## CCEA GCSE English Language Unit 1 Exam Sample Paper

Total marks: 150
Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Task 1: Writing for Purpose and Audience (87)

Task 2: Reading Non-Fiction Analysis (21)

Task 3: Reading Non-Fiction Summarising (12)

Task 4: Reading Non-Fiction Media Text: Language (20)

Task 5: Reading Non-Fiction Media Text: Presentational Features (10)

### Section A: Writing for Purpose and Audience

### Task 1: Spend 55 minutes on your response. Mark allocation: 87 marks

Up to **57 marks** are available for an **organised and engaging** piece of writing that matches **form and purpose with audience.** 

Up to **30 marks** are available for the use of a **range of sentence structures** and **accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.** 

Write **an article for your school magazine** giving your views on this topic:

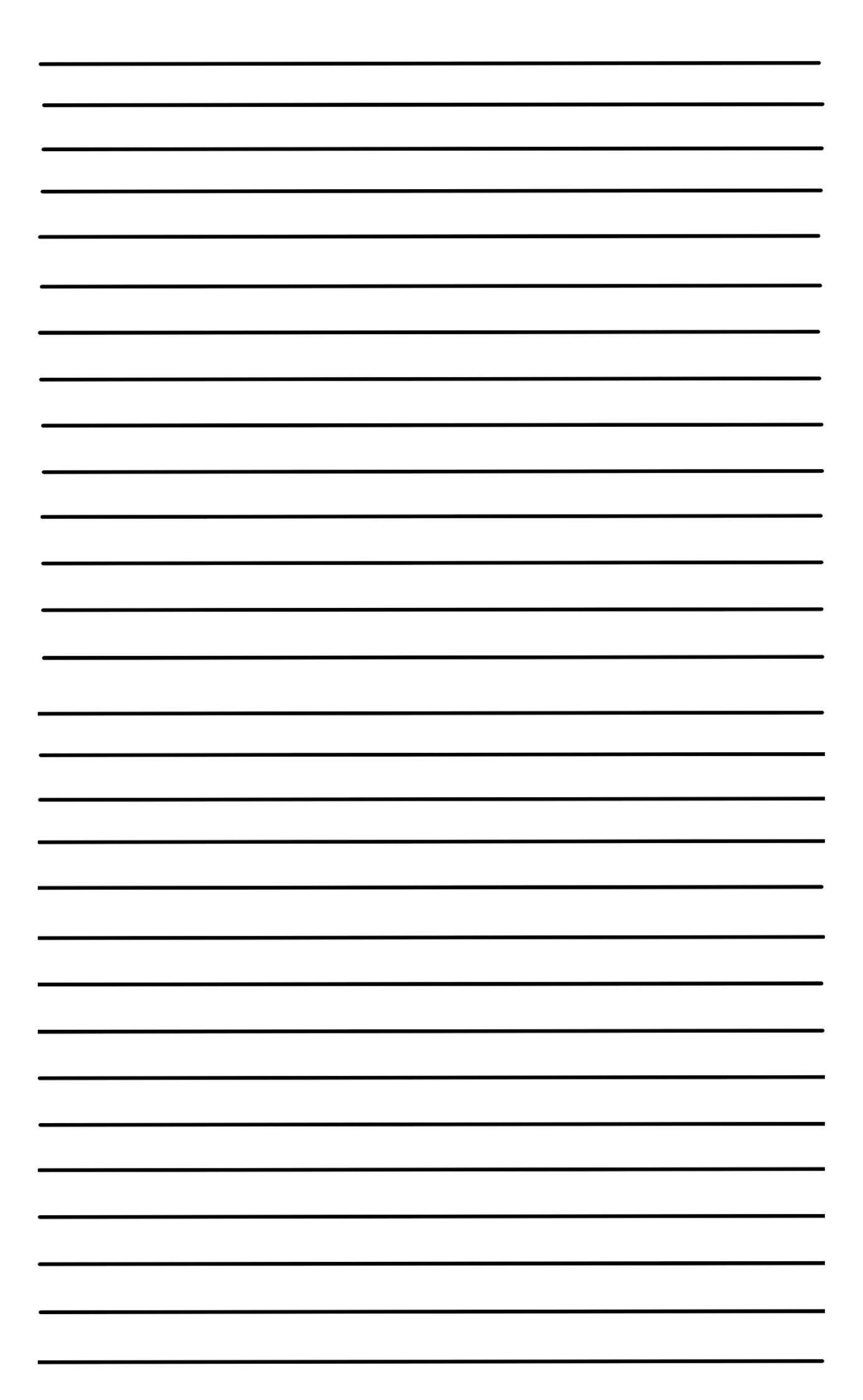
'All young people should volunteer in their community once per week.'

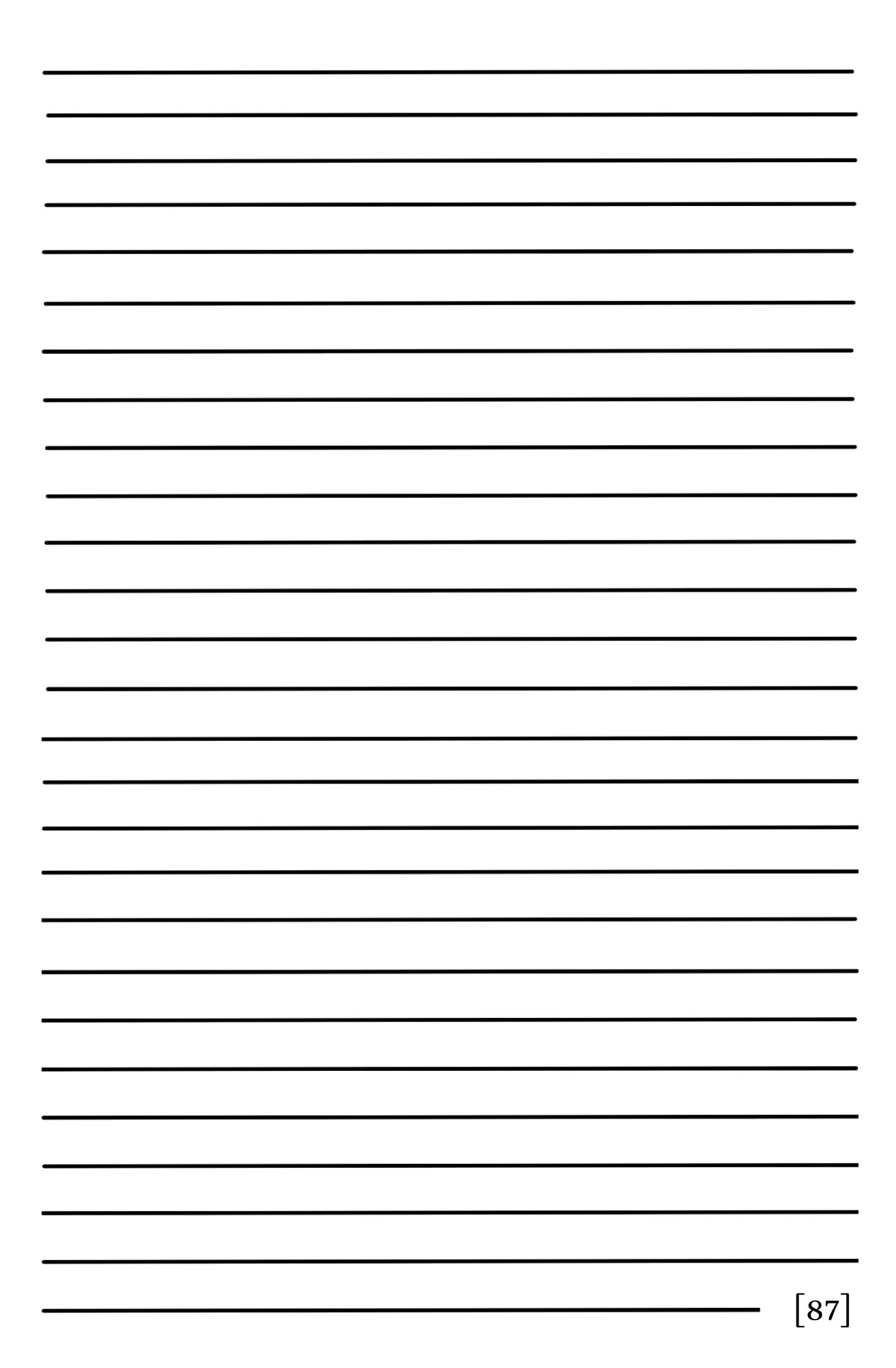
You are advised to spend:

- 15 minutes thinking and planning your response
- 30 minutes writing your response
- 10 minutes checking your response

### Planning space:

Article:	





### Section B: Reading Non-fiction and Media Texts

Four tasks: 50 minutes. Mark allocation: 63 marks

### **Reading Non-fiction**

**Tasks 2 and 3** are based on extracts from an autobiography about being a commuter and driving on the roads.

Task 2: Spend 15 minutes on this task. Total 21 marks

Read the text below where the writer describes his experiences of driving in bad traffic and experiencing road rage.

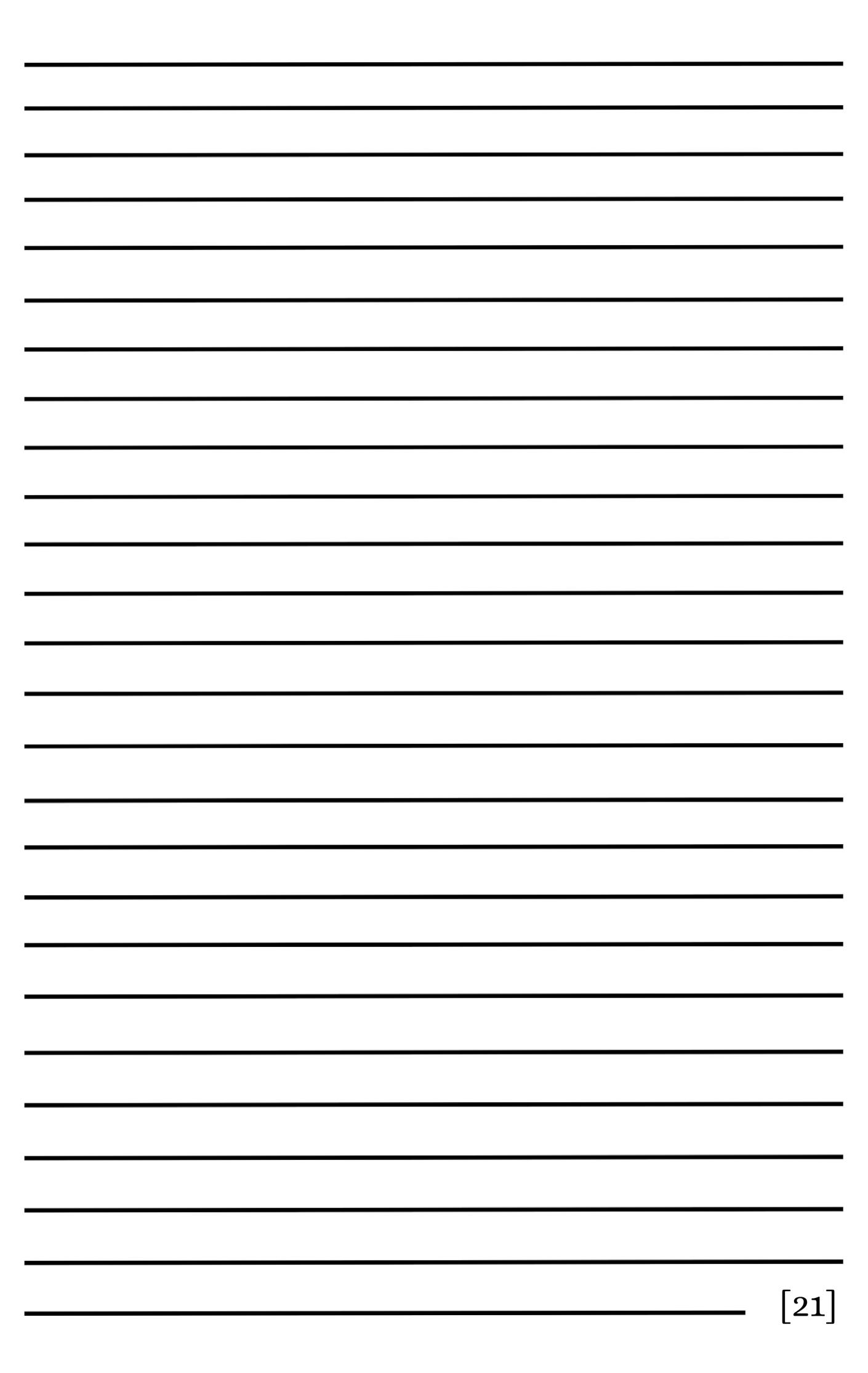
Explain how the writer has presented this in a way that engages his readers' interest. Support your comments with evidence.

Every evening, as I crawl into my metallic prison after work, I can feel the city's pulse racing. Rush hour is a battle, and I am a soldier in a never-ending war on wheels.

The symphony of car horns, like a chorus of disgruntled geese, greets me. The impatient drumbeat of my heart syncs with the rhythmic wailing of sirens. My tiny sedan becomes my armour as I venture into the daily traffic fray.

As I navigate the streets, I can't help but notice the bizarre behaviour of my fellow commuters. There are the lane hoppers, those daring souls who leap between lanes like acrobats, their indicators an afterthought. There are also the selfish beasts cruising in the fast lane, completely oblivious to the trail of chaos they leave behind.

Road rage becomes my passenger, an unwelcome companion on my daily	
journey. It is the little things that push me over the edge: the guy in front who	
slams on his brakes because he thinks he sees a squirrel, the motorcyclist who	
zips past me like a rogue missile, or the oblivious pedestrian who strolls across	
the road as if life were a leisurely stroll in the park.	
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### Task 3: Spend 10 minutes on this task. Total 12 marks

In this part of the text, the writer describes the stress of his commute and the surprising things that happen to improve his road rage.

Read the text below. In your own words, write down two reasons why the writer is able to calm down and unwind: one reason from each paragraph.

For each reason present two pieces of supporting evidence.

My temper, usually as steady as a metronome, started to fluctuate. My language behind the wheel became colourful, if not poetic, as I cursed under my breath at the audacity of my fellow travellers. I fantasised about having a dashboard button that could fire darts to deflate the tires of those who tested my patience. But then, there was a moment of redemption. Out of nowhere, a stranger let me merge with a friendly wave, meaning I could side step and major bottle neck of traffic waiting to turn left. This act of kindness cut my commute time back down. Perhaps I would finally get home from work this side of Christmas! Relief flowed through me like a rush of fresh air.

As I exhaled, I took my eyes up away from the road and towards the horizon. An unexpected serenity washed over me as I caught a glimpse of the beginning of a golden sunset casting its glow over the tangled concrete veins of the city. A calm moment broke through. Nature reminded me that road rage does not get me there any faster. Every now and then, the world rights itself and reminds us all to calm down.

a) Reason fro	om paragraj	ph one:		
				<u> </u>

(b) Two pieces of supporting evidence from paragraph one:	
	<b>-</b> [2]
	<b>C J</b>
(a) Daggar from nanagraph tura	
(c) Reason from paragraph two:	
	[4]
	L -
(d) Two pieces of supporting evidence from paragraph two:	
(a) I we proceed of supporting evidence from paragraph two.	
	_ [2]
	— L-J

## **Reading Media Texts**

**Tasks 4 and 5** are based on the cover of the novel "The Nightmare" by Jackson Smyth.

Task 4: Spend 17 minutes on this task. Total 20 marks

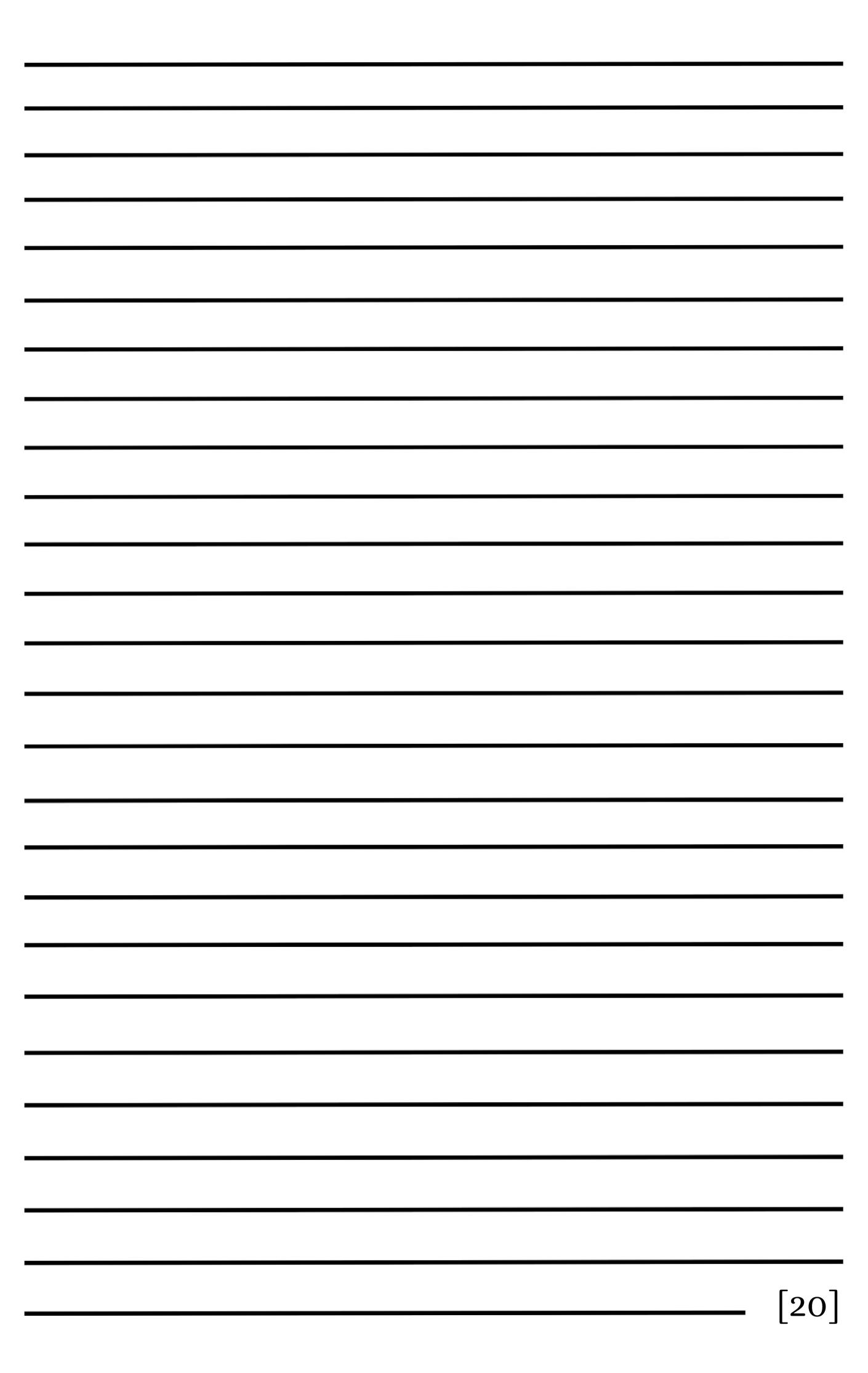
Read the text below. Explain how language has been used to develop a sense that this novel would be exciting to read. Present evidence to support your comments.

On a moonless Halloween night in the eerie town of Ravenswood, a sinister force awakens, casting a chilling spell over its unsuspecting residents. As the clock strikes midnight, the forgotten graveyard at the edge of town becomes the epicenter of an unholy awakening. From the depths of the darkness, a malevolent hand emerges from a long-forgotten grave, setting in motion a chain of events that will haunt your dreams.

In 'The Nightmare,' follow Sarah, a young and curious teenager who stumbles upon the unholy secret buried beneath Ravenswood. As the town's sinister history unravels, she finds herself entangled in a web of ancient curses and vengeful spirits. With the help of her friends, she embarks on a harrowing journey to confront the very embodiment of terror itself.

This Halloween, prepare to be spellbound by a tale of terror that will send shivers down your spine and keep you turning pages well into the witching hours. 'The Nightmare' is a bone-chilling, heart-pounding novel that will make you question the boundary between the living and the dead, and make you wonder if the shadows lurking in the corners of your room are merely your imagination or something far more sinister. Dare you open the pages of this terrifying tale and step into the nightmare that awaits?

nightmare that awaits?		



# THE SCHOOL SMYTH



Task 5: Spend 8 minutes on this task. Total 10 marks



Study the front cover of the novel "The Nightmare".

Select two examples of presentational features used in this book cover to make it appealing to the reader. Explain the intended effect of these two presentational features.

(a) First example of a presentational feature:	[1]
(b) Intended effect on the reader:	

(c) Second example of a presentational feature:	
	[1]
(d) Intended effect on the reader:	
	 [4