



ENGLISH A1 – STANDARD LEVEL – PAPER 1
ANGLAIS A1 – NIVEAU MOYEN – ÉPREUVE 1
INGLÉS A1 – NIVEL MEDIO – PRUEBA 1

Monday 5 May 2008 (morning)
Lundi 5 mai 2008 (matin)
Lunes 5 de mayo de 2008 (mañana)

1 hour 30 minutes / 1 heure 30 minutes / 1 hora 30 minutos

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Write a commentary on one passage only. It is not compulsory for you to respond directly to the guiding questions provided. However, you may use them if you wish.

INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- N'ouvrez pas cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Rédigez un commentaire sur un seul des passages. Le commentaire ne doit pas nécessairement répondre aux questions d'orientation fournies. Vous pouvez toutefois les utiliser si vous le désirez.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Escriba un comentario sobre un solo fragmento. No es obligatorio responder directamente a las preguntas que se ofrecen a modo de guía. Sin embargo, puede usarlas si lo desea.

*Write a commentary on **one** passage only. It is not compulsory for you to respond directly to the guiding questions provided. However, you are encouraged to use them as starting points for your commentary.*

1. (a)

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1. (b)

Hello Day – Worldwide

(On a radio announcement that today is World Hello Day)

In their town
Where good morning
Is offensive
And the very audacity
5 To offer it unsolicited
Provocative,
Maybe they need
A hello day,
A gesture, a token
10 Of what could have been.

Here in our village
A man must show cause
Why he passed his neighbour
And did not greet
15 And ask how he is
And how is home.
In our village too
We need to be reconciled
From strain and friction –
20 But we require more than a day:
The grief-joy mixture
Of knowing and being known
Takes a lifetime to drink.

So if a day must be declared
25 Then let it be
The beginning of a
Lifetime commitment
To the unbarring
Of windows and gates,
30 The demolition of fences and walls,
The abolition
Of border ports
And entry permits
Or maybe
35 All they really want
Is a hello day, no more;
So they can say hello,
Contrapted*
Like a toothpaste smile,
40 Limp
Like their cold fingers-shake.

Maybe all they want
Is the momentary flash, the quick open-lock
Of the shutters
45 Of the soul.

That way no light comes in
That will wake
Their conscience
Disturb their greed

50 And we
We follow in their train

Kobina Eyi Acquah (November 21, 1999)

* contrapted: a word made up by the poet

- What is the poet’s attitude to “World Hello Day”?
 - Discuss the use and effects of metaphor and simile.
 - Comment on the use of patterns of sound and language.
 - Consider the structure of the poem in relation to shifts of points of view.
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