



STUDENT NUMBER

CENTRE NUMBER

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1995

CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH

2 UNIT

PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING

(50 Marks)

QUESTIONS 1 AND 2

*Time allowed—Two hours
(Plus 10 minutes' reading time)*

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your Student Number and Centre Number at the top right-hand corner of both this page and page 9.
- Attempt ALL FOUR questions.
 - Question 1 is worth 10 marks.
 - Question 2 is worth 15 marks.
 - Question 3 is worth 9 marks.
 - Question 4 is worth 16 marks.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided in the two examination booklets.
- Detach the Stimulus Booklet and use it to answer the questions.
- You may write planning notes on the unruled pages of this paper. Clearly cancel any work that you do not wish the examiners to mark, by drawing a line through it.
- Before you begin to answer a question, take time to read through all parts of the question.

QUESTION 1

Marks

Turn to pages 2–3 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Item 1.

Answer the following questions.

- (a) Why is the Australian bush compared to a shopping centre? **2**

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- (b) Give TWO pieces of evidence that show Ms Alan is an expert in her field of work. **2**

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- (c) According to the article, what was the main difference between Aboriginal and early European attitudes to the bush? **2**

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- (d) There are three photographs used in this article. Explain how they suit the article. Give your reasons. **4**

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QUESTION 2

Marks

Turn to pages 4–5 of the Stimulus Book and read Item 2, ‘The Quick Lunch Fix’, and Item 3, ‘Reporter’s Notes’.

- (a) Identify and explain features of the article ‘The Quick Lunch Fix’ which show that it was published in a consumer magazine. **5**

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QUESTIONS 3 AND 4**

QUESTION 3. (Continued)

Marks

Main graphic

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Layout

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Kim Theo

QUESTION 4. (Continued)

**Marks
10**

- (c) Turn to pages 8–9 of the Stimulus Booklet and read Items 6, 7, and 8.

As a result of the World Summit about children and television, the Australian Children’s Television Foundation has invited viewers to submit their opinions.

Write a letter to the Foundation in which you present your opinion of television for children. You may use any ideas in Items 6, 7, and 8, and/or any of your own ideas.

Dr P. Edgar
Director
Australian Children’s Television Foundation
GPO Box 123
Sydney 2000

Dear Dr Edgar

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QUESTION 4. (Continued)

Marks

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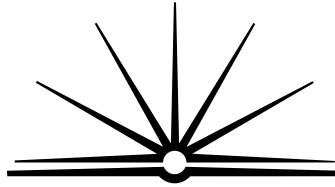
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Yours faithfully
S Ryan
(interested viewer)

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BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1995

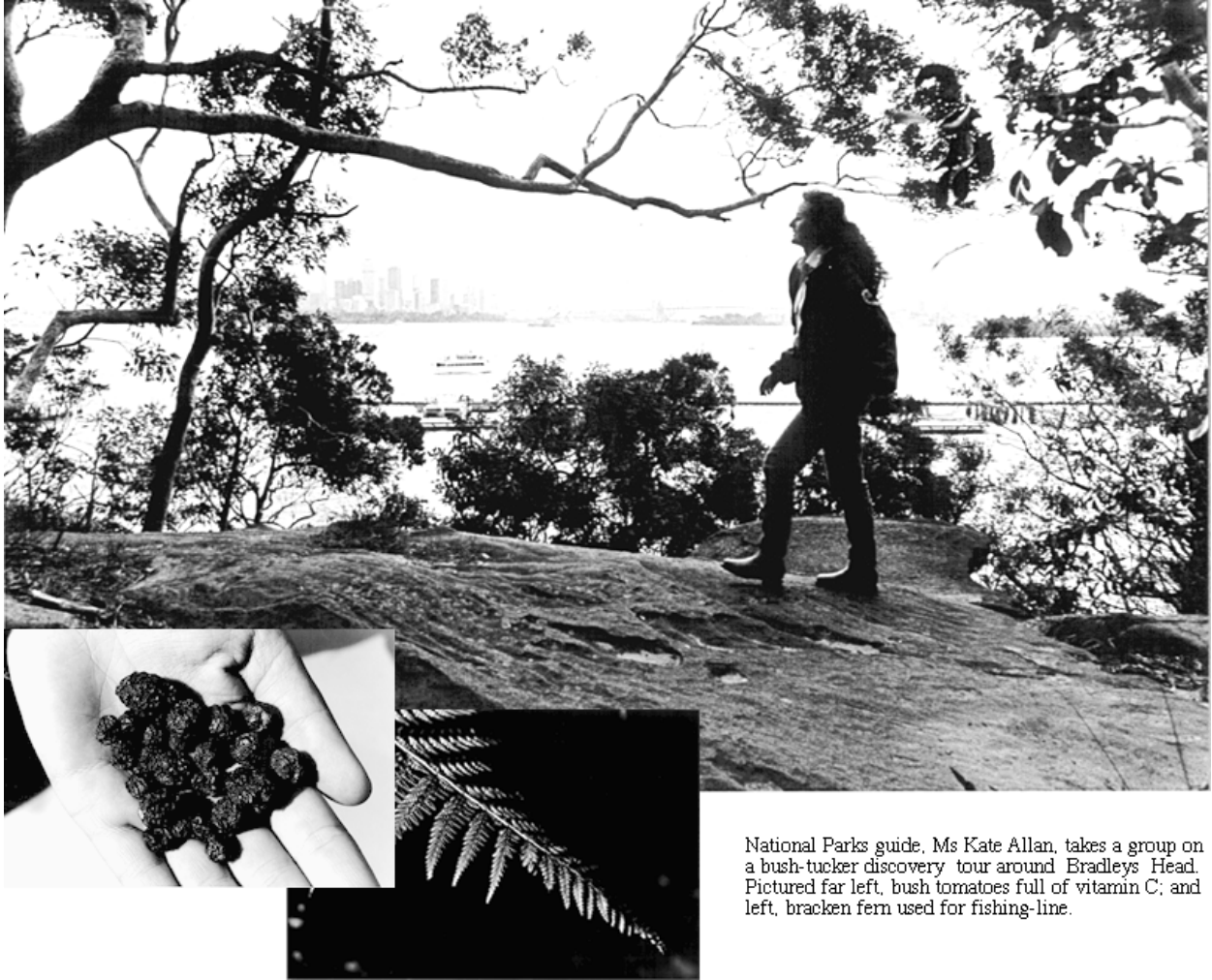
**CONTEMPORARY
ENGLISH**

2 UNIT

**PAPER 1—READING AND WRITING
STIMULUS BOOKLET**

ITEM 1

Aboriginal shopping centre just down the track



National Parks guide, Ms Kate Allan, takes a group on a bush-tucker discovery tour around Bradleys Head. Pictured far left, bush tomatoes full of vitamin C; and left, bracken fern used for fishing-line.

Photographer: Robert Pearce. Sydney Morning Herald. Fairfax Photo Library.

by David Passey

Australia's shimmering bush. Provider of bush tucker and bush medicine. 'It's like a shopping centre without the crowds', said a senior guide with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Ms Kate Allan.

'The bush has its chemist, its grocery shop, its hardware store, and it's all free. But nothing has a label, so no-one knows what's safe.'

Moments from Sydney's urban jungle at Bradleys Head, near Mosman, Ms Allan has set up bush-food discovery tours.

Guides show plants that Aborigines have used for years to stop diarrhoea, catch fish, make bread, soothe insect bites, clean babies, and make glue.

'The Aborigines lived in harmony with the bush, they never exhausted the supplies, and they used the bush to tell them when to do certain things', Ms Allan said.

When the *Acacia longifolia* (wattle) was in flower, it showed it was time to fish for mullet. When it was time to fish, the Aborigines turned to the bracken fern to make fishing lines.

Ms Allan said that Aborigines would take the berries of the *Pittosporum* shrub, crush them, and put them in flowing water for three days to wash out the toxins and then use them to make flour.

As Ms Allan wandered down the track in the bush yesterday, every few steps she stopped and pointed out a new plant as a food or medicine.

'Here is the *Xanthorrhoea* (grass tree)', she said. 'The Aborigines used to mix this plant with kangaroo poo, roll it into balls, and throw it in the fire. The outside would go crusty and inside the molten fluid was a glue.'

Next stop was the natural sarsaparilla plant: 'lick the back of these "bush-lolly leaves" for a taste-sensation hit.'

Ms Allan said that the arrival of the Europeans proved tragic for the Aborigines and their close relationship with the bush.

'The Europeans could not understand the bush, they feared it', she said. 'They had this attitude that they had to dominate the bush, whereas the Aborigines knew you had to work with it.'

'They wanted everything to be like it was back in England, with the same animals, the same plants, and it just didn't work.'

Yet the bush medicines were found to provide cures even for common European sicknesses. The First Fleet's surgeon-general, John White, recorded natural sarsaparilla as an effective tonic against scurvy. Explorer Charles Sturt was saved on his deathbed with a dose of vitamin C from bush tomatoes.

Despite all the benefits of the natural resources, Ms Allan warns against sampling bush tucker unguided. 'Many things look the same in the bush and many things are poisonous', she said. 'People who don't know what's what can taste something and get sick or die.'

The bush-food tours will run every Tuesday and Saturday morning throughout the school holidays, then on the first Saturday of the month.

ITEM 2

The Quick Lunch Fix

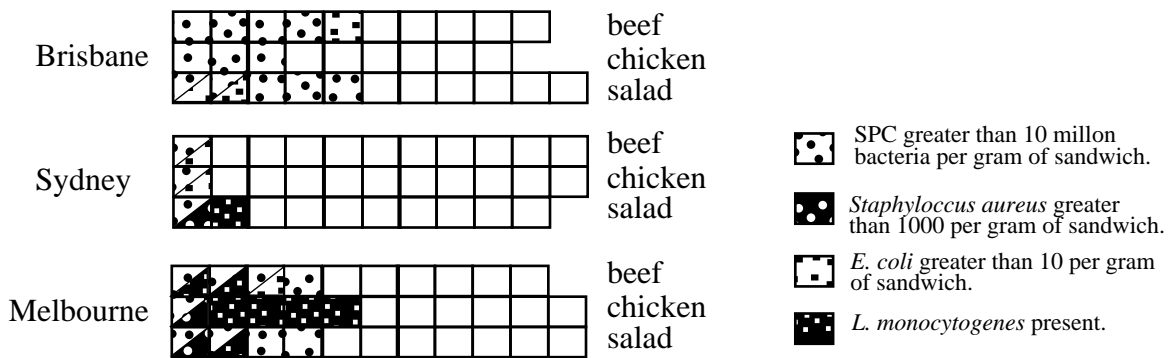
Is it safe to eat pre-packaged sandwiches or could they make you sick?

We tested 89 pre-packaged sandwiches from Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne for food-poisoning and other bacteria. The sandwiches were purchased from mobile canteens, railway stations, service stations, and major airport outlets, where pre-packaged sandwiches dominate. We chose sandwiches with three popular fillings: beef, chicken, and salad-based. All sandwiches were kept chilled during delivery to the testing laboratories.

What was wrong with them

Our test of pre-packaged sandwiches shows that what you bite could be bad for your health.

We tested for the presence of six different types of microbe: *Escherichia coli*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, plus four types of bacteria that cause food poisoning: *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella*, *Clostridium perfringens* (in beef only), and *Campylobacter* (in chicken only). This gave an indication of overall food quality. A standard plate count (SPC) was used to measure the total amount of bacteria present.



The above graphs show the total number of sandwiches of each filling type tested from each city. The number of shaded spaces along the bar represents the total number of poor-quality sandwiches.

Each shaded box indicates the number of sandwiches deemed to be poor because of the presence of particular bacteria or a high standard plate count. Some sandwiches had more than one problem—indicated by the presence of more than one shade in a box.

Reprinted from Choice February 1995 with the permission of The Australian Consumers' Association (ACA).

ITEM 3

Reporter's Notes

The Quick Lunch Fix

ANGLE?	HEADLINE?
Your lunch could be making you sick	Are you dying for lunch?
OR	OR
Sydney is the safest city for pre-packaged sandwiches	Sick sandwiches
OR	OR
Will you ever eat pre-packaged sandwiches after you find out what's in them?	Sydney sandwiches safest
OR	OR
How safe is your take-away lunch?	Refrigerate or perish!
OR	OR
..... ? ?

ITEM 2. (Continued)

What to look for in a good sandwich shop

Look for sandwich preparers who:

- wear gloves
- keep raw and cooked food apart
- use different tongs for each different food
- wipe all utensils on clean cloths
- have clean hands and nails
- wear hair tied back or in a clean cap
- have cuts covered with waterproof dressings
- do NOT handle money as well as food.

*Standard plate count (SPC) too high*

A standard plate count indiscriminately counts the number of both good and bad bacteria. A high SPC means the sandwich has reached the end of its acceptable shelf-life and is close to going off. This could be due to being stored for too long (time abuse), at too high a temperature (temperature abuse), use of ingredients with a high SPC, or a combination of the above reasons.

*Staphylococcus aureus too high*

A high level of *S. aureus* is an indication of poor hygienic practices. It can cause nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, and diarrhoea. Food poisoning occurs within one to seven hours and it takes one to two days to recover.

*E. coli too high*

Its presence indicates probable faecal contamination through poor hygiene—not washing your hands after going to the toilet. If found in food, it could indicate the presence of other intestinal bacteria, including *Salmonella*.

*Listeria monocytogenes found*

L. monocytogenes contamination could have come from the ingredients, or from the site where the sandwich was made, stored, or sold. Not only is *L. monocytogenes* of serious concern to pregnant women (since it can cause miscarriages), its toxins can also cause encephalitis and septicaemia. Not all people are susceptible to the micro-organism, but the consequences are very serious. Any amount of *L. monocytogenes* in the sandwich was considered dangerous.

ITEM 3. (Continued)

QUOTES	
<p>From Dr Tran Nguyen, senior medical adviser to the federal Health Department.</p> <p>‘We really don’t know the extent of food poisoning in Australia because there are no national statistics kept. Also, food poisoning is underrated because few people bother going to the doctor for a mild case of food poisoning—the sort where they might have a fever, vomit, or have diarrhoea for a day.’</p>	<p>From Carol White, publicity officer, <i>Consumer Rights</i> magazine.</p> <p>‘We’ve had a huge response to our report ‘The Quick Lunch Fix’. Our study was small but it backs up what other studies around Australia have shown. The quality of pre-packaged sandwiches is not good enough and people are very worried about this.’</p> <p>From Dr Irene Karam, a consultant to the CSIRO.</p> <p>‘There are about two million cases of food poisoning in Australia each year, but surprisingly most cases of food poisoning result from mishandling food in the home.’</p>

ITEM 4**A AADVERTISING**

183 Elizabeth Street
Yallop 2328
Ph: 660 1234
Fax: 660 4321

FAX

No of pages

To: Kim Theo—Manager, Tempo Fitness Company

From: Jenny Taylor—Promotions Director

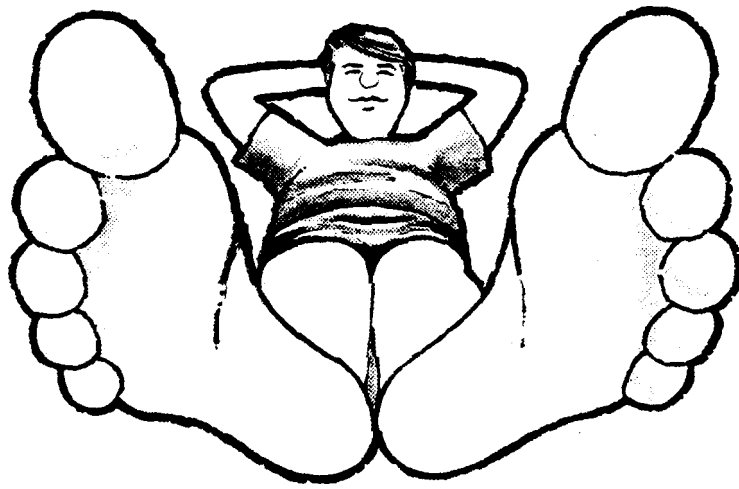
Subject: Tempo System advertisement.

Here is the first draft of the advertisement we discussed. Please evaluate it and write your comments on the form attached.

Please return your comments today.

Jenny Taylor

'I'd like to get fit... but I can think of too many excuses'



I'm too tired!

Exercising the Tempo way increases your energy and reduces fatigue.

I hate exercise!

Exercising the Tempo way makes it something you'll actually want to do.

I haven't got the time!

Exercising the Tempo way increases your mental and physical ability, so you'll get more out of your day.

I don't look good in lycra shorts!

Exercising the Tempo way can be done at home or in a group . . . you make the choice.

The Tempo System is a totally new way of getting into the exercise habit. It's designed to retune your metabolism. It's like having a personal trainer living at home, explaining what to do, giving lots of feedback and motivation, and helping you develop an exercise habit you'll enjoy rather than hate. Exercising the Tempo way costs just \$3.00 a day to develop a life-long exercise habit. It's the best money you'll ever spend.



FREE VIDEO

Phone now for more information on how the Tempo System can make exercise an enjoyable part of your life. The first 1000 callers will receive a free video explaining healthy exercise and the Tempo System.

RING NOW 1 700 123 123

The Tempo System eliminates the excuses!

ITEM 6

Research challenges child TV myths

by Jennifer Sexton

If the argument that television violence prompts aggression is true, ‘millions of people around the world would be running wild’, according to Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology media expert, Ms Lee Burton.

Ms Burton claimed that while children were not immune to the effects of television, they knew how to separate fantasy from reality. They were not passive, innocent watchers but sophisticated viewers capable of interpreting tough issues like divorce and puberty.

‘They love death, disaster, sex, and comedy’, Ms Burton said.

Based on extensive research—most recently in a study using in-depth interviews with 40 children aged 5, 6, 11, and 12—Ms Burton has sought to reject almost every ‘myth’ about how children watch and what they pick up from television.

She will tell a World Summit on Television and Children that television for youngsters should reflect reality by dealing with hard issues, softened by a high element of fantasy.

‘Children are upset by death in the programs they view, particularly if animals or other children are involved. But they don’t want adults to avoid these issues. They want these issues to be dealt with’, Ms Burton asserted.

‘We have to recognize that children’s understandings of the world are limited by their age and their intelligence. But too often we take that to the extreme and think that somehow we have got to present them with a rosy world.

‘Children understand that violence in programs like *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* is play. A small group of children from violent backgrounds will be aggressive, regardless of what they see on television’, she said.

© The Australian, 12 March 1995.



ITEM 7

Have your say

We asked young people their opinion of television today.

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|---|
| Maria (16) | ‘Young people are interested in the news—but we need the issues to be simple. Some things are too deep for us. We need a voice in the media.’ | Minh (10) | ‘TV shows are made by really old people. They don’t know what we want.’ |
| David (15) | ‘News items are not about us. They are about adults. They are meaningless to teenagers.’ | Jo (13) | ‘Since we got rid of the TV, my parents try and talk to us.’ |
| Alex (11) | ‘You say TV shows are too violent, but what about the news?’ | Ali (14) | ‘What shows? They’re just ads.’ |
| Michelle (14) | ‘I play computer games. I don’t watch TV now.’ | Voula (8) | ‘Mum watches the shows with us. It’s great.’ |

ITEM 8

Child vision

The first World Summit on Children and Television was recently held in Melbourne. Judith White examines where Australia stands in the expanding world of children's TV.

Pay TV has arrived in Australia and its first target is children.

How much is good—and how much is bad—worries most parents.

Children are affected as much as adults. For good or bad, television these days is simply part of life for all but a tiny minority.

The quality of children's programs and their future in the age of cable and satellite networks was addressed at this world summit.

Some 500 speakers, broadcasters, and delegates from 63 countries converged on Melbourne for the conference which was hosted by the Australian Children's Television Foundation (ACTF).

They discussed the communications revolution, the need for a children's charter and the protection of national and cultural interests.

The summit was the brainchild of ACTF director, Dr Patricia Edgar, who is acutely aware that the communications revolution is a two-edged sword. 'We're just beginning to feel the impact in Australia. Everybody has to be concerned about falling standards. The kinds of programs we make are very expensive to do, and now we're creating multiple channels without thinking about where the programs are coming from. The fear is that it will all be one-way—from the US.'

Claire Henderson, head of children's programs at the ABC says, 'so much that I've seen made for the US market is superhero driven, like the *Power Ranger* series, without much depth of plot or character'.

'But children want exactly what adults want—a good strong script that's well-directed, a strong cast, and good sets.

'Many of our programs come from storybooks, from a strong storytelling background, rather than from a toy someone is marketing.

'Children deserve good quality television and we're in a position of strength in Australia. Our new science fiction series *Escape from Jupiter* and *Sky Trackers* are good examples.'

Australian-made programs have acquired a reputation for quality, and now sell to 91 countries around the world—the ABC's *Bananas in Pyjamas* alone goes to 35 countries.

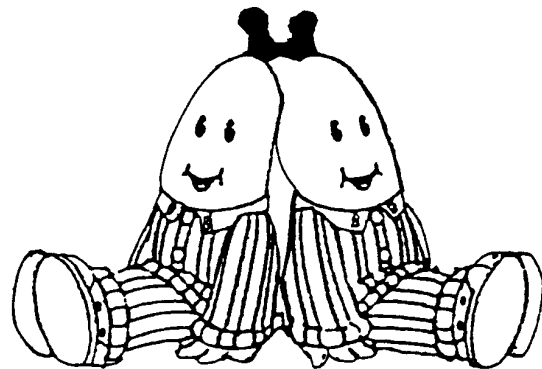
Dr Edgar is quick to explain the reasons for the growing reputation of such Australian products. 'First, we have a regulatory system which requires the networks to do a number of hours of children's drama.

'Second, we get a government subsidy. Third, in the Foundation we spend a lot of time researching projects before we begin making them.'

Perhaps the real comment on how good these programs are should come from the target audience. My six-year-old watched the pilot of *Sky Trackers* with evident delight. 'You know,' he said when we switched off, 'with *Power Rangers* you're just sitting watching. With *Escape From Jupiter* and this one, you can really imagine you're there'.

How much quality TV his generation will get in the future still hangs in the balance.

Sun Herald 5/3/95



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