## ADVANCED GCE UNIT <br> ENGLISH LANGUAGE <br> Language Contexts - Structural and Social <br> MONDAY 11 JUNE 2007 Morning

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (16 pages)


## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and Candidate number in the spaces on the answer booklet. If you use more than one booklet, fasten them together.
- Answer two questions, one question from Section $A$ and one question from Section B.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.


## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is 30 . This is shown in brackets [ ] at the end of each question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 60 .
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication in your answers.
- A table of phonemic symbols is included on page 8. You may use this if you wish, but it is not compulsory to use these symbols in your answer.


## SECTION A: Structures

Answer one question from this Section.

## EITHER

1 Language and Speech Sounds
In the following transcription a female speaker is talking about her studies on a beauticians' course at a local college. The transcriber has noted that the speaker has a strong London or South Eastern accent.

Comment upon the effectiveness of the transcription. Suggest any further technical methods
the transcriber might have used in order to clarify the speaker's accent and delivery.


#### Abstract

im like well (.) lots of it is very good real professional stuff but well (.) i wish the lecturer wouldnt split us up so much (.) right like we as opposites (.) right (.) well like we was two rows in juniors (laughs) well when we are all togevver like then its real fun as a group you know how it is (.) and some of us laugh a $1($.$) lot of the time and i$ fink she gets a bit mad wiv us them times right (.) yeah (.) yeah a bit mad but in the end she seems to take it like it was meant no harm to her right. it is real interessing when we does the facials and fings like that you know the facial pack is real important like (.) yeah and its kinda real fun when we do the work on each other and she comes round and ermm well kinda takes it all to bits and we learn like what clients might not like yeah (.) jus some of the time she is real hard like (2) yeah you know them times when youve fink youve done well good and $i$ mean well good and she comes up $n$ she says somefink real cutting yeah (.) n you fink to yerself why am I goin through dis like i was still in school (3) but ermm well then i suppose we gotta learn it proper if we are ever going to be right good at it one day (1) yeah im really well inter it $n$ enjoyin bein a good student (laughs)


## TRANSCRIPTION KEY

............. Indicates break in transcription
(.) indicates micropause
(2) indicates pause in seconds
(laughs not timed)

OR
Language and Grammar
The following passage is taken from a modern novel. The spelling and punctuation are given exactly as published.

By close reference to the passage comment upon the grammar and syntax used by the author.

Typing. Feeling blue. Samba.....

.......radio. Must keep abreast.

OR
3 Language and Meaning
The following words are all of recent origin. They have no current attribution of meaning in a dictionary.

Referring closely to each word suggest an appropriate dictionary entry. What problems does this exercise raise concerning meaning in language?

EXAMPLE
Base Compound : PETROL-HEAD [Noun]
DEFINITION: Derogatory(?) A person obsessed with the motor-car. Unable to live or think without constant reference to it. A psychological disorder related to the above. Implicit disrespect for anyone not interested in above.

ARTSPEAK

CYBERWIDOW

MIDDLE-YOUTH

PORTFOLIO-CAREER

POST-MILLENNIAL MALAISE

ROCKTABULOUS

## STYLEPHILE

MEZZOBROW

GLITTERATI

## SECTION B: Social Contexts

Answer one question from this Section.

## EITHER

Language Change

Passage (a) is from a 17th century guide-book. Passage (b) is adapted from a review of a book, published in 2005, about the famous London bus called the Routemaster.

By referring closely to the passages, comment upon some of the similarities and differences between 18th and 21st century English, as illustrated here.
(a) The City of London is built upon a sweet and most agreeable Eminency of Ground at the North-side of a goodly River. Adde to this, that the Soil is universally Gravell, not onely where the City itself is placed, but for severall Miles about the Countreys which environ it. Her Waters Christalize her Fountains in every Street and may be conducted to them in such plenty, as Rome herself might not more abound in this liquid ornament, for her pleasure and divertissement. I forbear to enlarge upon the rest of the conveniences which this August and Opulent City enjoies. Since she needs to be relieved from that which renders her less healthy, really offends her, and which darekenes and eclipsis all her other Attributes. And what is all this, but that Hellish and dismall Cloud of SEA-COALE? which is not onely perpetual over her head making her inhabitants breathe nothing but an impure and thick Mist, but renders them obnoxious to a thousand corrupting inconveniences.
(b) THE BUS WE LOVED......

...burger bar, a fetish.

OR

Language and Gender
The following passage is from a newspaper article discussing changing attitudes to women drivers.
By close reference to the passage and, where relevant, your own wider studies in language and gender, comment upon the writer's use of language.

For years the preserve.......

.......about all things female.'

OR
Language and Society
The following passage is adapted from an article discussing the importance of The Dictionary of Contemporary Slang .

By detailed reference to the passage and, where relevant, to your own wider studies of contemporary English usage, discuss the issues raised concerning the 'creative, complex language' of slang.

Teenagers in some UK......

3. .......misfits (nerds, geeks, anoraks).

Extract from Roland White, Education: If you want to talk slang, you'll need this phat guide © Roland White / The Sunday Times, London, 17 July 2005

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## List of Phonemic Symbols and Signs (RP)

1. CONSONANTS OF ENGLISH
/f/ - fat, rough
/v/ - very, village, love
/e/ - theatre, thank, athlete
/d/ - this, them, with, either
/s/ - sing, thinks, losses
/z/ - zoo, beds, easy
/S/ - sugar, bush
/3/ - pleasure, beige
/h/ - high, hit, behind
/p/ - pit, top, spit
/t/ - tip, pot, steep
/k/ - keep, tick, scare
/b/ - bad, rub
/d/ - bad, dim
/g/ - gun, big
/tf/ - church, lunch
/d3/ - judge, gin, jury
/m/ - mad, jam, small
/n/ - man, no, snow
/n/ - singer, long
/1/ - loud, kill, play
/j/ - you, pure
/w/ - one, when, sweet
/r/ - rim, bread

## 2. PURE VOWELS OF ENGLISH

/i:/ - beat, keep
/I/ - bit, tip, busy
/e/ - bet, many
/æ/ — bat
/n/ - cup, son, blood
/a:/ - car, heart, calm, aunt
/ $\mathrm{d} /$ - pot, want
/os/ - port, saw, talk
/a/ - about
/3:/ - word, bird
/v/ - book, wood, put
/u:/ - food, soup, rude

## 3. DIPHTHONGS OF ENGLISH

/eI/ - late, day, great
/aı/ - time, high, die
/aı/ - boy, noise
/au/ - cow, house, town
/av/ - boat, home, know
/ıə/ - ear, here
/ eว / - air, care, chair
/va/ - jury, cure


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    Extract from Emma Smith and Simon Brooke, It's farewell to petrolheads as the girls find top gear; High Flyers
    © The Sunday Times, London, 11 September 2005, www.sunday-times.co.uk
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