

OXFORD AQA INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1 – LITERARY NON-FICTION AND COMPOSITION

Wednesday 16 May 2018

07:00 GMT

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer booklet.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer booklet.
- Answer **all** questions from **Section A**. Answer **one** question from **Section B**.
- Write your answers in the answer book provided.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.
- 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 your **reading** in **Section A**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **writing** in **Section B**. 30 marks are awarded for communication and organisation; 10 marks are awarded for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Advice

- You should spend about one hour on **Section A** and about one hour on **Section B**.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
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5	
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7	
8	
9	
TOTAL	

Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section.
You should spend about one hour on this section.

The following passage is taken from a collection of travel writing. The writer is a man who travels widely. Here he tells the story of his meeting with members of the African Hadzabe Bushmen.

Read lines **1 – 11** and answer **Question 1**.

When I first arrived, Mdu was standing on an outcropping of granite boulders in front of a cave entrance from which issued the sweet smell of a wet wood fire. The cold granite glistened from its fine coating of rain. His head was encircled with a halo of baboon hair that I assumed was his mantle of power as none of the others wore such decoration. He pounded his chest twice with a fist and spread his arms wide, as if to say, 'This is my land', implying the vast panorama of the Manyara highlands that enveloped us in western Tanzania. 1 5

I lowered my head, acknowledging his dominance, and with that he beckoned me inside the entrance where his kinsmen eyed me warily. I looked around at those wiry men the colour of wet mud with their baggy shorts held up with braided roots and took in the trailways of veins that stood out on their whippet-thin arms and legs. These are men who can drop an elephant with arrows and shoot birds on the wing; they hit their target on the run and can run all day. 10 11

Question 1

0	1
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What have you learnt about Mdu and his kinsmen?

[5 marks]

Now read lines **12 – 29** and answer **Question 2**.

The Hadzabe are true Bushmen who, like their Saan cousins from Namibia, speak the Khosian click language. They are not just nomadic but build temporary shelters only in the most dire of weather conditions, preferring to sleep on the ground or in caves, and when they make a significant kill the entire village will relocate to feast upon it. They use iron tools, thanks to their willingness to trade meat with the local Barbaig people who are master blacksmiths, but the Hadzabe themselves have never reached that level of sophisticated toolmaking. This isolated pocket of hunter-gatherers, estimated to number fewer than 300, is barely removed from the Stone Age, and they have no desire to join the present world. 12 15

So while early man and I sat staring at each other, I felt a physical presence creeping upon me like a ground fog. Sitting around a fire with a clan of cavemen was not just extremely cool, it was also physically intimidating and emotionally exhausting. I had removed my watch and ring before arriving to prevent them from becoming talismans or being appropriated as unwilling gifts, but Mdu was still fascinated by the buttons and zippers of my clothing. He ran his fingers over both like a blind person seeing through touch. He ran his hands over my arms and through my hair while turning to comment to his clansmen as though delivering a medical lecture about a specimen. He pointed at objects around the fire, naming them in clicks, and seemed amused when I repeated his words, as though I were a quick-learning pet. The others seemed to have little or no interest in me; I was simply there and had no bearing on their lives. 20 25 29

Question 2

0	2
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How does the writer add to your understanding of the Hadzabe Bushmen in lines 12 – 29?

[6 marks]

Now read lines **30 – 48** and answer **Question 3**.

Suddenly Mdu stood up, so I did too. He grabbed his bow and arrows and we exited the cave, trotting down a muddy trail into thick bush. Mdu would stop and squat, pointing out minute scratches in the soil or bent leaves that I assumed were signs of an animal's passing. He watched me intently to make sure I was taking it all in. Sometimes he froze in mid-stride and sniffed the air, and at any little sound his bow was instantly loaded with an arrow. 30

He melted into the surroundings, silently, as much a part of the forest as the trees or animals, and he pointed at things in branches I could not see until I realized that he was talking to me like a teacher to a small child. Why else would I have approached him if not to learn? I was happy to be his student. 35

He would squat there in the dirt staring at me, unmoving as I tried to enter his mind. I lost track of time and miles as I walked by his side. Hundreds of generations of Hadzabe had walked that trail but I may very well have been the first white man. Language was not necessary as Mdu passed on to me a sense of complete merging with both the spiritual and natural environments. 40

He clicked away as we walked, seemingly oblivious to what I may or may not have understood. I pointed out a contrail in the overhead sky and wondered if it meant anything to him other than a bird or spirit. At that point he gave a great sigh as though I was just not getting it and began a lengthy oration of clicks mixed with words that I found fascinating. He gestured all about him throughout this grand lesson, then finished with a foot stomp to emphasize all that he had said was final. 45 48

Question 3

0	3
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What do lines **30 – 48** show you about the relationship between the writer and Mdu?

[6 marks]

Now read lines **49 – 65** and answer **Question 4**.

He would disappear into thick brush then pop back out and beckon me to follow. One of those times I lost him for several minutes and he did not reappear. It was then that I thought I heard him coming through the undergrowth and was surprised at how much noise he was suddenly making. I froze in place just as a large and very enraged baboon broke cover no more than 20 feet from me. It was shrieking and stomping its foot, its hands balled into tight fists. I knew that baboons are fierce predators who will not hesitate to attack a man. 49 50

The next few seconds are recalled as if in a dream because I froze in the moment and retain only flashes of memory. Before I could move I heard the dull thud as the points of two arrows pierced the animal's neck. Suddenly the baboon, that moments before was poised to rip me to shreds, lay before me twitching from the neurotoxin on the arrows that were ending its life. Both were clean kill shots. Mdu stood to one side while one of his men was on my other; both already had another arrow loaded in their bows. I had not heard either one of them nor was I aware they were that close. 55 60

Mdu's man had trailed us without me realizing it and Mdu had used me as bait to draw the baboon out. They had me covered the entire time and had demonstrated a perfect example of a coordinated hunt. The realization that he had used me like a tool was slowly being tattooed on my memory. 65

Question 4

0	4
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How does the writer reveal his thoughts and feelings in lines **49 – 65**?

[7 marks]

Now read the rest of the passage (lines 66 – 80) and answer **Questions 5 and 6**.

With adrenalin pulsing, I had no time to be angry at what might have cost me my life. At the same time the writer in me was already thinking, 'What a story! Who will believe this? I WAS THE BAIT!' While his wingman shouldered the dead beast like a backpack and took off down the trail, Mdu approached and streaked my cheeks with the creature's blood, acknowledging my part in the hunt. He handed me his bow to carry on the long walk back to the cave and I considered that an honour.

I felt tears through the drying blood on my cheeks as emotion took over, not only from the wild animal attack and my dramatic rescue, but from my acceptance by this hunter-gatherer clan. My day had been an avalanche of emotion and, after we climbed the small rise back to the cave entrance, I reached for a notebook to record my thoughts but found my hands shaking too much to write anything.

Sleep took me briefly, but I awoke to the smell of burning meat and the sight of Mdu kneeling before me, holding a sizzling piece of seared baboon. He was about to hand it to me, but first, he leaned in and touched his forehead to mine. At that moment I felt connected to all of human existence.

Question 5

0	5
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The following extracts are taken from across the **whole** passage. How does the writer use language in them to create a picture of Mdu?

'He pounded his chest twice with a fist and spread his arms wide, as if to say, "This is my land".' (lines 4 – 5)

'Sometimes he froze in mid-stride and sniffed the air, and at any little sound his bow was instantly loaded with an arrow.' (lines 33 – 34)

'He melted into the surroundings, silently, as much a part of the forest as the trees or animals...' (lines 35 – 36)

'Mdu's man had trailed us without me realizing it and Mdu had used me as bait to draw the baboon out.' (lines 62 – 63)

[7 marks]

Now think about the **whole** passage.

Question 6

0	6
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What impressions do you have of the man telling the story?

Support your answer with reference to the text.

[9 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question in this section.
You should spend about one hour on this section.

Remember to:

- spend time thinking about the question and planning your ideas
- organise your ideas into paragraphs
- communicate clearly
- spend five minutes checking and editing your writing.

Either**Question 07**

0	7
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‘People learn more from experience than they learn from study.’

Discuss.

[40 marks]**Or****Question 08**

0	8
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Describe the place where you feel, or have felt, most happy.

[40 marks]**Or****Question 09**

0	9
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Write a story called: ‘The Trick’.

[40 marks]**END OF QUESTIONS**

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