



Cambridge International AS Level

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/21

Paper 2 Comprehension

October/November 2023

INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.

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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Material for Section A

Background

Leroy Aduja, the brand new Commissioning Editor for QYZ (a failing television channel in the small island country of Xipot), was recently tasked by Jaime Zuko, the owner of QYZ, to commission* a programme to fill the prime-time Saturday evening slot (21:00–23:00) as soon as possible. That same day he received two pitches** for programmes from two independent production companies that, once he had read through them, interested him.

*order the production of a programme

**presentations to try to persuade someone to buy something

Title	The Secret
Production company	Nuovo Vision Productions Felix Daruba, Managing Director
Number of shows	6
Total cost	\$6 000 000
On-screen	9 months after being commissioned
Description	Drama series about two neighbouring Xipot families set across four generations. The families have been feuding for years, but only one person knows the reason why and they are guarding the secret with their life. However, a mysterious stranger arrives on the scene, dramatic events start to occur and the truth begins to emerge.
Starring	Xandro Hanro (leading male actor) and Emilia Fontu (leading female actor)

Title	The Greatest All-Rounder 2023
Production company	Creatif Zephyr Sylvie Mano, Managing Director
Number of shows	10
Total cost	\$3 000 000
On-screen	3 months after being commissioned
Description	Ultimate quiz show, based on an uninhabited island 15 km off the coast of Xipot, testing contestants' physical strength, practical skills and mental agility, with the winner walking away \$500 000 richer. Opening show: the best 50 applicants have to swim to the island, but only the first 20 people to reach it become contestants; the rest of the programme introduces these 20 in detail to the viewers. Shows 2 to 9: each week the contestant in last place goes home, plus the contestant with the fewest viewer votes. Show 10: the final, made up of the four remaining contestants.
Starring	Chico Mendez (male presenter) and Anka Z Pedersen (female presenter)

Leroy invited both managing directors to come to QYZ yesterday in order to pitch to him in person.

Extract from the pitch for *The Secret*

Leroy: So, Felix, old friend, sell it to me. I assume, because it's you, it's not just another period drama with lovely costumes – same old, same old! – appealing only to the older generation.

Felix: Course not! Each episode ends on a cliffhanger – loads of suspense – and the season finale, when the secret's finally revealed, is so fast-paced it leaves you breathless. The quality of the script's guaranteed as the screenwriter won a TV award not so long ago. The actors are fully on board and can't wait to start filming. And we've already got season two planned – when the fallout from the revelation of the secret continues to create havoc.

Extract from the pitch for *The Greatest All-Rounder 2023*

Leroy: Oh, I was expecting Sylvie. Sorry, who are you?

Albie: I'm her deputy, Albie. She's stuck in a meeting, so she sent me. But, don't worry, I've been heavily involved in putting together our pitch for *The Greatest All-Rounder 2023*. And I'm so excited to be here telling you all about it.

Leroy: OK. Well, sell it to me then. What is so brilliant about this quiz show?

Albie: Everything about it is brilliant. Lots of jeopardy. Lots of human interest. And it's a life-changing amount of money to win. What's not to love?! Plus, we've got the 50 all ready to start filming. It'll be the best purchase you ever make!

Results of a QYZ survey

This morning QYZ's marketing department sent Leroy the results of a recent viewer survey.

Statement	Aged 16–35 % agree	Aged 36–59 % agree	Aged 60+ % agree
QYZ is your first choice of television channel	12	21	39
You would watch QYZ more if we offered more			
drama series	20	68	73
films	53	57	63
quiz shows	18	58	65
reality shows	79	55	21
Reasons why you do not watch QYZ:	% agree (across all age groups):		
QYZ programmes are irrelevant to me	59		
QYZ programmes are predictable	54		
I prefer to do sport, game, read, listen to music, etc	49		

Additional Information

1. Nuovo Vision Productions is a company based in Xipot; Creatif Zephyr is a foreign company, with offices all over the world.
2. This is Xandro Hanro's first leading role after years of supporting roles; Emilia Fontu is an established theatre actress.
3. The survey was delivered to houses along with the local newspaper. People were asked to post the completed survey back to QYZ.
4. There is a dangerous current in the sea off Xipot when the wind comes from a certain direction.
5. Jaime Zuko gave Leroy a budget limit of \$5 000 000.
6. Chico Mendez is a former world-class athlete turned successful presenter; Anka Z Pedersen has just retired as an international football player because of health issues.
7. The previous owner of QYZ was called M Pietsien.
8. Yesterday Emilia told Felix that she was having second thoughts about The Secret as she had been offered a part in a Broadway show in New York.
9. The government of Xipot is incredibly keen to encourage the expansion of local companies and will consider very favourably indeed applications for grants of up to \$2 000 000.
10. Advertisers are always most keen to reach viewers aged between 16 and 34.
11. The Secret's screenwriter won her TV award for a children's daytime programme.
12. Leroy worked abroad for years, but returned to Xipot to take up this job as he was missing his home country so much. He is a proud supporter of all things Xipot.

Material for Section B

An article by Annemiek Leclaire

The art of imagination

I normally never read a novel unless I'm on vacation.

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- Wait quietly – According to author Elizabeth Gilbert, fantasy wants to find you, not the other way round.

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