



GCSE

4171/02

ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

HIGHER 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.

The SEPARATE RESOURCE MATERIAL is a newspaper article, ‘Can sending a cow feed a country?’ by Paul Heiney.

The text on pages 7-10 is taken from the internet, ‘Don’t follow the herd – don’t give a cow for Christmas’ by Andrew Tyler.

Read the first page of the newspaper article in the separate Resource Material, ‘Can sending a cow feed a country?’ [up to ‘...just as well in reality’].

- 1. Why did Paul Heiney think that the SEND A COW charity would be a success? [10 marks]**

Read the rest of the newspaper article [from ‘When I arrived, there was a cow...’ up to the end].

- 2. Explain in what ways SEND A COW has improved people’s lives.**
- [10 marks]**

Read the internet text on pages 7-10, ‘Don’t follow the herd – don’t give a cow for Christmas’.

- 3. How does Andrew Tyler try to persuade readers that donating an animal is NOT a good idea?**
- [10 marks]**

Use information from both texts to answer the following questions.

- 4. Compare and contrast what the writers say about:**
- what happens to the animals that are sent to Africa;**
 - the problems these schemes cause for the environment.**

[10 marks]

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

DON'T FOLLOW THE HERD – DON'T GIVE A COW FOR CHRISTMAS

These gifts are not a good thing. They serve only to increase poverty.

Christmas is the season of gut-busting excess, when the tills don't stop ringing and our appetites for giving and receiving get well and truly satisfied. Just in time, another gift idea has come along that is not about self-indulgence but doing good in the world – or so it would seem.

Paying for farm animals to be gifted to impoverished communities in the developing world, notably Africa, is increasingly popular. The aid agencies Oxfam and Christian Aid started the trend but this year about a dozen agencies are using your money to send goats, chickens, sheep, camels, donkeys, pigs and cows to the world's starving.

The message might bring comfort to the donor, but such schemes, sadly, are not a good thing. Many animals will die before reaching their destination in Africa and when they arrive they serve only to increase poverty because farming animals is inefficient and expensive. Animals such as cows are environmentally disastrous because they consume huge quantities of food, leaving land barren, and they deplete water supplies by consuming such large quantities of water. On top of this they require shelter from extremes of weather and expensive veterinary care. Such resources are in critically short supply in much of Africa, causing some animals to suffer or even die.

In a statement last week, World Land Trust (WLT) declared: “The grave consequences of introducing large numbers of goats and other domestic animals into fragile, arid environments is well documented.

WLT considers it grossly irresponsible to continue with these schemes as a means of raising quick money for charities over the Christmas season”.

It is indisputable that introducing goats into fragile farming areas will turn the land into desert, causing further human poverty. But if goats are environmentally disastrous, cows are worse. A milking cow requires up to 90 litres of water a day, a lot of food and veterinary treatment to cover widespread problems such as scours, mastitis and lameness. In the hostile African environment, these diseases have become more widespread. But where do the vets come from and how can we expect the poorest people on earth to cope with their animal ‘gifts’? It is many times more efficient to use the available agricultural resources – land, labour, water – to feed people directly, rather than devoting those resources to fattening animals.

So this year, boycott the donate-an-animal schemes and instead support projects that help people, animals and the environment. For example, Animal Aid will be seeking support for a scheme to plant 2,000 trees in Kenya's Rift Valley province. They will bear oranges, avocados, apples, macadamia nuts, mango and pawpaw fruit to help people and the environment. Such efforts won't erase the blight of poverty in Africa, but neither will they add to it.

ANDREW TYLER

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