

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2008

ENGLISH (SPECIFICATION B)
Paper 1
Foundation Tier

3701/1F
F



Tuesday 3 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.40 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book
- Section A of the pre-release booklet (enclosed).

Time allowed: 1 hour 40 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 3701/1F.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Write your answers in the answer book provided.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to Section A of the pre-release booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your Reading in Section A.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your Writing in Section B.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about one hour on Section A and about 40 minutes on Section B.

SECTION A: READING**MEDIA AND NON-FICTION TEXTS**

Answer **both** questions in this section.

You are advised to spend about one hour on this section. This includes 10 minutes reminding yourself of the content of the pre-release booklet.

You will be assessed on the quality of your Reading.

1 Media Texts

Remind yourself of the media extracts on pages 4, 6 and 9 of your pre-release booklet. Write about what makes these media extracts effective.

To do this you must explain:

- which facts and opinions the writer uses in his article, *It's a shard life, cycling* on page 6
- how the writer uses language to make his account vivid in *Into Death Valley again*. Write about the article only up to the end of page 4 of the pre-release booklet
- how the 'Life Facts' column and the picture add to the interest of the article *Triumph and Despair* on page 9. (10 marks)

2 Non-fiction Text

Read *Climbing the Wisteria* on the page opposite.

Write about:

- the feelings of the writer throughout the extract
- how the writer uses language to make his account entertaining. (10 marks)

CLIMBING THE WISTERIA*

The vet, James Herriot, writes about the time when he was distracted from his work by his young son, Jimmy.

Jimmy was never what I would call naughty, certainly never destructive or cruel, but he had that bit of devil which I suppose all boys need to have. Also, he was not above taking advantage of me in awkward situations. There was one afternoon when Mr Garrett brought his sheepdog in. The animal was very lame and as I hoisted him on to the table in the consulting room Jimmy's head appeared for a moment at the window. I didn't mind that. He often watched me dealing with our animal patients.

I found what was wrong with the dog immediately.

'He's got something in there, Mr Garrett,' I said. 'Probably a thorn. I'll have to give him a shot of local anaesthetic and open up his pad.'

It was when I was filling the syringe that a knee came into view at the corner of the window. I felt a pang of annoyance. Jimmy surely couldn't be climbing up the wisteria. I had expressly forbidden it. The branches of the creeper curled all over the back of the house and they became quite slender as they made their way up past the bathroom window to the tiles of the roof. No, I must be mistaken.

I made a careful nick in the pad and at that moment a shadow crossed the window. I glanced up. It was Jimmy alright, just his head grinning from half way up. He *was* on the wisteria, but there was nothing I could do about it then, except to give him a quick glare. I was drawing the scalpel across when from the corner of my eye I spotted two feet dangling just below the top of the window. I tried to concentrate on my job but the feet swung repeatedly. At last they disappeared, which could only mean that Jimmy was climbing to the dangerous regions. I dug down a little deeper.

Ah yes, I could see something now, probably the tip of a thorn. I reached for forceps and just then Jimmy's head showed itself again, upside down this time. My God, he was hanging by his feet from the branches. This was too much. I leaped at the glass and shook my fist violently. My fury must have startled Jimmy because the face vanished instantly and I could hear faint sounds of feet scrambling up those thin top branches. I forced myself back to my task.

'Sorry, Mr Garrett,' I said.

He replied with a thin smile. My forceps grated on something hard. I gripped, pulled gently, and out came the pointed, glistening head of a thorn. I had done it.

It was then that I heard the crack from above. It was followed by a long howl of terror, and a small form hurtled past the window and thudded into the garden. I threw down the forceps and shot along the passage and through the side door into the garden. Jimmy was already sitting up and I was too relieved to be angry.

I must have been deathly pale when I returned because Mr Garrett looked startled.

'Is he alright?' he asked.

'Yes, yes, I think so. But I do apologise for rushing out like that. . .'

Mr Garrett laid his hand on my shoulder. 'Say no more, Mr Herriot, I have children of my own.' And then he spoke the words which have become engraven on my heart. 'You need nerves of steel to be a parent.'

JAMES HERRIOT

*Wisteria: a climbing shrub which grows up walls.

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

SECTION B : WRITING TO ARGUE, PERSUADE, ADVISE

You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this section.

You will be assessed on the quality of your Writing.

- 3 The Editor of a magazine is inviting readers to write to him with their answers to the following question:

Which technological invention could you not do without?

Write a letter to the Editor, giving persuasive reasons why your chosen invention is so important to you.

Remember:

- your purpose is to write a persuasive letter
- to keep the audience in mind
- to write accurately and express yourself clearly.

(20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Question 2 *Source:* Slightly adapted from JAMES HERRIOT, *Vet in Harness* (Penguin)

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