OXFORD

INTERNATIONAL
AQA EXAMINATIONS

INTERNATIONAL AS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Unit 1 Language and Context

Tuesday 9 May 2023 07:00 GMT Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an Oxford International AQA Examinations 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- There are **two** sections:
  – Section A: Understanding texts
  – Section B: Directed writing.
- Answer Question 1 from Section A **and either** Question 2 **or** Question 3 from Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 25 marks for Question 1 and 25 marks for either Question 2 or Question 3.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  – use good English
  – organise information clearly
  – use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

There are no questions printed on this page

Section A: Understanding texts

Answer Question 1.

0 1 **Text A** and **Text B** are printed on pages **4–5**.

Text A is an extract from a personal blog.

Text B is a transcript from an online video found on the website of a bicycle shop. In the video, Olympic cyclist Laura Kenny talks about her new range of bicycles.

Examine how the creator of **Text A** and the speaker in **Text B** use language to create meanings.

In your answer you should consider different:

- audiences
- purposes
- genres
- modes of communication.

[25 marks]

Turn over for Text A

Text A

CYCLING FOR MY HEALTH AND MY MIND



We are often reminded how important exercise is as part of our physical wellbeing – and so I have always felt pleased with myself when getting on my bike and heading off down some local lanes. But over recent months, during a long period of being out of work, I have realised that getting on my bike is crucial to my mental health as well.

Although physical health is usually quite easy to identify, mental health is a more shadowy concept. I am not a psychologist, so I would find it very hard to identify just why cycling is good for my mental health or even precisely describe its effects. But what I do know is that when I am out cycling, and when I come home from a brisk ride, I somehow feel better within myself. I might feel *physically* tired, but mentally I feel renewed.

How can I explain this positive energy? Well, sitting around at home worrying about being unemployed cannot be good and being on my bike is not in reality solving the problem of getting a job. But what it is doing is offering some different viewpoints, whether they are aspects of nature I notice, or people I see, or houses I would love to live in…and some I would not. The physical act of pedal pushing seems to connect with the mental act of looking afresh at the world around me. And to be honest I am, at least briefly, allowed to forget my real world problems.

So, I wish I could come up with some more scientific reasons for why cycling and mental health are somehow linked. But in truth I haven't got time. I need to get on my bike and go for a ride.

Text B

Transcription key:

(.) pause of less than one second
(1.0) longer pause (number of seconds indicated)



Laura: I think this bike range in particular is really good (.) because obviously it's got a hybrid* all the way up to a race bike (.) and for me that was important to kind of make it accessible to everybody (.) whether you're riding around the city and wanna be on a hybrid (1.0) or whether you're already into cycling and you want a race bike (1.0) having a women's range (.) um is important to me because I wanna try and inspire as many women and girls to get out on their bikes (2.0) for me it was always riding along with my sister (.) like that was what I loved (.) it's a lovely way to socialise and (.) you don't have to do it for a long period of time either (.) to kind of get the benefits (.) and I'm really excited now seeing the final project (1.0) I feel like it's been kind of a long time to (.) to finally see them (.) how they're gonna be in the stores (.) um it's really exciting (.) and something I guess I'm really looking forward to

*hybrid – a bicycle designed for riding on different surfaces

Section B: Directed writing

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

0 2 You have been asked to write an article about cycling for your school or college newspaper/magazine.

The aim of this article is to inform students about the benefits of cycling, and to persuade them to cycle more.

You may use the information and ideas in the material in **Section A**.

Write this article using about 400 words.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 You have been asked to give a talk about cycling to the students at your school or college.

The aim of this talk is to inform students about the benefits of cycling, and to persuade them to cycle more.

You may use the information and ideas in the material in **Section A**.

Write the text for this talk using about 400 words.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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