

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 3 Interacting through Language

ENA3

Thursday 10 January 2008 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-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 ENA3.
- There are **two** sections:
 - Section A:** Spoken Language Analysis
 - Section B:** Essay Topics
- Answer Question 1 from Section A and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3 from Section B.
- 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 70.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- It is recommended that you spend 20 minutes on the reading and preparation of the data to be analysed in answering Section A.

SECTION A – Spoken Language AnalysisAnswer Question 1.

- 1 **Text A** is a transcript of part of a conversation between three friends: Alison, Beth and Charlotte. They are discussing their own experiences of childbirth and those of friends and family.
- Comment linguistically on the significant features of this interaction.
 - Explain how the participants' use of language creates meanings and shows how they feel.

In your answer you should consider:

the participants' purposes and roles
the structure of the interaction
interactive features of speech
vocabulary and grammar.

(45 marks)

Transcription Key:

- (.) pause of less than a second
(2) longer pause (number of seconds indicated)
bold emphatic stress
[] simultaneous speech
[*italics*] selected non-verbal features
(inaudible) inaudible speech

Text A

- Alison** I rang to speak to Suzie last night and (.) ah (.) she was breastfeeding and I
[couldn't]
- Beth** [are] Suzie and Anna sisters
- Alison** sisters (.) mmm (.) [yeah]
- Beth** [so] she's home from hospital 5
- Alison** yeah (1) she must've been for some time actually (1) the baby was born two weeks
[ago]
- Beth** [oh] (.) right (1) yeah (.) Robyn came home with **all** her gunk from the hospital (.)
aaah cutbacks mean you have to (.) when you go into hospital (.) you have to take
four dozen disposable nappies minimum (.) you have to take your own sanitary 10
napkins (.) you have to take your own nipple pads (.) you have to take your own
lanolin **all** of those things (1) they don't provide it (1) so I had my babies just in
time (.) I also filled my case full
- Charlotte** yees (.) we also [took]
- Beth** [yes] we were mild (.) there was 15
this **huge** woman just down the way from me (.) a couple of bedrooms down (.)
who (.) every time her husband came to visit her went off with a **bagful** of stuff (1)
she was **amazing**
- Alison** no wonder they've had to impose cutbacks [laughter]
- Beth** I only took home things that I'd started like tubes of lanolin (.) that I'd started (.) I 20
threw [in
mmm
yeah]
- Charlotte** Nigel came home in a hospital singlet [laughs] I thought that was
- Alison** really devilish (.) I was really upset when Mike took it back 25
- Charlotte** so this is the government's cuts presumably
- Beth** uh-huh
- Beth** and the other thing is they're doing research on squatting techniques for giving
birth (.) and they've asked Robyn if she would be in a (.) interested in being in the
squatting [group] 30
[God]
- Alison** where they train you during [your time]
- Beth** [you'd have] to learn [to squat]
- Alison** [to squat] and give birth
- Beth** someone was telling me about a programme they'd seen where you (.) was it (.) a 35
new birthing technique (.) squatting in a river on a stone or something or was it in
the water
- Beth** ah (.) the Russians did an in-the-water one (.) or they (.) [they]
- Alison** [where] (.) you're you're in 40
the water or the baby drops in the water
- Charlotte** you're supposed to (inaudible)
- Beth** no (.) you're in the water
- Alison** be **bloody** cold

Source: DAVID NUNAN, *Introducing Discourse Analysis*, Penguin, 1993

SECTION B – Essay Topics

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

EITHER

- 2 Some researchers say that there is a clear difference between the way women and men interact verbally. Others say that women and men share conversational styles. Discuss these views using specific examples.

(25 marks)

OR

- 3 From your study of spoken interaction, examine how language can be used effectively in interviews. You should refer to specific situations and consider the roles of both interviewer and interviewee.

(25 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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