



ENGLISH A2 – HIGHER LEVEL – PAPER 1
ANGLAIS A2 – NIVEAU SUPÉRIEUR – ÉPREUVE 1
INGLÉS A2 – NIVEL SUPERIOR – PRUEBA 1

Thursday 9 November 2000 (morning)
Jeudi 9 novembre 2000 (matin)
Jueves 9 de noviembre del 2000 (mañana)

2 hours / 2 heures / 2 horas

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A consists of two passages for comparative commentary.
- Section B consists of two passages for comparative commentary.
- Choose either Section A or Section B. Write one comparative commentary.

INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- Ne pas ouvrir cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé.
- La section A comporte deux passages à commenter.
- La section B comporte deux passages à commenter.
- Choisissez soit la section A soit la section B. Écrire un commentaire comparatif.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- En la Sección A hay dos fragmentos para comentar.
- En la Sección B hay dos fragmentos para comentar.
- Elija la Sección A o la Sección B. Escriba un comentario comparativo.

Choose either Section A or Section B.

SECTION A

Analyse and compare the following two texts.

Discuss the similarities and differences between the texts and their theme(s). Include comments on the ways the authors use elements such as structure, tone, images, and other stylistic devices to communicate their purposes.

Text 1 (a)

CHAPTER ONE: THE PARENTS' PART

Trust Yourself

1. **You know more than you think you do.** Soon you're going to have a baby. Maybe you have one already. You're happy and excited, but if you haven't had much experience, you wonder whether you are going to know how to do a good job. Lately you have been listening more carefully to your friends and relatives when they talk about bringing up a child. After the baby is born, the doctors and nurses will begin to give you instructions, too. Sometimes it sounds like a very complicated business.

Don't be overawed by what the experts say. Don't be afraid to trust your own common sense. Bringing up your child won't be a complicated job if you take it easy, trust your own instincts and follow the directions your doctor gives you. We know for a fact that the natural loving care that kindly parents give their children is a hundred times more valuable than their knowing how to pin a diaper on just right or to make a formula expertly¹. Every time you pick your baby up - let's assume it's a girl - even if you do it a little awkwardly at first, every time you change her, bathe her, feed her, she's getting a feeling that she belongs to you and that you belong to her. Nobody else in the world, no matter how skilful, can give that to her.

It may surprise you to hear that the more people have studied different methods of bringing up children, the more they have come to the conclusion that what good mothers and fathers instinctively feel like doing for their babies is usually best, after all. Furthermore, all parents do their best job when they have a natural, easy confidence in themselves. Better to make a few mistakes from being natural than to do everything letter-perfect out of a feeling of worry.

2. **How you learn to be a parent.** You'll find that you learn the rest gradually through the experience of caring for your children. It's taking care of your baby, finding out that you can feed, change, bathe, and burp² successfully, and that your baby responds contentedly to your ministrations that gives you the feeling of familiarity, confidence and love.

From *Dr Spock's Baby and Child Care* by Benjamin Spock, MD (1945)

¹ diaper: in British English, a baby's nappy; make a formula: prepare the baby's food from a powder

² burp: to help the baby belch to aid digestion

Text 1 (b)

The birth of his son opened Theobald's eyes to a good deal which he had but faintly realised hitherto. He had no idea how great a nuisance a baby was. Babies come into the world so suddenly at the end, and upset everything so terribly when they do come: why cannot they steal in upon us with less of a shock to the domestic system? Theorists may say
5 what they like about a man's children being a continuation of his own identity, but it generally will be found that those who talk in this way have no children of their own. Practical family men know better.

Theobald had never liked children. He had always got away from them as soon as he could, and so had they from him: oh, why, he was inclined to ask himself, could not children
10 be born into the world grown up? If Christina could have given birth to a few fullgrown clergymen with comfortable livings¹ and in all respects facsimiles² of Theobald and Christina themselves - why then there would have been more sense in it; or if people could buy ready-made children of whatever age and sex they liked at a shop instead of having to make them at home and to begin at the beginning with them - that might do better, but as it
15 was he did not like it. He felt as he had felt when he had been required to come and be married to Christina - that he had been going on for a long time quite nicely and would much rather continue things on their present footing. In the matter of getting married he had been obliged to pretend he liked it; but times were changed (with the birth of his son), and if he did not like a thing now, he could find a hundred unexceptionable³ ways of making his
20 dislike apparent.

From the novel *The Way of All Flesh* by Samuel Butler (1888)

¹ clergymen with comfortable livings: priests or ministers with well-paying positions

² facsimile: an exact copy of something

³ unexceptionable: he means he could find a hundred very good ways

SECTION B

Analyse and compare the following two texts.

Discuss the similarities and differences between the texts and their theme(s). Include comments on the ways the authors use elements such as structure, tone, images, and other stylistic devices to communicate their purposes.

Text 2 (a)

WELCOME TO ARVIDA'S JAMES ISLAND.

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED BETWEEN
'TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE'
AND
'SOMEBODY PINCH ME.'

It doesn't seem possible. A gated community¹ between downtown and the beaches? Just minutes from the Southpoint and Deerwood business centers, Avenues Mall and some of the best schools in the area, including new public elementary and middle schools? Are you dreaming?

No, you're at Arvida's new James Island, a brand-new friendly community with a wide range of affordable homes. Not to mention a pool, tennis court, athletic field, basketball court and a roller hockey area. And the kind of environment where neighbors get to know each other. In other words, the perfect place to raise a family in the perfect location.

Too good to be true? Only if you wait too long to check us out. For more information, visit us at www.arvida.com or call us at 904.565.9040.

Homes from the 170,000s to the 500,000s.

James Island

an Arvida Community

7610 Royal Crest Drive, Jacksonville, Florida, USA

A property developer's advertisement in a city magazine (1999)

¹ gated community: housing area surrounded by a wall or fence and entered only through a guarded gate

Text 2 (b)

My Hometown

I was eight years old and running with a dime in my hand
Into the bus stop to pick up a paper for my old man¹
I'd sit on his lap in that big old Buick and steer as we drove through town
He'd tousle my hair and say son take a good look around

5 This is your hometown
This is your hometown
This is your hometown
This is your hometown

In '65 tension was running high at my high school
10 there was a lot of fights between black and white
there was nothing you could do
Two cars at a light on a Saturday night in the back seat there was a gun
Words were passed in a shotgun blast
Troubled times had come to my hometown

15 Now Main Street's whitewashed windows and vacant stores
Seems like there ain't nobody wants to come down here no more
They're closing down the textile mill across the railroad tracks
Foreman says these jobs are going boys and they ain't coming back to your hometown
your hometown
20 your hometown
your hometown

Last night me and Kate we laid in bed talking about getting out
Packing up our bags maybe heading south
I'm thirty-five we got a boy of our own now
25 Last night I sat him behind the wheel and said son take a good look around this is your
hometown

song lyrics by Bruce Springsteen (1984)

¹ old man: in this case, slang for 'father'