



General Certificate of Secondary Education
2015

English Language/English

Unit 2: Functional Writing and
Reading Non-Fiction

Foundation Tier

[GEG21]

TUESDAY 2 JUNE, MORNING



GEG21

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 an **article for your school magazine**. The title is:

“Is it time for us all to give up fast food?”

Your task is to **persuade** the readers to share your point of view about fast food.

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 your response to the task*
- **30 minutes** *writing your response*
- **5 minutes** *checking your work.*

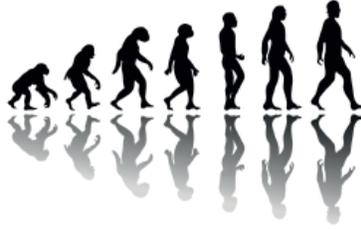
You may use the space below to plan your response:



“Is it time for us all to give up fast food?”



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Life is hectic! Fast food makes life easier for us all.

Today, teenagers are three times more likely to be obese than teenagers 20 years ago. What will it be like in 20 years time if we don't stop this now?

Fast food restaurants are popular because they serve tasty food for a reasonable price.

The fast food industry is targeting children with a lot of advertising. It's time to stand up to this and protect the health of our kids.

- Fast food is high in fat, salt and sugar.
- We spend more than £80 billion a year on fast food in the U.K.

* * *

- Low prices, with burgers available for as little as 99p each, are very appealing in the current economic climate.
- Fast food chains are offering new healthier options. They also put food information on menu boards to help people make healthier choices.

Section B: Reading Non-Fiction

Read the newspaper article: “Cheryl Cole’s tattoo: why on earth has she inked this rose garden?” on Page 5.

TASK 2

This newspaper article puts forward the writer’s strong opinions on people who change their appearance with tattoos.

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

- a forceful style of writing to express her strong feelings
- particular words and phrases to highlight her concerns
- some facts to back up her opinions
- different types of sentences to add impact.

[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.

Cheryl Cole's tattoo: why on earth has she inked this rose garden?

Cheryl Cole has the kind of figure most women dream about having.

I imagine most men have dreamed about it too.

But for Cheryl, that was not good enough!

And so she has gone to the extraordinary length of having a bunch of ruby red roses tattooed across her buttocks and legs.

The nation's pretty much united response to seeing her artwork across their newspapers on Sunday morning was: 'Eh? What has Chezza done now?' But Cheryl couldn't give a stuff what the rest of us think; Cheryl is a woman with the wealth and fame to have anything she wants. And it seems she wants to change her own skin!

Why did she feel the need to alter so completely what nature had already done a pretty good job at? And why is she at the forefront of a trend that now sees about 40% of the country with some kind of tattoo?

Along with tattooed eyebrows, fake hair, fake nails, Botox, fillers and goodness knows what other procedures, we have become a nation obsessed with tweaking our bodies.

While half the world is hungry – including too many children in our own country – millions are spending excessive amounts of money and energy on customising themselves.

Why has everyone become so dissatisfied with the way nature intended them to be?

David Beckham, the man who really does have everything, was presented with the ultimate birthday present from wife Victoria ... a voucher for a tattoo. David's arms and body are now almost entirely covered in tattoos (52) but he still seems nowhere near finished in his mission to redesign the body he was born into.

Why? What could possibly be the attraction of inking your body with chemicals that may well be a danger to your health?

Of course, there is a huge amount of snobbishness about the subject of tattoos. Some media commentators have worked themselves into a frenzy about 'tramp stamps' and 'slag tags'. But tattoos aren't a class issue any more – even David Cameron's wife has got one now, for goodness' sake!

NO, this issue cuts across every social class – it's about how we have become a nation obsessed with controlling the way we look, rather than the way we are.

And what it has left us with is all really rather ugly.

© Cheryl Cole's tattoo: With a bottom most men dream about why on earth has she inked this rose garden?
By Alison Phillips, The Mirror, 28th August 2013

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
