OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE UNIT

CRITICAL THINKING

Unit 1: Credibility of Evidence
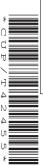
FRIDAY 18 MAY 2007

F491

Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Additional materials:
Resource Booklet

Candidate Name

Centre Number

Candidate Number

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and Candidate number in the boxes above.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Use blue or black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Do **not** write in the bar code.
- Do **not** write outside the box bordering each page.
- WRITE YOUR ANSWER TO EACH QUESTION IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.
- Additional answer space is available on the lined page at the back of this book. Answers on this page must be clearly numbered.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- You will be awarded up to 5 marks overall for the quality of your written communication.
- The number of marks for each part question and question is given in brackets.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **80**.

FOR EXAMINER'S USE	
Section A	
Section B	
Section C	
QWC/5	
TOTAL	

This document consists of **12** printed pages.

Documents 1, 2 and 3 in the Resource Booklet contain reports concerning the alleged link between the MMR vaccine and rising figures for autism. Read these documents and then answer the questions which follow.

Section A: Assessing the credibility of documents

1 Consider the reporting of alleged negative consequences from medical treatment.

State **three** weaknesses in the credibility of reports that might result from the context of these types of medical dispute in general.

1 ....

....

....[1]

2 ....

....

....[1]

3 ....

....

....[1]

2 Consider the graphs in Document 2.

(a) Give **two** reasons that could be given to account for the rising figures for autism in the first graph, other than the alleged effects of the MMR vaccination.

1 ....

....

2 ....

....[2]

(b) Explain how the statistics in the second graph counter the view that there is a connection between the MMR vaccination and rising figures for autism.

....

....

....

....[2]

3 Consider the credibility of Documents 2 and 3.

For each document make **three** points of assessment, each of which should identify a relevant credibility criterion. Use this criterion to assess credibility, making reference to the text to support your assessment.

Document 2

1 ....

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....[3]

2 ....

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....[3]

3 ....

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....[3]

[Turn over

Document 3

1 ....

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....[3]

2 ....

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....

....[3]

3 ....

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....[3]

Total Marks for Section A [25]

Section B: Assessing the credibility of evidence

4 Consider the claim of Professor Stephen Senn in Document 1.

(a) State what is implied by his claim relating to the statistics.

....

....[1]

(b) State additional information which, if true, would weaken this claim.

....

....[1]

(c) Assess the credibility of this claim.

....

....

....[1]

5 Consider the claims made by the mother in Document 1.

Identify **two** assumptions she makes. Give an alternative explanation that would challenge each assumption.

Assumption:..

....[1]

Alternative explanation:..

....

....[1]

Assumption:..

....[1]

Alternative explanation:..

....

....[1]

[Turn over

6 Consider the claims made by Dr Andrew Wakefield and Dr Elizabeth Miller.

Assess the credibility of their evidence.

For each person make **two** points of assessment, each of which should:

- identify a claim made
- assess how this is strengthened or weakened by any relevant credibility criterion
- state what you must suppose to be true in order to reach your assessment.

Dr Andrew Wakefield's claim that ....

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....[4]

Dr Andrew Wakefield's claim that ....

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....[4]

Dr Elizabeth Miller's claim that ....

....

....

....

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....[4]

Dr Elizabeth Miller's claim that ....

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....[4]

7   Use **one** credibility criterion to demonstrate which source, either Dr Andrew Wakefield or Dr Elizabeth Miller, is more credible than the other.

....

....

....

....[2]

Total Marks for Section B [25]

[Turn over

Section C: Coming to a reasoned judgement

8   Come to a reasoned judgement as to how likely it is that there is no link between the MMR vaccine and the rising figures for autism. In your answers you should refer to the individual sources within the documents.

   (a) State **two** precise claims that are corroborated. Support these with references from the text.

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   ....[6]

   (b) State **two** precise claims where conflict arises. Support these with references from the text.

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   ....

   ....[6]

(c) Identify the individual sources within the documents on each side of the dispute. Explain any sources which do not fit onto either side.

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....

....[4]

(d) Explain the weight of evidence.

....

....

....

....[2]

(e) Assess the quality of evidence on each side of the dispute.

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....

....[6]

[Turn over

(f) State the reasoned judgement that results from your assessment as to how likely it is that there is no link between the MMR vaccine and rising figures for autism in children.

....

....[1]

Total Marks for Section C [25]

If you use the following lined page to complete the answer to any question, the question number **must** be clearly shown.

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PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE