Unit 1 Understanding and producing non fiction texts

SPECIMEN

Dateline Timeline

Time allowed
• 2 hours

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
• Answer all questions.
• You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
• Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
• You must refer to the insert provided.
• You must not use a dictionary.

Information
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
• There are 40 marks for Section A and 40 marks for Section B.
• You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
• You will be assessed on the quality of your reading in Section A.
• You will be assessed on the quality of your writing in Section B.

Advice
• You are advised to spend about one hour on Section A and one hour on Section B.
Section A: Reading

Answer all questions.

You are advised to spend about one hour on this section.

Read Item 1, the newspaper article called, ‘We’re mad for meerkats’ by Katie Brennan and answer the questions below.

1 List 4 things the article tells you about meerkats.

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(4 marks)

2 Why has there been so much interest in Yorkshire Wildlife Park?

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(4 marks)
Now read Item 2, ‘Football Legend’ and answer the question below.

3 What reasons can you find in the article for saying that Bobby Charlton was a football legend and a ‘gentleman’?

A football legend ........................................................................................................... 
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A ‘gentleman’ ................................................................................................................ 
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(8 marks)
Now read Item 3, the leaflet called, ‘Habitat for Humanity’ and answer the question below.

4 How does the writer use language to make the leaflet informative and shocking to the reader?

Informative

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Shocking

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(12 marks)
Now look again at all three items. They have each been presented in an interesting and effective way.

5 Choose two of these Items. Compare them using these headings:
- The title and subtitles
- The pictures and captions

I have chosen Item ........ and Item .........

The titles and subtitles

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The pictures and captions

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(12 marks)
Section B: Writing

Answer both questions in this section.

You are advised to spend about one hour on this section. You are advised to spend about 25 minutes on Question 6. You are advised to spend about 35 minutes on Question 7.

6 Imagine that you are going to do work experience in a Wildlife Park or another visitor attraction.

Write a letter to the Personnel Manager introducing yourself and informing him or her about what job you would like to do and why.

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7 You are going to write an article for your school newspaper **persuading your readers** that we should help homeless people.

The article should be about

- where there are homeless people
- who they are and the situation they are in
- what we should do about it

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There are no questions printed on this page
There are no questions printed on this page
The three items that follow are:

- **ITEM 1**: a website news article called *We’re mad for meerkats*
- **ITEM 2**: an article called *Football Legend*
- **ITEM 3**: a charity advertisement *Habitat for Humanity*
We’re mad for meerkats
For furry fun, these creatures always stand and deliver

On July 23, Arthur and Anne became the proud parents of four babies. Who are Arthur and Anne? Well, they are two meerkats in Yorkshire Wildlife Park and the family have been melting the hearts of visitors from all over the country.

This is the year of the meerkat. These furry fellows became a TV sensation thanks to the “Compare the Meerkat” advertising campaign. (“Simples!”) The meerkat is a type of mongoose, just 12 inches high when standing, and easily recognisable by their slender black-tipped tail, pointed face and black patches around both eyes. These black patches act like built-in sunglasses — they help to deflect the glare of the sun.

Meerkats are native to Botswana and South Africa. They live in packs and are very sociable animals. Every pack member has its own job to do, whether it be foraging or being a good playmate. They live under the ground in grass-lined burrows, leaving only during the day.

Meerkats love to munch on scorpions (they take out the sting first), beetles, spiders, centipedes, millipedes, worms, crickets and, more rarely, snakes or the odd small bird.

You’ve probably seen meerkats standing on their hind legs. This allows them to have a good look around for predators who may be near by. They use their tails as a tripod to balance and steady themselves.

Meerkats usually have two to five pups in a litter, so it’s great that Arthur and Anne had four little balls of fuzz.

Meerfacts
• Just like us human beings, a group of meerkats is called a “mob” or a “gang”.
• The name meerkat means marsh cat.
• Meerkats are not cats.
• Meerkats can close their ears.
ITEM 2

Football Legend

He was called the most famous living Englishman. All over the world there were children who could speak only two words of English. One was “Bobby”, the other was “Charlton”. It was not just his great achievements that gave him instant recognition, though he won everything the game has to offer. But he was more than that; he was an old sporting hero.

Bobby Charlton not only had grace and speed and a thunderbolt shot even 30 yards from goal, he was a gentleman. He was never in trouble, never argued with referees and showed honesty and respect to opponents. It made him a perfect role model.

He scored 49 international goals for England, winning 106 caps and a World Cup winner’s medal in 1966. Bobby was chosen to play for England School’s against Wales in the days when 93,000 people would pack the stadium to watch boys play. Word soon went round that here was a special talent and scouts from leading clubs made their way to the Charltons’ terraced home.

Bobby was still a schoolboy when he decided to join Manchester United. They were to be his only club. So the great adventure had begun and by 1953 Charlton had become one of the famous Busby Babes, under the management of the great Matt Busby.

The World Cup of 1966 was to be a highlight of a career which saw success at all levels of the game. The reward for Charlton was not only a World Cup winner’s medal. He was also crowned Footballer of the Year, European Footballer of the Year and voted Best Player in the 1966 World Cup. Charlton was not just a star goal scorer, he worked hard for his team players. Later he worked with and inspired young people. When people spoke about how great he was, he just said “I was lucky”.

Bobby Charlton’s place as one of the greatest ambassadors in the history of British sport rested on his sense of fair play. And Bobby Charlton is still an active and respected ambassador in sport. He played his part in London being awarded the 2012 Olympics.
You can smell the rubbish dump outside Phnom Penh long before you reach it. The city’s rubbish is piled into mountains that smoke and burn and turn into stinking swamps whenever it rains. Across the towering nightmare, tiny figures with plastic sacks pick through the filth day and night for anything they can recycle or sell. If they don’t find enough, they don’t eat. It’s not just dirty work, it’s dangerous. To find the best trash you have to stay close to the diggers. There is a danger of being crushed and injured—especially for the children.

Ten-year old Marie’s family fell into debt because of illness. Home is now a shack of poles and metal sheets on the edge of the dump. There is no running water. She’s learned to live with cut feet from the broken glass and rusting metal. She longs to go to school.

Habitat for Humanity has the dream of a world in which everyone has a safe and decent place to live. As with all our projects the whole community help decide what kind of houses to build and where best to locate them. A place has been found for Marie’s family and 70 families like her. It is close to factories for steady jobs and, nearby, Marie can go to school.

But to complete the project we need money. We need your help. The average cost of a Habitat for Humanity home in the developing world is £1235.

Please send as much money as you can afford and give Marie and those like her a new life.

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ITEM 2: Habitat for Humanity from Habitat for Humanity

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