

General Certificate of Education
January 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 2 Language and Social Contexts

ENB2

Wednesday 11 January 2006 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 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 ENB2.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Question 1 may be answered by **re-sit** candidates **only**.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 70.
- There are 35 marks for each question.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

Answer **two** questions.

There are **35** marks for each question.

Question 1 may be answered by **re-sit** candidates **only**.

1 Language and Power

The following text is a copy of a standard letter used by a firm of solicitors to inform clients about what will happen after they have failed to turn up at Court.

What does this text show about the use of language and how it relates to issues of power and authority? You should refer in detail to the text and to ideas from language study.

You may wish to comment on **some** of the following:

- the presentation of power in the letter;
- the specialised purpose of the letter;
- language choices in relation to audience.

The text is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

2 English Dialects of the British Isles

The following text is an extract from an article which was published on *The Mirror* newspaper's website.

What does this text show about attitudes to regional dialects? You should refer in detail to the text and to ideas from language study.

You may wish to refer to the following:

- your understanding and knowledge of regional dialects and stereotypes;
- the journalist's attitude towards dialects.

WHY NORTHERN DIALECTS ARE WORTH SAVING

Feb 12 2004

Bill Borrows

THE British Library has launched a new website to preserve gems of Northern dialects
5 that are in danger of being swamped by Estuary English. Here, Mancunian BILL
BORROWS explains why their patter is worth saving.

WELL, I'll go to the foot of our stairs (1). They've only gan (2) and put sommat (3) on
t'internet about how we all talk Up North.

Or Oop North as those that have never been there think we talk (rather than Ap Norf as
10 they actually mispronounce it).

The gadgies (4) at the British Library seem to believe that our regional dialects are
under threat from the remorseless march of Estuary English. Are they 'eckers like (5).

Like any mode of communication, the way we speak is constantly evolving.

Get in a Joe Baxi (6) in Liverpool and tell the driver that he talks like somebody from
15 Essex and he'll probably call you a queg (7) or, at the very least, tell you to go throw sh*t
at yourself (8). And quite right too. Try it in Bolton or Rochdale and, if you're lucky,
you'll be told to get bent (9). But if you are unlucky you'll find yourself right in the mire
(10). In Manchester you would probably find yourself put right on your toes (11). Or in
hospital. And if you're in the 'ossie (12), you're back in Liverpool. There's no excuse for
20 giving anyone a good hiding (13), but how would you like it if some daft ha'peth (14)
started mithering (15) you about this and that when you were at work? It's bang out of
order (16). No offence (17) to our Southern readers, but you know what cockneys (18)
are like. The way they go on with themselves (19) is enough to give anybody the
screaming ab-dabs (20). We're just not like that. Or perhaps I'm being mardy (21).

25 ...AND HOW THOSE TERMS TRANSLATE DARN SARF

1 I find myself astonished.

2 Gone.

3 Something.

4 Elderly employees.

30 5 Don't be ridiculous, that is a preposterous assumption.

6 Taxi – after the Vanessa Paradis hit, Joe Le Taxi.

7 A person of negligible worth.

8 To reject the assertion in the strongest terms possible.

9 You are irritating me, I suggest you attempt to do something painful to yourself.

35 10 In a considerable amount of trouble.

11 To embrace the notion that you might be best advised to consider the benefits of
running away.

12 Erm... the hospital.

13 To be beaten repeatedly.

40 14 Paul Gascoigne.

15 Bothering.

16 Very wrong. Perhaps even extremely wrong.

17 Some offence.

18 Anybody born south of Birmingham.

45 19 To indulge in a prolonged period of self-absorption.

20 The fear.

21 Stropky – like Posh having to wash up.

Turn over ►

3 Language and Technology

The following text is an exchange of five linked emails between two work colleagues, Josie and Michael. The emails appear as they would in an inbox, i.e. the final message of the series (or string) appears first.

Write about some of the significant features of the text. You should refer in detail to the text and to ideas from language study.

You may wish to comment on **some** of the following:

- language features chosen in relation to audience, purpose and context;
- the impact of technology on the communication;
- the linguistic conventions of email.

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Turn over ►

4 Language and Occupation

The following text is a transcript of a conversation recorded in a busy restaurant kitchen between the restaurant manager and two chefs.

What does this text show about language use and how it relates to occupation? You should refer in detail to the text and to ideas from language study.

You may wish to comment on **some** of the following:

- the language choices of the speakers;
- the relationships between the speakers;
- your own experience and understanding of work related talk.

Key: (.) indicates a brief pause.

Numbers within brackets indicate length of pause in seconds.

Underlining indicates emphasis in speech.

Words between vertical lines are spoken simultaneously.

Other contextual information is in italics in square brackets.

Jack: restaurant manager (in charge of the kitchen and the restaurant).

Ed: head chef.

Al: sous chef (2nd most senior chef).

- Jack: check on one no starters Al (.) one risotto (.) one chicken [*background noise*]
 Ed: yeah
 Al: | yeah |
 Jack: | Al | get us a bottle Chablis (.) table two
 5 Al: I'm not | (.) [*laughter*] don't you chuffin' start mate |
 Ed: | are you gonna wash any dishes tonight |
 Jack: right ready for starters on | two |
 Al: | yeah | yeah yeah yeah
 Jack: Ed (.) | oy |
 10 Ed: | get | out of me way [*background noise*]
 Jack: check on one (.) one crab no toast (.) one chicken salad (.) one trout (.) one liver (2.0) just
 cook it a little bit firmer | Al | [*background noise/laughter* (4.0)]
 Ed: | yeah | [*laughs*] how's table seven doing anyway
 Jack: two minutes (.) seven
 15 Ed: are table two ready for starters
 Jack: two ready on starters big | lad |
 Ed: | yeah | (3.0) cookin' table two [*background noise* (4.0)]
 Jack: just use yur bloody hand (3.0) right one dessert check one soufflé (.) one strawberry
 granita (.) one tart
 20 Al: no worries
 Jack: Laura (.) one espresso (.) one coffee (.) one decaffeinated latte (2.0)
 Ed: is that other table ready for starters yet Jack
 Jack: table
 Ed: is it table five or sommat (.) or are they | on mains |
 25 Jack: | we're just | takin' mains (.) come on Ed lay it
 on mate (.) Friday night service (.) we've got fifty booked
 Ed: it's bad enough that we've gotta [*inaudible*] carry you but we've gotta carry | Al |
 Al: | I don't |
 know what the bloody hell's goin' | on |
 30 Ed: | same | old (.) same old innit [*laughter* (6.0)]
 Jack: check on one (.) one prawn cocktail (.) one melon
 Al: prawn | cocktail |
 Jack: | hey | customer's always right (.) pay attention (2.0) right soufflé goin' (.)
beautiful soufflé that [*background noise* (5.0)]
 35 Al: starters on two gone | yet |
 Ed: | yeah | they're long | gone dude (.) long gone |
 Jack: | ready for mains on two please |

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 2 Source: BILL BORROWS (*Daily Mirror* columnist)

Question 4 Source: Melton's Restaurant, York.

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