



Rewarding Learning

General Certificate of Secondary Education

January 2015

English Language/English

Unit 2: Functional Writing and
Reading Non-fiction

Foundation Tier

[GEG21]

MONDAY 12 JANUARY, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Complete **both** tasks.

Spend **45 minutes** on Section A and **45 minutes** on Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 48.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each task.

Section A: Functional Writing

Up to **16 marks** are available for an **organised, appropriate** and **interesting** response.

Up to **8 marks** are available for the use of a **range of sentences** and **correct spelling, punctuation and grammar**.

TASK 1

Write a **speech for your class** in which you put forward **your own thoughts and views** on the following topic:

“Who should young people look up to? Do we need real people we can admire rather than a bunch of entertainers?”

Make use of any of the information on page 3, if you find it helpful.

[24]

It is suggested that you **organise your time** like this:

- **10 minutes** planning
- **30 minutes** writing
- **5 minutes** checking.

You may use the space below to plan your response:

“Who should young people look up to?”



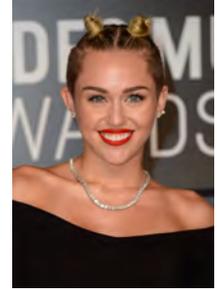
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Celebrities inspire many young people so that they can turn their dreams into reality.

There are ordinary people around us to admire: think of nurses, carers and volunteers who support good causes.

- Last year, firefighters in Northern Ireland attended 30,784 incidents. They deal with not only fires and road traffic collisions but also gas leaks, animal rescue, chemical spills and flooding.
- The ‘Spirit of Northern Ireland Awards’ recognise local heroes who work tirelessly to help others. These are the folks we should look up to.
- ‘Children in Need’, ‘Comic Relief’ and ‘Sport Relief’ show that celebrities can also be people to be admired. They use their fame to help others:
 - Matt Damon founded Water.org to provide safe drinking water worldwide
 - In 2014, the band, Coldplay, donated £260,000 to ‘Sport Relief’.
- Many celebrities are an example to young people about the importance of working hard to achieve success.

Section B: Reading Non-Fiction

Read the newspaper article: "SWEET BUT DEADLY!" on page 5

TASK 2

This newspaper article attempts to persuade the reader that sugar is a serious danger to public health.

Explain how the writer has presented her point of view. Discuss how she has used:

- a forceful style of writing to warn the reader
- particular words and phrases to highlight her concerns
- facts and opinions to back up her viewpoint
- a variety of sentence structures to emphasise her strong views. [24]

It is suggested that you organise your time like this:

- **10 minutes** reading the article and planning your response to the task
- **30 minutes** writing your response
- **5 minutes** checking your work.

SWEET BUT DEADLY!

Prepare for a sugar war: on one side the food giants; on the other, world health experts urging strict new limits

The number one New Year's resolution is to lose weight, and yet we are failing miserably. Despite the growing number of diets, we are getting fatter. An NHS survey found that more than 25% of all adults in England are obese. This has tripled since 1980.

Increasingly, however, experts here and in America are beginning to wise up to the real culprit behind our ever increasing waistlines. Rather than fat, as was originally thought, it is sugar that is the biggest threat to our health.

The NHS reckons the average person in Britain now eats about 700g of sugar a week – that's 140 teaspoons!! Experts say our bodies are designed to handle only half that or less a week. Did you know a Snickers bar contains seven teaspoons of sugar and a regular can of Coke contains a whopping nine??

We simply shouldn't eat sugar bombs like that. Furthermore, sugar has absolutely *NO* nutritional value – no proteins, no essential fats, no vitamins or minerals – just a whole bunch of calories and nothing else!

Sadly, it's not as simple as cutting out foods that we know are packed with sugar. The shocking truth is that the food industry has contaminated our food supply with *ADDED* sugar to sell more products and so increase their profits. Supposedly healthy zero-fat yoghurt has been found to contain five teaspoons of sugar, while a can of Heinz tomato soup contains four. Even a Pot Noodle has been spiked with two teaspoons of added sugar!!

The food giants know that if they add sugar, we buy more. Why? The answer's simple – we're addicted to the deadly sweet stuff! The chairman of the Functional Medicine Institute, Doctor Mark Hyman states that "sugar is more addictive than cocaine"! Professor Simon Capewell from the University of Liverpool has even called sugar, "The new tobacco".

Health chiefs are now telling food manufacturers to slash the amount of sugar they use by at least 30% in order to halt a wave of disease and death. Obesity already costs the UK over £5 billion a year. Without action, these costs will soar beyond £50 billion by 2050.

We must protect children from this public health hazard. The food industry must reduce the amount of sugar that they are adding to children's foods.

So let's be clear – everything from Jelly Babies, Percy Pigs and chocolate bars to biscuits, ice cream and doughnuts need to be an occasional treat and not a daily "fix". We also need to beware the hidden sugar that has been added to foods we don't even associate with sweetness such as tomato ketchup, fish fingers and breakfast cereals.

That's the bitter truth about sugar. You have been warned!

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