

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2706/RB

Exploring, Analysing and Evaluating English

Monday

27 JUNE 2005

Morning

2 hours 15 minutes

Reading Booklet

TIME 2 hours + 15 minutes' reading time

- **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 question paper consists of 4 printed pages.

Passage A

This is a transcription of part of a series of interviews with Mrs. B, a woman who grew up in rural Leicestershire in the 1920s and 1930s. Here she describes the household chores she was expected to do.

Mrs B: there was always a lot to do at home yer see and by the time (1) i mean wash-day was a regular thing in the village on mondays (2) so yer went home and yer folded the clothes (.) and then yer put the baby in (.) the pram and yer were allowed to go out (.) take the baby with yer (3) and (.) erm (.) my mother used to say well you didn't want to sit (.) around with the baby (.) so i put some (1) sewing was put into the pram (1) socks to mend and (.) things like that (.) yer could do that while yer were sitting (.) i never thought anything of it (.) i mean it was just one of those things (.) but grandma used ter (1) see me and shed say (.) have yer got any mending there and shed take it (3) but (.) erm (.) then we came out of school at half pst three or a quart ter four and then of course the routine would start (2) wed have ter do all the jobs (.) set the table fer tea (.) have our tea then set the table again for my father coming at six oclock for **his** tea

I: and he was a labourer on the land

Mrs B: erm (.) after hed (.) he was the herd (.) well he was a cowman so he had to milk (.) yer see (.) erm well at four oclock when we came out of school we used to go to my grandmas and collect a can of tea that was a milk can of tea and take up to him (.) erm (.) while he was feeding is cattle (.) and in the (.) erm (.) in the farm there was a (.) where they churned (.) they cut up all the turnips and everything (.) in this mixing thing and we would feed that in for him while he drank his tea (.) hed be watching us (1) there was nothing (.) we wouldnt get hurt (.) and (.) erm that was another thing that we had to do everyday one of us had to do

I: how often would you take his tea

Mrs B: well (.) as often as i could (*laughs*) but there was always (*laughs*) someone else to want to do it (.) cos i mean if we could get away from home doing the jobs we would

I: so how how did you (.) erm make sure that you were the one who was chosen to take tea

Mrs B: well i dont know really i er it was just one of those things (.) if mother said id got to do so and so id got to do it and yer didnt argue (.) yer just did these things

TRANSCRIPTION KEY

- I. Interviewer
- (.) Micropause
- (1) Pause in seconds

Passage B is an extract from a household advice manual published in the 1880s, detailing the duties of domestic servants.

The duties of a general servant being numerous, it is desirable that a well-considered plan embodying the principal work of the house, should be provided. The rules of the house and order of work should be legibly and tersely written on cardboard, suspended on the kitchen wall.

Early rising is an essential quality in a servant who has to do any amount of housework before breakfast. Six o'clock is the latest hour at which she should rise. 5

By getting her work ready in the evening before going to bed, she is enabled to set about it at once on coming down in the morning. In order to do so, she should put everything in its place overnight, wash up plates and dishes, hang up jugs, and tidy her kitchen. If, after having raked out the fire, she lays it with fresh coals and dry firewood, a great point will be gained. All except the front bars of the range can be polished whilst the fire is drawing up. Twice a week a thorough cleaning of the range, boiler, and oven will do more to keep it bright than the hasty brushing generally given when time is short. If a stove is in use, the flues require brushing out with the proper utensils. If not, the soot from the mouth of the chimney should be cleared away with the sweep's brush, as far as an arm can reach. Many a good roast joint is sent to table covered with smuts, from neglect of this precaution. 10 15

Whilst the fire is drawing up, the servant should remain near to give it a timely stir before setting the kettle on, employing her time in the meanwhile in cleaning boots, knives, or any other occupation of the kind.

Passage C is taken from the 2001 edition of the Arizona State University research e-magazine.

Household Chores – The Never-Ending Battle

Are there good reasons....

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Details:

An extract from the 2001 edition of the Arizona State University research e-magazine

.....have it too easy."

Passage D is adapted from the Weekend section of The Daily Telegraph .

Household plc: vacuuming
(Filed: 18/02/2004)

You'd get more out.....

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Details:

An extract from an article from The Daily Telegraph on vacuuming

.....to make a noise."

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