

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

2431/1

Unit 1 Non-Fiction, Media and Information (Foundation Tier)

TUESDAY 3 JUNE 2008

Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (8 pages)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The total number of marks for this paper is **63**.
- The number of marks for each question 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

Read this passage carefully and then **answer questions 1(a), (b) and (c)**.

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

During the summer of 2005, the southern coast of the United States was hit by many hurricanes. One of the biggest and most violent storms of all was called Hurricane Rita. Many citizens had to leave their homes and go north for safety. This passage describes some people preparing to leave.

Texas Prepares for Hurricane Rita

For mile after mile along the highways, hundreds of thousands of vehicles are making their way out of southern Texas to safety. People fleeing the hurricane sit in cars and camper vans and trucks, many pulling trailers crammed with refrigerators, barbecues and three-piece suites. On roof-racks, they carry bicycles, bedding and push-chairs.

The usually busy shops that line the highway are boarded up and have their doors locked, but some shopkeepers have left their neon signs running outside, lit with messages such as 'Sorry – closed. Be safe' and 'See ya, Rita.' 5

At one home in the coastal town of Gilchrist, the Schroder family are preparing to join the traffic jams. Nine-year-old Danny has packed up his Power Rangers. His brother, Christopher, aged ten, is writing an 'Emergency list' which has his two Harry Potter books marked in bold print at the top. 10

'They're his prized possessions,' says his mother, Julie, who is outside the house, sharing a final drink with the neighbours. 'The kids keep telling me what we need to take, but for some reason, light-bulbs keep coming up on their list. I told them there may not be any electricity when this storm comes, and they say that that's why we have to take light-bulbs, so we have light. They don't get it.'

Her husband, Alan, wishes that he could view Rita's looming arrival through a child's eyes, too. 'But I'm a realist,' he says. He works as a shrimp fisherman, and fears that he may lose his boat to the storm. Even if the boat survives, he risks losing his livelihood. 'That seabed will be so churned up out there, it could take six months to recover. There'll be nothing left for me.' 15

On the shore, there are huge tubes of sand, known as 'geo-socks', put there earlier in the year to protect the beach from erosion. Mrs Schroder wonders aloud how far they will be flung by the wind and the surge. 'If you stick around here too long, you'll be wearing them,' her husband says. 20

Further along the coast, cattle rancher Tim Hughes is sitting beside the road covered in sweat. He has been working since five a.m. with five helpers to load up his 150 cattle to drive them north to his brother's farm. 'If this hurricane comes to anything, I won't have a home, so I want to save the cattle. We are going to be the last ones out. If not, we'll just have to strap ourselves to the telegraph pole and hang in there,' he says. 25

His friends laugh, but Mr Hughes is serious. 'You should hear about my wife's grandmother. She was in a big storm in 1943, not half a mile along the road. The house washed away, and she ended up in a tree all night, along with the chickens.'

Extract from Jacqui Goddard, *There'll be nothing left for me* © The Times, London, 23 September 2005

1 (a) **From paragraph three**, beginning 'At one home', write down **one** thing which Danny Schroder is interested in, and **one** thing which Christopher Schroder is interested in. [2]

(b) **From paragraphs one and two**, write down **three** things which people do to prepare for the hurricane. [3]

(c) How do Mr and Mrs Schroder and Tim Hughes react to the threat of the hurricane?

You should consider what they do, what they say and what their worries are.

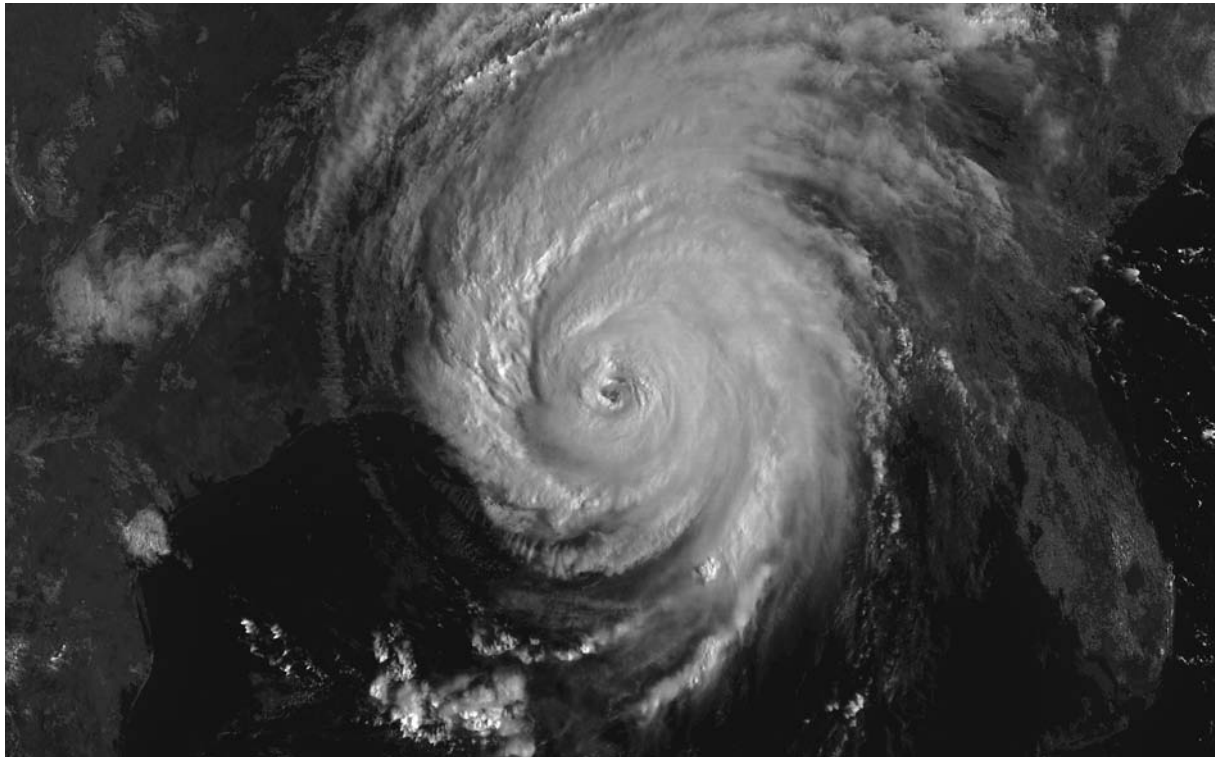
Use **your own words** as far as possible. [16]

Reading: MEDIA TEXT

Read this newspaper article, which describes a very violent hurricane named Katrina. The storm hit the city of New Orleans on the southern coast of the U.S.A. in August 2005. Then **answer question 2**.

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

City ‘under siege’ as 145 mph winds and torrential rain lash the coast



A satellite picture of Hurricane Katrina over south coast of America.

© NOAA

NEW ORLEANS TAKES A BATTERING

Huge destruction and loss of life were feared last night as Hurricane Katrina smashed into New Orleans on America’s Gulf coast, lashing the city and surrounding areas with 145 mph winds and torrential rain.

Up to a million people had already evacuated the historic city, parts of which were submerged, as the emergency services received hundreds of calls for help from people forced to clamber onto rooftops to escape rising waters.

There were reports of 40,000 homes being flooded as the mayor, Ray Nagin, said: ‘The city is under siege.’

State of Emergency

Last night, President Bush declared a state of emergency in two southern states, opening the way for national aid to devastated regions. He urged people to pray for those affected by the hurricane.

It was feared a post-hurricane storm surge could still overwhelm New Orleans, parts of which are six feet below sea level.

Witnesses reported torrents of water pouring through the streets of New Orleans, as winds howled through the almost deserted city.

Devastation

Shards of glass littered the streets as windows were shattered in high-rise office blocks. Cars were hurled across roads and trees were felled. Power supplies failed and road links were destroyed as the storm hit.

Last night the state governor, Haley Barbour, told reporters that Katrina ‘came in on the coastline like a ton of bricks.’

In New Orleans, Mayor Nagin said there was already significant flooding. In the French quarter, all that could be seen were white sheets of water tearing down the narrow streets. All buildings had been boarded up.

Search and Rescue

A state police spokesman said they were unable to conduct a damage assessment but they were mobilising for search and rescue efforts as soon as possible.

In the city of Biloxi, streets were engulfed in up to ten feet of water, and roofs were torn

off buildings amid reports of power station explosions.

Roads and buildings across four southern states were damaged. Hurricane-force winds extended across an area 125 miles wide.

Red Cross spokesman David Ruddock said volunteers were spread out across four states. The organisation is prepared to serve up to half a million meals a day when the clean-up operation begins.

Total Cost

Experts are predicting the storm could cause fourteen billion pounds worth of damage. Oil prices rose as the hurricane forced oil workers to evacuate rigs in the Gulf of Mexico – an area that accounts for about a quarter of American oil and gas production.

Extract from Mike Waites, *The Big Easy takes a battering*, 30 August 2005 © Yorkshire Post

2 How does the article show the power of the hurricane?

In your answer you should write about:

- the headlines and the photographs
- what we learn about what happened and what people said
- how particular **words** and **phrases** show the power of the hurricane.

[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**'It made me so afraid!'**

Describe any situation that caused you fear, **explaining** what it was that made you afraid.

For example, this could be an illness or an injury. It could be a fear of the unknown, a physical test of some kind, an examination or a journey. [21]

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