

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/01

Paper 1 Reading and Directed Writing

October/November 2004

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

2 hours

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

Part 1

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer Questions 1–10.

This passage is from a newspaper. It was written just before the opening of the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England in 2002, which marked an extremely important change in the way disabled competitors were treated in athletics tournaments.

World watches as disabled athletes win equality

A bold experiment to treat disabled and able-bodied competitors as equals in the Commonwealth Games is being closely watched by organisers of the world's great sporting events.

For the first time, medals won by disabled competitors will count towards their countries' final totals. Disabled competitors will join the procession of national teams, they will live together in the athletes' village and their events will be staged in the same stadiums at peak times alongside star names.

Disabled groups hope that their leading role in Britain's biggest sporting event will persuade other sports competitions to do the same.

There will be ten events for disabled athletes: four in swimming, two on the track, two in bowls, one in weightlifting and one in table tennis.

In the past disabled athletes have had to take part in demonstration events, or stage their own championships after the main competition, as at the Olympic Games.

More than 150 will compete over the next ten days, including Tanni Grey-Thompson, who won four gold medals at the Paralympic Games in Sydney 2000. She said: "There will be a huge effect on international events in the future because the success of these Games will shame them. We provide the same joy and competition as any other sport."

Mike Todd, disability adviser to the Games, said: "They will be competing in front of 38,000 people in a stadium and will be seen on prime time TV. That's the dream of all athletes, to compete at the top level and be recognised for their achievement. It's not done as a favour for the athletes but because it's the right thing, and we've done it all for the price of a world-class footballer's big toe."

Steve Cram, twice a Commonwealth champion, said: "Incorporating the disability medals into the main medal table is an experiment I think they have to look at carefully. Events for the disabled are not available in every country. Those countries that are the best at athletics tend to field the most successful teams of disabled athletes."

Although politicians, sporting bodies and leading competitors applaud the Manchester initiative, some disabled athletes and officials complain that it is just an empty gesture.

Sarah Bailey, winner of five Paralympic swimming gold medals, believes there are too few events. The main flaw in her sport and on the athletics track is that participants will not be split into competitions of roughly equal disability as in the Paralympics. Instead all eligible classes will join in the same race. The winners will be the competitors with the fastest times for their level of disability, rather than first past the post. In theory the person who finishes last could be the winner. Nikhil Nair, chairman of British Blind Sport, said the system was nonsense. "It's going to be horrendous for spectators, who won't have a clue who is winning."

Gordon Neale, chief executive of Disability Sport England, describes the Manchester experiment as a promising beginning, but he is concerned that these Games do not include severely disabled athletes. "There are classifications – people in electric wheelchairs or people with no arms or legs – who are just as competitive in sport but who are not included," he said.

Maria Eagle, Minister for Disabled People, said: "I don't think anyone pretends that in one go the Manchester Games have addressed all the wider issues of inclusiveness and accessibility, but they've certainly made a good start. There is a real hope that society is starting to treat disabled people equally."

For Questions 1–6 write down the letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer paper to indicate the most appropriate answer.

- 1 Why is the experiment described as **bold**?
- A Disabled competitors will live in the athletes' village.
 - B Organisers of other competitions will watch what happens closely.
 - C The disabled competitors will be treated equally for the first time.
 - D There will be ten events for disabled athletes. [1]
- 2 At the Olympic Games disabled athletes
- A are allowed only to take part in table tennis events.
 - B are also treated equally.
 - C have no opportunities to compete.
 - D have their own, separate competition. [1]
- 3 Tanni Grey-Thompson says that she expects that
- A 150 disabled athletes will compete in the games.
 - B she will win four gold medals.
 - C the effects of the experiment will be huge.
 - D the organisers of the Commonwealth games will be ashamed. [1]
- 4 According to Mike Todd, the decision to allow disabled athletes to compete equally has been taken because it
- A does not involve much expense.
 - B is an act of kindness to them.
 - C is the right thing to do.
 - D makes good television entertainment. [1]
- 5 One way in which the Games might be criticised as an "empty gesture" would be that:
- A no-one would know who was winning.
 - B not all countries have good, disabled athletes.
 - C there are too few events for disabled athletes.
 - D the system is nonsense. [1]

6 Gordon Neale believes that the experiment is

- A a bad idea.
- B a good start.
- C a great success.
- D likely to fail.

[1]

For Questions 7 to 10 you must answer as far as possible in your own words.

7 Give **three** ways in which disabled athletes have been made to feel equal with able-bodied competitors. [3]

8 Mike Todd talks about “the dream of all athletes” (paragraph 7). Explain carefully what he means when he says that disabled competitors will

- (a) compete at the top level
- (b) be recognised for their achievement.

[4]

9 What are the **three** points that Maria Eagle makes? [3]

10 If you were the disability adviser to the Games in your own country, what improvements to the changes made in the Manchester Games would you make? Use only ideas expressed by the people in the passage. [4]

Total for Part 1: [20]



[Turn over for Part 2]

Part 2

Read the following article carefully, and then answer Questions 11 and 12.

This is an article about one person who took part in the Commonwealth Games in 2002.

Swimmer who lost a leg ready to take on all comers again

Natalie du Toit, a South African swimmer, will make history at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester when she becomes the first person to compete in both able-bodied and disabled events.

The schoolgirl from Cape Town swam for her country at the Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games when she was just 14. But after losing one leg below the knee in an accident last year she found she “could only swim in circles”.

Next week Natalie, 18, will compete in the 800 metres freestyle – in what she calls the “normal” event – and the 50 metres and 100 metres in the disabled freestyle events.

“I believe everything happens in life for a reason. You can’t go back and change anything,” she said. “You have to take what life gives and turn it to your advantage. Swimming was my life, and is still my life.”

After overcoming a fear of the water, Natalie joined her brother at their local swimming club at the age of six. Four hours’ daily training reaped rewards when she made the finals of the 400 metres individual swimming medley in Kuala Lumpur in 1998. Then, last February, she was riding her motor scooter in Cape Town when a motorist pulled out without looking and hit her side-on. Her left leg shattered in three places. “I had no chance,” she said. “I knew as I lay on the road that I’d lost the leg. I was in so much pain that when surgeons amputated it, it was the best thing for me.”

Three months later her doctor allowed her to return to the pool. She was back in the water before she started walking. Her life had begun again.

Natalie plunged herself back into the rigours of training. “I just tried to keep up with everybody else,” she said. “When I got into the water, my stump floated but I couldn’t kick out with my good leg. At first I found the breast stroke very difficult and instead of swimming in a straight line I found myself going around in circles. But my coach helped me with that. I can kick straight now.”

Her biggest problem is that she only got her new artificial leg last week and still needs to get used to it. She jokes that she has to remember not to lean too far forward in case she topples. Natalie is far from self-conscious about her injuries. In fact, she is an advocate for inclusive sporting events where able-bodied and disabled competitors are treated equally. “I feel honoured because my federation has allowed me to do both. It was very fair of them.”

Her courage has made her a favourite in the Athletes’ Village. “A lot of people have told me that I’m some kind of role model,” she said. “I suppose I can see that, but as far as I’m concerned, I’m still the same person as I was before the accident. I haven’t changed.”

After the Games, Natalie will return to Cape Town to finish her studies at her school. She hopes to go to university to become a geneticist, but swimming is still on the agenda. “I intend to carry on competing at the highest level against able-bodied swimmers but I haven’t decided what my future will be in disability events. I’ve come here to see what it’s like,” she said.

“But whatever I do, I’ll go out there and try my best. That’s enough for me.”

11 Write a summary of all that you know about Natalie. Use your own words as far as possible.

Write your summary in these three parts:

- (a) **her life before the accident**
(write 50-60 words for this part)
- (b) **her life as a swimmer and as a person after the accident**
(write 70-80 words for this part)
- (c) **her hopes for the future**
(write 20-30 words for this part).

[20]

12 Imagine you are Natalie du Toit and that you are about to compete in the Games.

Write a letter to a friend.

In your letter write about

- your thoughts and feelings about what has happened to you
- your plans and hopes for the future
- what you have learned about yourself as a person.

You may add details of your own, but what you write must be based on what you have read in the article.

You should write about 1½ sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

[20]

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