

RUA E

Extension Task for Higher and National 5 English

# RUAE Study Tips

- The National 5 and Higher Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation Exam tests your ability to **understand** the writer's ideas, and to **analyse and evaluate** the language he/she uses to put those ideas across.
- 1. Read regularly from a quality newspaper such as the Guardian, Scotsman, Herald, Independent, or The Times.
- 2. Do not just read the news stories near the front, but also the feature articles and opinion pieces in the later pages.
- 3. Expand your knowledge of language, and of how people debate and argue about their ideas, by watching television programmes such as Question Time.
- 4. If you encounter unfamiliar words, see if you can work them out from the context, or look them up. You will not be able to take a dictionary into the exam, so it is important to work on building up your vocabulary.

# General preparation for everything...

Find an article from a newspaper, copy your teacher into the link and then...

1. Note down the main points made in the article.
2. Was the article objective (discusses 2 sides equally) or persuasive (1 sided)? Give a **quote** to support your answer.
3. Find and highlight 3 interesting/emotive/unusual words. Give their definitions and explain why you think the writer has used those words.
4. Find and circle an example of punctuation e.g. ? ! " " ( ) : ; - Explain why the writer has used it e.g. A list, rhetorical question etc.
5. What is the writer's tone of voice? Quote a word/phrase to back up your answer.
6. If you are doing Higher find another article about the same topic and compare/contrast the two articles.