



GCSE

4171/01

ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

FOUNDATION TIER

UNIT 1 (READING)

A.M. TUESDAY, 2 June 2015

1 hour plus your additional time allowance

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Resource Material.

An 8 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

Answer ALL questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided. You may also write your answers on a separate answer sheet if preferred.

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.

On pages 8 to 11 of this booklet, there is an extract from a newspaper article, 'Television and Young Children' by Susanna Rustin.

The SEPARATE RESOURCE MATERIAL is a blog, 'A Weekend to Forget' by Claire Powell.

Read the newspaper article on pages 8 to 11 of this booklet titled, 'Television and Young Children'.

- 1. List TEN reasons why watching television can be good for young children, according to the article.**

[10 marks]

Now read the first three paragraphs of the blog in the separate Resource Material, 'A Weekend to Forget' (up to '...so my mind was made up'.)

2. Why did Claire Powell decide to ban television for the weekend?

[10 marks]

Now read the rest of the blog (from ‘As the weekend approached ...’ to the end.)

- 3. In this part of the text, how does Claire Powell make it clear that the television ban ruined the weekend?**
- [10 marks]**

You should write about:

- what happens;**
- the words and phrases used.**

Use information from both texts to answer the following questions.

- 4. Compare and contrast what the texts say about:**
- the possible problems caused if young children watch too much television; [5 marks]**
 - how to control children's viewing habits. [5 marks]**

You must make it clear from which text you get your information.

TELEVISION AND YOUNG CHILDREN

In 2013 a report stated that five year olds who watch more than three hours of television a day have an increased risk of health problems. The newspaper article below is a response to this report.

It is good advice to parents to limit the amount of time their children watch television. However, recent studies have suggested watching television can be helpful to the way children grow and develop. The study advises parents to check carefully which programmes their children are watching. Some are beneficial. For example, young children can develop number skills through educational, but fun programmes, such as NUMBERJACKS. Similar programmes are ALPHABLOCKS, which focuses on language skills, and NINA AND THE NEURONS, which introduces children

to basic science. Primary schools also show television programmes to help their children learn basic skills.

Another report found that five year olds who watch over three hours of television a day are more likely to be badly behaved than those who watch less. However, the risk is small and even less if parents follow the report's advice and watch television programmes with their children and discuss the content of the programmes with them.

Television programmes can encourage children to be creative and use their imagination. Some programmes can develop their interest in music, getting children to sing songs and learn about musical instruments. Other programmes give them a chance to learn about a new and wide range of topics such as archaeology, history and wild animals.

There are programmes specially designed for young children which can get them involved with new characters and stories. Watching characters like Mr Tumble can help children to understand shapes and colours, and watching DORA THE EXPLORER can help them to learn some basic Spanish.

For some young children, watching television is important because it gives them a quiet time in the day when they can relax. For the very young, a number of television programmes end with the main characters saying goodnight, going to bed and falling asleep, which is helpful for parents who hope their children will follow this example.

Parents should control when the television is turned on, so they should keep the remote control out of the reach of young children. Parents should also turn the

television off if it is not being watched. This way watching a television programme is made special and not just used as an excuse for parents not to play and talk to their children.

While studies suggest that it is important that young children have more to their lives than just television, most experts agree that young children, with the correct parental control, can gain a great deal from watching television.

Based on a newspaper article by Susanna Rustin in THE FAMILY GUARDIAN.