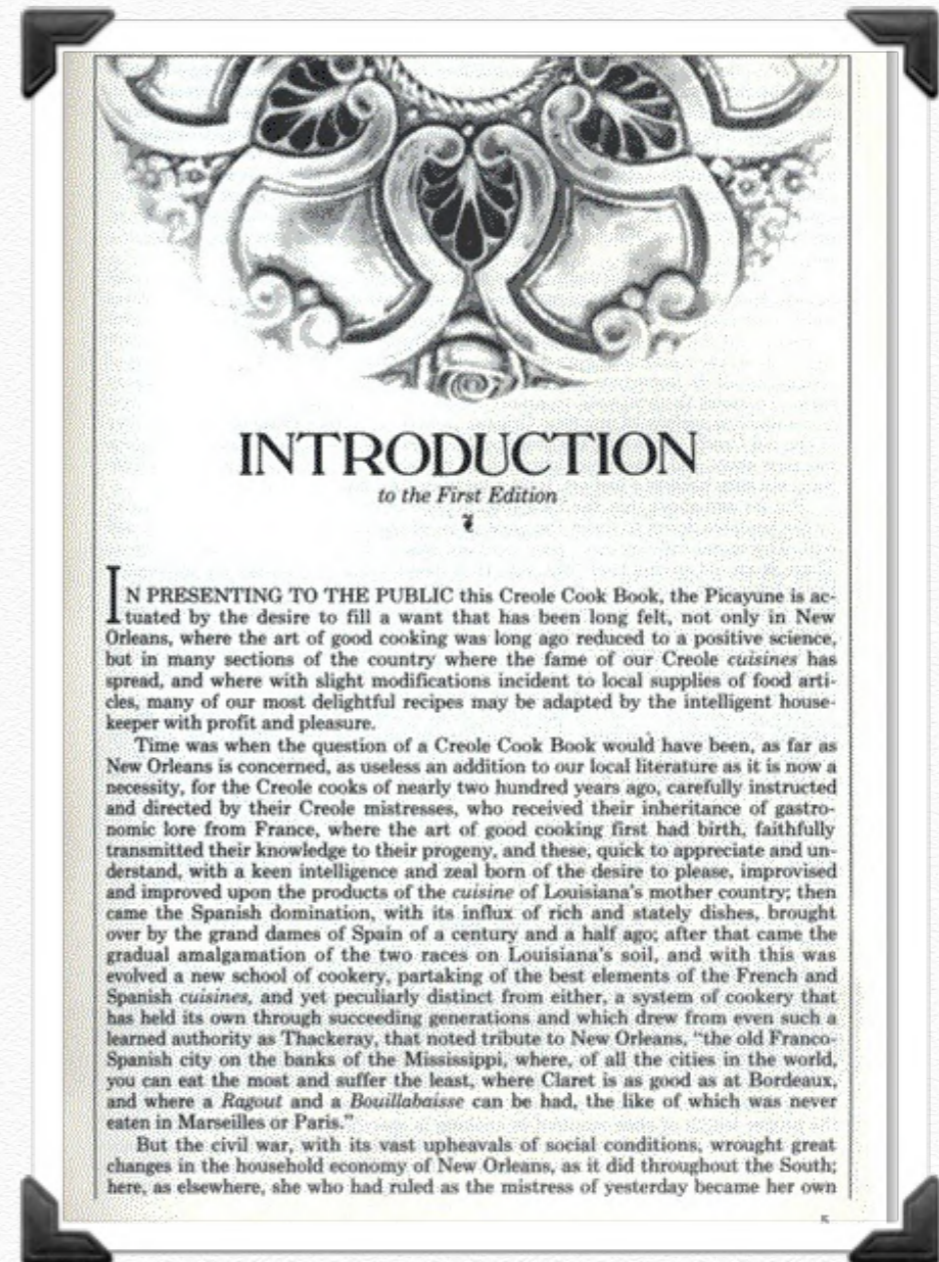
- ❖ Your audience is anyone of any age who might choose to read the book.

❖ 4. What register should I use?

- ❖ You need to be persuasive – you want readers to enjoy the book and see the value of it. You could also use aesthetic language in your descriptions of aspects of the book.

Points to Consider

- ❖ How will you make it clear that this is the introduction to a book?
- ❖ Could you mention fictional parts of the book?
- ❖ 'Kevin Nolan, in his touching poem "Marking Time" (page 76), highlights the effect a grandparent's death can have on a young person.'



Sample Answer

- ❖ My sample answer to this question can be found on the educateplus.ie website under 'Free Exam Solutions'.