

ADVANCED GCE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Experience into Words
READING BOOKLET
FRIDAY 13 JUNE 2008

2719/RB

Morning
Time: 2 hours 15 minutes



- **The first fifteen minutes of the examination are for reading the passages in this reading booklet.**
- During this time you may make any annotations you choose on the passages themselves.
- The questions for this examination are given on a separate sheet.
- **You must not turn over the question sheet, or write anything in your answer booklet, until instructed to do so.**
- The Invigilator will tell you when the fifteen minutes begin and end.
- You will then be allowed to open the question paper.
- You will have **two hours** to work on the tasks.

This document consists of **5** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

Passage A

The monologue below is from the play *Coriolanus* by William Shakespeare. Coriolanus is a Roman general who has defected to the Romans' enemy, the Volsces, and is about to launch an attack with them on Rome, the city where he grew up and prospered. Here he refuses in public to listen to his friend and his family who have come to try to change his decision – even though in private he is having second thoughts.

This last old man,
 Whom with a crack'd heart I have sent to Rome,
 Loved me above the measure of a father;
 Nay, godded me, indeed. Their latest refuge
 Was to send him; for whose old love I have, 5
 Though I show'd sourly to him, once more offer'd
 The first conditions, which they did refuse
 And cannot now accept; to grace him only
 That thought he could do more, a very little
 I have yielded to: fresh embassies and suits, 10
 Nor from the state nor private friends, hereafter
 Will I lend ear to. Ha! what shout is this?
 Shall I be tempted to infringe my vow
 In the same time 'tis made? I will not. (*His family approaches*)
 My wife comes foremost; then the honour'd mould 15
 Wherein this trunk was framed, and in her hand
 The grandchild to her blood. But, out, affection!
 All bond and privilege of nature, break!
 Let it be virtuous to be obstinate.
 What is that curt'sy worth? Or those doves' eyes, 20
 Which can make gods forsworn? I melt, and am not
 Of stronger earth than others. My mother bows;
 As if Olympus to a molehill should
 In supplication nod: and my young boy
 Hath an aspect of intercession, which 25
 Great nature cries 'Deny not.' Let the Volsces
 Plough Rome and harrow Italy: I'll never
 Be such a gosling to obey instinct, but stand,
 As if a man were author of himself
 And knew no other kin. 30

Passage B

The passage below is a transcription of a press conference held at a ski resort in 2005. In it Prince Charles [C] and his sons, Prince William [W] and Prince Harry [H], answer questions in public posed by a reporter [R]. However, not realising that the microphones can pick up his private comments, Charles is unaware that his other observations are being heard.

The following key can be used as a guide:

(.) – micro pause

_____ – stressed word or phrase

R: look like you know each other

C: do i (.) er put my arms around you

W: no (.) dont (.) but you can take the horrible glasses away

C: do not be rude about my glasses (.) i couldnt bear it if you were (.) what do we do

5

W: keep smiling (.) keep smiling

R: how are you feeling about the wedding

W: very happy (.) er (.) very pleased (.) it will be a good day

R: prince charles how are you feeling about the wedding

C: well its a nice thought (.) i am very happy you have heard of it anyway (.) these bloody people (.) i cant bear that man (.) i mean (.) hes so awful (.) he really is

10

W: so long as i dont lose the ring (.) it will be my one responsibility (.) im bound to get something wrong

R: as this is your last holiday together before the wedding (.) i was wondering william and harry if you were planning any kind of appropriate send off for your father

15

H: its been and done

W: youve missed it (.) it was good fun

R: he wasnt chained to anything

C: what makes him think that

20

W: im just gagging to be on the slopes (.) simple as that

Passage C

The extract below is from an article in which the writer offers his own personal view of a television programme. In it Prince Charles, Prince William and Prince Harry gave a public interview to promote the thirtieth anniversary of the Prince's Trust, an organisation Prince Charles set up to help young people. The interview was followed by a concert.

It's a fair old way from Byker Grove to Highgrove. The future king of England and his two strapping great sons, all wearing beige trousers, are taking two little Geordies off the telly around the grounds of their country retreat. Both parties are trying to appear relaxed while desperately looking for some common territory.

These must be the steerbles. Steerbles? What can they mean? Ah, stables! Do you guys ride at all? No, not at all. Well, it would be a long way up for you, little people from the north. Is that cherry blossom? No, it's magnolia. Now that's a daffodil, my mum has one of those. Yes it is, well done.

Inside the house, they sit facing each other, them and us. Ant and Dec are lost on an enormous sofa, while Charles sits squashed between Harry and William on a tiny one, a huge three-headed royal monster with six beige legs. Or maybe the sofas are the same size, and that's just the way it looks.

Charles rambles on in that way he has, using his extraordinary range of vowel sounds that don't exist outside the royal family. "I can't believe it is 30 years ... it is rather worrying ... but I'm still alive ... meeting the particular needs and challenges of people ... everybody has something ... it's just a matter of giving them that self-confidence ... the Spice Girls have been marvellous ..."

Ant and Dec have forgotten who they are: they're not cheekily irreverent, they nod politely, they even call him "sir", for God's sake. Shame on the pair of you. I know it's all in a good cause, to get young people back on track, off drugs and on to abseiling, but that doesn't mean you have to disappear up his royal highness's jacksie.

What about the boys then? William says they work well as a team (and they are nice together, the three of them, in their funny little world). But he'll still get the odd bollocking, he says. Bollocking? Did our future king really say that to the nation?

Harry's mind seems elsewhere – Chinawhite or Tantra most probably. Or perhaps he's looking forward to the Sugababes.

This is **The Prince's Trust 30th Birthday – Live** (ITV1, Saturday) with a concert at the Tower of London. The whole thing is the usual bore-athon, an endless procession of celebrities, many of whom I have to Google, reminding us to ring the big phone number in the corner of the screen.

Wills and Harry are here, too (I hope they do better than the last two young princes to visit the Tower). They sit with their dad in the royal enclosure, dressed in identical grey suits for the gig, nodding and tapping along. Camilla's there, too – I think she'd quite like to get down with the crowd and boogie.

There are some high points – the Highgrove interview, of course, and Annie Lennox still sings like an angel. Lionel Ritchie, too, doing All Night Long – appropriately, because that's what the whole thing has felt like. Three and a half hours! I really do hope they made lots of money, but why does good cause always mean bad TV?

Ah, it's over, praise the lord. The princes file on stage, with Camilla and Cat Deeley. Charles rambles on again: "I know my limitations ... but at least I have my glow stick ... wonderful event ... incredible people ... thank them more than I can possibly say ..."

William nods along to his father's words. And Harry tries it on with Cat.

Extract from Sam Wollaston, *The weekend's TV*, The Guardian, 22 May 2006 © Guardian News & Media Ltd 2006

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