



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
Foundation Tier  
June 2010

# English (Specification B) Mature

3703/1F

**F**

Paper 1

Tuesday 8 June 2010 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 3703/1F.
- 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 the pre-release booklet provided. This must **not** contain any annotations.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- 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.

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**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.

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You will be assessed on the quality of your Reading.

0	1
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**Media Texts**

Refer to the text *Why retiring to the sun can come with a real dark side* on pages 6 and 7 of your pre-release booklet and the text *A family holiday in Cuba* on page 12 of your pre-release booklet.

Compare the two texts.

Write about:

- why moving abroad can be a problem, according to *Why retiring to the sun can come with a real dark side*
- the attractions of the holiday advertised in *A family holiday in Cuba*
- the presentational devices used in each text. (10 marks)

0	2
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**Non-fiction Text**

Read *Survival* on page 3 of this examination paper. It is an extract which tells the story of how Roald Dahl escaped from a plane when he had to make a forced landing in the desert.

How is the escape made interesting?

Write about:

- the landing and what happened afterwards
- Roald Dahl's thoughts and feelings
- the use of language. (10 marks)

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## Survival

**During the Second World War, Roald Dahl was flying a Gladiator plane over the desert. He had left an airfield at Fouka in Libya but could not find the airfield where he was supposed to land. It was getting dark and he had almost run out of fuel. He had to make a forced landing.**

At this point, dusk began to fall and I realised that I was in trouble. My fuel was running low and there was no way I could get back to Fouka on what I had left. I couldn't have found it in the dark anyway. The only course open to me now was to make a forced landing in the desert and make it quickly, before it was too dark to see.

I skimmed low over the boulder-strewn desert searching for just one small strip of reasonably flat sand on which to land. I knew the direction of the wind so I knew precisely the direction that my approach should take. But where, oh where was there one little patch of desert that was clear of boulders and gullies and lumps of rock. There simply wasn't one. It was nearly dark now. I *had* to get down somehow or other. I chose a piece of ground that seemed to me to be as boulder-free as any and I made an approach. I came in as slowly as I dared, travelling just above my stalling speed of eighty miles an hour. My wheels touched down. I throttled back and prayed for a bit of luck.

I didn't get it. My undercarriage hit a boulder and collapsed completely and the Gladiator buried its nose in the sand at what must have been about seventy-five miles an hour.

My injuries in that bust-up came from my head being thrown forward violently against the reflector-sight when the plane hit the ground (in spite of the fact that I was strapped tightly, as always, into the cockpit), and apart from the skull fracture, the blow pushed my nose in and knocked out a few teeth and blinded me completely for days to come.

It is odd that I can remember very clearly quite a few of the things that followed seconds after the crash. Obviously I was unconscious for some moments, but I must have recovered my senses very quickly because I can remember hearing a mighty *whoosh* as the petrol tank in the port wing exploded, followed almost at once by another mighty *whoosh* as the starboard tank went up in flames. I could see nothing at all, and I felt no pain. All I wanted was to go gently off to sleep and to hell with the flames. But soon a tremendous heat around my legs galvanised my soggy brain into action. With great difficulty I managed to undo first my seat straps and then the straps of my parachute, and I can even remember the desperate effort it took to push myself upright in the cockpit and roll out head first on to the sand below. Again I wanted to lie down and doze off, but the heat close by was terrific and had I stayed where I was I should simply have been roasted alive. I began very very slowly to drag myself away from the awful hotness. I heard my machine gun ammunition exploding in the flames and the bullets were pinging about all over the place but that didn't worry me. All I wanted was to get away from the tremendous heat and rest in peace.

From *Going Solo*  
Roald Dahl

**Turn over for the next question**

**Turn over ►**

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**Section B: Writing to argue, persuade, advise**

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

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You will be assessed on the quality of your Writing.

0	3
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Write an essay to **persuade** the reader that people can change their lives for the better.

You might wish to include:

- examples of people who have changed their lives for the better
- advice for people who wish to improve their lives
- details of how much better life can be.

(20 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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Question 2 Source: ROALD DAHL, *Going Solo*, Jonathan Cape Ltd and Penguin Books Ltd 1997.

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