

General Certificate of Education
January 2007
Advanced Level Examination



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 4 Language Investigation

EA4W

Thursday 1 February 2007 9.00 am to 11.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is EA4W.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for the question are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate. The legibility of your handwriting and the accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be considered.

Advice

- It is recommended that you spend at least 30 minutes studying the texts and planning your investigation. When you write your answer, the majority of your time should be devoted to analysis of data.

Language Investigation

Your task is to carry out a language investigation using **some or all** of the texts that have been provided for you.

Description of Texts

These texts are about different sporting activities.

Text	Genre and date of publication	Title
1	Book 1931	<i>301 Things a Bright Girl Can Do: 'Swimming'</i>
2	Annual 1972	<i>The Victor Book for Boys: 'Tips From The Tough'</i>
3	Advertisement Promotion in <i>The Observer Sport Monthly</i> 2005	<i>Clubs Class</i>
4	News items from <i>Angler's Mail</i> 2005	<i>Angler's Mail: 'News'</i>

Suggested structure for writing up your investigation

1: Aim(s)

State the aim(s) of your investigation and identify which texts you are using.

2: Method

Explain the linguistic frameworks you are using to analyse your data.

3: Analysis

Present a detailed analysis of your data.

4: Conclusion

Draw your conclusions in response to your aim(s) and based on your analysis.

5: Evaluation

Evaluate the validity of your conclusions and suggest any further research that might be undertaken.

(60 marks)

Text 1

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Text 2

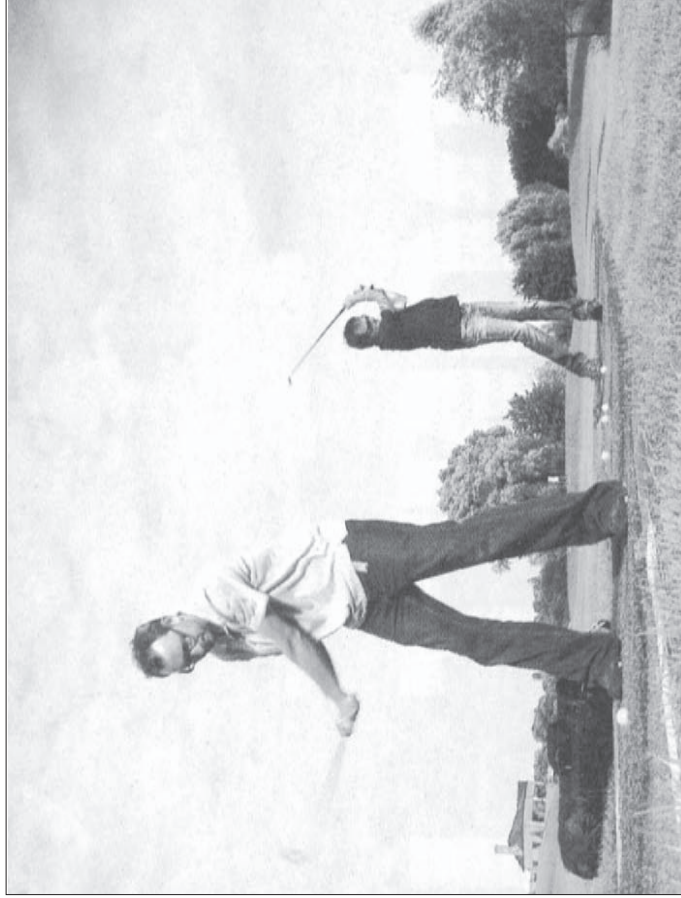
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CLUBS CLASS

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It had never been my favourite game.

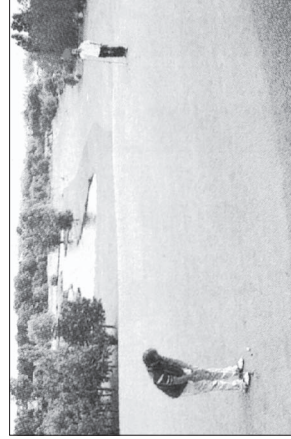
'A good walk ruined,' Oscar Wilde once quipped. We're talking golf – the stuffy sport of Alan Partridge, dodgy clothes and middle-aged spread. Yet, here I am, rolling around with laughter as my mate Peter hits his ninth ball into the water at the 18th hole. We've just had a great day learning to play the game – my first round of golf – and all previous misconceptions have been smashed.

Meanwhile, my golf experience was about to start with some invaluable advice on how to hold the club.

'The two most important things you have to learn from the start are balance and grip,' says Konrad Brochocki, Peter's friend and our own personal golf instructor, as he retrieves a seven iron from the golf bag to demonstrate. 'Keep your knees slightly bent and your weight in the balls of your feet. And remember,

We carry on practising our drives, learn to chip the ball out of the rough and then head to a green where I sink a nice long putt.

That evening, golf appetites whetted, we eat in the hotel restaurant where we dine on decent French grub, including foie gras and sea bass. The next morning is followed with an equally tasty breakfast. I prepare for the day by filling my boots as I realise my beginner's round of golf could take rather a long time.



It all started with a phone call earlier in the week. 'Let's go to France and play golf,' suggested Peter. I mentioned the fact I had never even held a golf club and don't own any dodgy golf clothes. 'Don't worry, my mate Konrad is coming along – he's a golf pro and will be able to show you a few things. And in France the golf courses are really relaxed, so you'll be all right in T-shirt, jeans and trainers.' And how are we going to get to France? 'We'll take the ferry from Dover to Calais,' said Peter. 'It's really quick, they leave every hour or so and it's only 90 minutes down the motorway from London.' 'I'm impressed but then comes the deal breaker. 'Did you know they still have tax-free shops on board?'

Two days later and there's four of us jumping into a car on a Saturday morning, luggage and golf bags loaded in the boot, raring to go. With some head-banging sounds on the stereo, we soon eat up the miles to Dover and before we know it, we're sailing the high seas.

We head for the cool, airy, Club Lounge, set at the front of the ship and filled with plush sofas and swish designer furniture. We'd paid a £10 supplement when we booked, and so we're greeted with champagne. Tea, coffee, newspapers and a lunch menu are also available.

relax.' Not surprisingly, this leads to some strange looks from our fellow passengers.

After sailing for little more than an hour, we dock at Calais and begin the 75-minute journey down the French motorway to the town of Arras. Peter has booked us into the Golf Hotel D'Arras, a cute three-star hotel just outside the town centre that overlooks an 18-hole championship golf course. Peter had booked a golf package (B&B and a round of golf) via golfholidaysabroad.com. There was even a link to a printable map with directions – the wonders of the internet.

'Let's get down to the driving range and get you hitting some balls,' says Konrad after we check in. We share the few clubs we have and Konrad is soon teaching me the secrets of the 'swing'. 'Face the ball, get into a comfortable, balanced stance, with a good grip on the club and then lift it across your body to a three o'clock position,' he says. 'Then ease it through in a relaxed, swinging motion. You don't have to hit it hard, let the club do the work.'

With the first two swings I miss the ball completely. On the third I connect with a loud 'ping' and the ball flies into the air in a gentle arc landing about 100 metres away. Blimey. Gary, the fourth member of our party, knocks the ball about 200 metres. 'I've never played the game before,' he claims. I don't believe him.



The first hole is a total blast. Peter manages to sink his opening shot into the river on the left of the fairway. Then he drops his second stroke into the lake on the right. When the poor bloke does exactly the same on the third we are all on the floor. I manage a couple of decent shots but complete the hole in 10.

Over the next few hours a pattern of play emerges. Peter invariably thumps his shots into the water though still manages some excellent strokes; Gary golfs well, insisting he's never played before (he fools no one, particularly when he hits a birdie); Konrad gets an eagle at the 14th hole and completes in par while I manage a few good strokes with

lots of typical beginner's shots – including one that skids off the roof of the buggy on to the green. It stays sunny throughout, we throw one or two golf buggy races into the mix – the slippery fairways are perfect for handbrake turns – and a great day ends with Peter once again finding the water.

'I can't believe how well you guys have played today,' says Konrad as we head back up the motorway for the short drive to Calais.

What I can't believe is how much I enjoyed learning to play a game that I'd thought was simply the province of stuffy old men. Or, as we loaded up the boot with beer, wine and cigars from the tax-free shopping on board, what an easy journey we'd had.

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