

GCSE

4171/01

ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOUNDATION TIER UNIT 1 (READING)

A.M. TUESDAY, 5 November 2013

1 hour

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Resource Material. An 8 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Answer **all** questions. Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark available for this unit is 40.

The number of marks in brackets will give you an indication of the time you should spend on each question or part-question.

Answer all of the following questions.

The **separate Resource Material** is an article: 'Gorilla spotting from a wheelchair' by Frank Gardner.

The factsheet on the opposite page is from the WWF, an organisation that works to protect wildlife.

Read the factsheet opposite.

1. List ten threats facing mountain gorillas, according to the factsheet. [10]

Now read the first page of the article 'Gorilla spotting from a wheelchair' by Frank Gardner in the separate Resource Material.

2. Explain what Frank Gardner thinks and feels in this part of the text. [10]

Read the second page of the article [from "At 5am ..." to the end of the article].

3. How does Frank Gardner show how wonderful his day was in this part of the text? [10]

To answer the next question you will need to use both texts.

- **4.** Compare the information given about mountain gorillas in the two texts. Use the following headings for your answer:
 - the foods they eat;
 - at what age the gorillas become silverbacks;
 - the size of the mountain gorilla population.

[10]

You must make it clear in your answer which text you are taking your information from.



FACTSHEET

The mountain gorilla

Mountain gorillas are among the most endangered animals in the world. Humans remain the gorillas' greatest threat. Some are killed by hunters who sell their heads and hands as trophies, though they are also occasionally killed by leopards. One survey in 2010 estimated only 782 mountain gorillas were surviving in the wild. They are mainly vegetarian and their diet is mostly plant stems. They also occasionally eat small numbers of insects.

Mountain gorillas are usually larger than the other three types of gorilla and on average, adult males weigh around 160 kg. The adult males are known as 'silverbacks' because of the patch of silver hair on their back and hips. Males become silverbacks when they are about 7-9 years old.

Challenges and threats

The mountain gorilla has suffered a dramatic decline in numbers, sometimes because of poaching. Governments, organisations such as the WWF, and local people now work together to protect them. This is leading to a small, gradual increase in numbers. A more recent survey in November 2012 showed that numbers had risen to 880, although wars in the region are an ever-present risk. A vital part of the conservation activities is employing and training local people as rangers to monitor and patrol the protected areas. In the past, baby gorillas have been hunted to sell as pets. There are still some hunters nowadays who try to capture baby gorillas and then sell them to zoos. Adult male gorillas will defend their young to the death and this has often resulted in them being killed by hunters.

Many mountain gorilla groups have become used to humans and as a major tourist attraction they are now seen as important for local and national economies. In addition to employing rangers, income from tourists has been used for community projects such as providing wells and schools.

The forests where the mountain gorillas live are in one of the most populated regions of Africa and loss of habitat remains a great threat. Most of the local people rely on firewood for fuel and the forests where the gorillas live are often the easiest source of fuel.

During the dry season, local people often run out of drinking water, forcing them into the forest to get drinking water. One of the biggest threats to gorillas is disease from people entering the forest. Even a cold can kill a gorilla! Their numbers have also been affected when they have become accidentally caught in traps set to catch antelope and other wildlife.

WWF is alarmed at the interest shown by oil companies in the areas where mountain gorillas live. Oil development will reduce the space available for mountain gorillas.

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4171/01-A

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Resource Material

Gorilla spotting from a wheelchair

Frank Gardner, a BBC journalist, was shot and disabled reporting on the war in the Middle East in 2004. Here he writes about his trip to Rwanda in Africa, in 2012, to see mountain gorillas.

We had flown into Rwanda from London, an exhausting 15-hour journey. When the chance for me to go on a three-day gorilla trek came up unexpectedly, my wife said, "Go on, you've always wanted to see the mountain gorillas." Back in the dark days in hospital after I was shot and disabled eight years ago, I remember thinking, "Damn! I wish I had gone to see them before I lost the use of my legs." I had read somewhere that a survey in 1989 reported there were only 620 left in the wild, and I thought I would never get to see them. But here it was, a wonderful chance to see them in their natural habitat, and we had managed to find a tour company that said they could cope with my disability. "We'll get you up there, no problem," I was assured by their email. I was curious to see how.

The fun began at the airport, where an embarrassed woman from ground staff confessed that there was no access into the terminal building for someone in a wheelchair. Would I mind waiting outside while she went and got my passport stamped? I was only too happy, watching small birds flit among the flowers and enjoying the African sun on my face.



In the late afternoon we drove into the hills, bouncing and jolting rather uncomfortably along a track to reach what must be one of the most beautiful views in Africa. 2,000 metres above sea level was Virunga Lodge, where we were staying in surprising luxury.

Tomorrow was the big day, the trek up into gorilla country. I knew we were in for an early start, yet I lay awake with questions. What if we didn't find them? I mean, imagine coming all this way and having to admit defeat. What if the porters dropped me, or if the vegetation proved too thick and everyone else but me got to see them? What if ...

At 5am a knock on the door woke me. "There are 24 gorillas in the group we will be tracking," announced our guide, Augustin. "The males are only called silverbacks at 12 years old. They feed on over 200 species of plant. They are vegetarian animals but they will also eat red ants which gives them protein. They spend their time resting and feeding, then the silverback leader decides where to make the nest for the night, usually on the ground. This group has three silverbacks – perhaps today we will be lucky?" He told me that mountain gorilla numbers have increased but they still remain an endangered species with fewer than 800 left in the wild.

We headed uphill through open farmland until the track gave out. It was time to leave the Land Rovers and start trekking. A stretcher complete with padded cushions had been prepared and I lowered myself into it, to everyone's amusement. Four wiry porters began to carry me uphill like some pampered emperor.

Soon Augustin made another of his announcements. "From here on," the guide said softly, "we must be very guiet. The gorillas are very close."

At that point I had to be lifted from the stretcher to my wheelchair. With difficulty, I then had to be pushed, pulled and hauled through the thick undergrowth by the good-natured porters. And then the most exciting moment of the whole trip arrived. I hardly dared to breathe. In a clearing



of bamboo I caught that unique musty smell and then, from 10 feet away, came a long, low growl. A huge silverback was sitting facing me, slowly chewing a bamboo shoot as he watched my clumsy progress. I know everyone says it but it really is an incredible privilege to stare into the eyes of a wild yet docile creature.



Strangely, I felt no fear, even though I knew that if the silverback chose to charge at me my lifeless legs would give me no chance of escape. Instead, we watched spell-bound as baby balls of black fur tumbled and frolicked, then stopped to eat the wild celery growing around them. Some were curious and came close to my wheelchair while the silverback simply stretched out and yawned as if on a sunlounger. It was an enchanted hour of perfect peace, a magical end to a wonderful day.

Frank Gardner