

**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
ENGLISH (Specification 1900)**

Unit 1 Non-Fiction, Media and Information

WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 2007

F

2431/1

Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (8 pages)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and Candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.
- Answer **ALL** the questions.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the answer booklet provided.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The total mark for this paper is **63**.
- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- **Section A** is worth 42 marks. You are advised to spend **no more than 1 hour 10 minutes** on it.
- **Section B** is worth 21 marks. You are advised to spend **no more than 35 minutes** on it.

This document consists of **7** printed pages and **1** blank page.

SECTION A

You are advised to spend **no more than 1 hour 10 minutes** on Section A.

Reading: NON-FICTION

The passage which follows was written in August 2004.

Read the text carefully, and then **answer questions 1(a), (b) and (c)**.

These answers will be marked for reading. Plan your answers and write them carefully.

Summer tornados and sea cucumbers are the shape of things to come

PAUL SIMONS

If someone had told me months ago what the British weather would be like this summer, my jaw would have dropped in disbelief. Every day the torrent of weather disasters reads like something from the Old Testament; we are heading for the wettest August in recorded history, with floods, flash floods, landslides, lightning strikes, hailstorms, and a spate of fourteen tornados.

The question is whether this is a taste of summers to come as climate change takes grip, or simply a wild freak of nature. Weather disasters have happened throughout history. The wettest August on record, in 1912, was so diabolical that one giant storm flooded much of East Anglia, leaving Norwich cut off for two days, with three people killed and more than forty bridges destroyed. 5

Of course, no one blamed those disasters on global warming, so what is new about the summer of 2004? The short answer is that one wet summer, or even a whole year of rotten weather, counts for nothing. It is only when you put together lots of small pieces of the jigsaw of evidence that you start to see the bigger picture. 10

Looking back over the past twenty years, an unmistakable pattern emerges of the world's climate growing more overheated, more violent and more devastating. There are mind-boggling statistics to show what is going on, and the climate experts are growing increasingly confident that man-made pollution is driving the climate into a hotter future. 15

Now, as each year goes by, the computer forecasts made by the experts are showing an alarming match with reality, with more extreme weather, and more weather records broken. For most of us, though, these computer models are scientific mumbo-jumbo. A ruder shock is when you see things changing in your own backyard at a frightening rate. 20

The North Sea and Thames Estuary are now teeming with fabulous creatures from the Mediterranean – red mullet, octopuses, squid, sea cucumbers, seahorses and anchovies. Continental butterflies and moths are hopping over the Channel and finding a warm home in southern England. Cod are finding our waters too hot. Spring is earlier and autumn later than ever before, many people are mowing their lawns at Christmas, and the ski slopes of Scotland are vanishing. The list goes on and on. 25

No-one is immune from the consequences. Household insurance costs are spiralling upwards, partly to pay for more frequent floods and storms. The driest parts of the country are faced with finding new sources of water. As summers grow increasingly hot, with punishing heat waves over 40°C, the demand for home air conditioning is going to soar and send power demands through the roof.

As the British weather grows increasingly violent, we are all going to pay a high price. 30

Adapted from an article in *The Times*
© Paul Simons / The Times, 26 August, 2004

- 1 (a) From paragraph two, give **two** words or phrases which express **opinions** about bad weather. [2]
- (b) From paragraph two, write down **three facts** about the wet August in East Anglia in 1912. [3]
- (c) Re-read the rest of the passage, **from the start of paragraph three (line 9) to the end.**
- What evidence does the writer give that climate change is happening in Britain?
 - What does he think the consequences of climate change will be?

Use **your own words** as far as possible. [16]

Reading: MEDIA TEXT

Greenland ice-melt 'speeding up'

By David Shukman

BBC environment and science correspondent in Greenland

First you hear a savage cracking sound, next the rolling crash of thunder.

Then as the icebergs rip away from the margin of the ice-sheet they plunge into the grey waters of the Atlantic with a roar that echoes around the mountains.

Nothing prepares you for the sheer scale and drama of events in this forbidding terrain and all the signs are that the changes at work are gathering pace.

The only way to reach the ice-sheet is by helicopter – a spectacular flight through remote fjords and the jagged blue-white rubble of the ice.

We travelled with Danish scientist Carl Boggild of the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland.

For the past few years he has been managing a network of ten automatic monitoring stations and his first results are alarming - the edges of the ice-sheet are melting up to ten times more rapidly than earlier research had indicated.

Cracks and crevasses

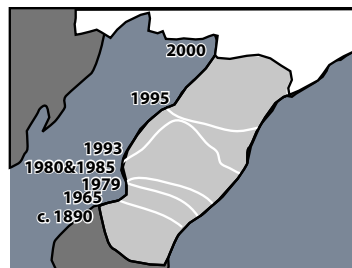
The movements of the glacier we visited - the Sermilik glacier in southern Greenland – are so unpredictable that one automatic monitoring station was lost into a yawning crevasse.

Now, amid some of the most hostile conditions anywhere on the planet, Carl Boggild and his team have recorded falls as dramatic as ten metres a year – in places the ice is dropping at a rate of one metre a month.

Illustrations from the late 19th Century show how the glacier once reached far into the ocean and satellite pictures highlight how the retreat has accelerated - the glacier dropping an astounding 150 metres in the last fifteen years.



In some places, the ice is melting one metre a month



Scientists have traced the retreat of the Sermilik glacier

Heating up?

A vicious wind whipping across 2,000 kilometres of solid ice – the length of the Greenland ice-sheet – chilled us as we filmed. But the feeling of cold was deceptive – it is the rise in air temperatures recorded here that is partly responsible for the sudden speeding up of the melting.

Sea level rise

Dr Boggild is convinced that the results he has gathered so far are

reliable. 'We can say for certain that the rate of melting has increased and we can say for certain that the height of the ice-sheet is falling. There is no doubt that something very major is happening here.'

Just before we leave, there is another roar as more icebergs crash into the ocean.

Many more icebergs falling into the sea will cause two things to happen – the sea level will rise and the injection of freshwater will disrupt the ocean currents, including the Gulf Stream.

What happens in this remote barren land has the potential to affect us all.

Text adapted from David Shukman, BBC Environment and Science Correspondent reporting from Greenland, BBC News.

Read the report carefully, and then **answer question 2**.

These answers will be marked for reading. Plan your answer and write it carefully.

2 How does the writer show his readers that global warming is a real threat?

In your answer you should comment on:

- the **presentation** of the web page
- the **information** he gives about Greenland
- some of the **words** and **phrases** he uses.

[21]

SECTION B

You are advised to spend **no more than 35 minutes** on Section B.

Writing to INFORM, EXPLAIN, DESCRIBE

This answer will be marked for writing. Plan your answer and write it carefully.

Leave enough time to check through your work.

3***The future of our planet***

Write the words of an article on this topic for a magazine aimed at students of your age.

In your article you should:

- **describe** some of the problems you think our planet faces
- **explain** what you think might happen in the future.

[21]

Copyright Acknowledgements:

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Text 2 adapted text	© David Shukman, BBC Environment and Science Correspondent reporting from Greenland, <i>Greenland ice-melt "speeding up"</i> , 28 July 2004, BBC News, http://news.bbc.co.uk
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