**STRUCTURE FOR SECTION A OF PAPER 2 (AMERICAN LIT)**

**AO2: Analysis of lang, form & structure / embedded quotes 75%**

**AO3: Context 12.5%**

**AO1: Understanding / fluently written & structured essay 12.5%**

*Spend a* ***maximum*** *of* ***15 minutes*** *highlighting and annotating good evidence then spend the next hour writing your response. My recommended structure for that response is as follows:*

* **Intro (brief):** Put the passage into context and link it to the passage.
* **Main body of essay:** Analyse form, structure and language.
* **Conclusion (brief):** Provide a brief overview of the passage.

**Exemplar opening to the first passage that we looked at in class:**

This passage is an extract from a novel **published in the late 1920s but appears to be set late in the First World War; America’s industry and economic growth during this period is reflected by the fact that so many people were metaphorically benefiting from the “fat enormous goose raining its golden eggs upon them”**.

The passage is written using **third person limited narration**, which allows the writer to both describe Eugene’s environment as well as provide an insight into the character’s feelings. We learn that he spent his money “without fear” reflecting that this was a **time of great opportunity and prosperity** where “He might do all, dare all, become all.” The **asyndetic listing** and use of **epistrophe** in this sentence suggests endless possibilities, which is the essence of the American Dream and this idea is further reinforced with the introduction of **antithesis**: Eugene might go from “obscurity, hunger and loneliness” to “power, glory love”. Interestingly, earlier in the paragraph “loneliness” is also used but it’s expressed in terms of it being a “pleasure”; American literature often celebrates individualism and Eugene appears to revel in the opportunities that he could become “mighty”. The fact that Wolfe **repeats** “loneliness” **later**, but with **negative connotations**, perhaps reflects the **modernist tendency to portray the self as contradictory**.