



Rewarding Learning

General Certificate of Secondary Education
2017

English Language/English

Unit 2: Functional Writing and
Reading Non-Fiction

Foundation Tier

[GEG21]

TUESDAY 6 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**. Put forward **your own views** on the following statement:

“Sugar is simply a sweet poison and we are all eating and drinking far too much of it!”

You may use any of the information on page 3, if you wish.

[24]

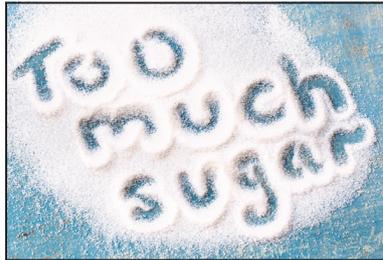
It is suggested that you **organise your time** like this:

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

You may use the space below to plan your response:



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SOME OPINIONS ABOUT SUGAR :

Too much sugar makes us fat, rots our teeth and has been linked to heart disease and cancer.

There's nothing wrong with a little bit of sugar now and again. Too much of anything is bad for you.

SOME FACTS ABOUT SUGAR:

- The average person in the UK eats or drinks 238 teaspoons of sugar every week.
- Sugar is not only found in cakes and fizzy drinks. You'll also find it in things like baked beans, bread and cereal.

- Sugar is added to foods such as jam and canned fruit to preserve them so that they last longer.
- Sugar is 100% natural and contains no fat. One teaspoon of sugar contains only 15 calories.

© Adapted from three sources: 1) "Sweet poison: why sugar is ruining our health" by Victoria Lambert. Published by Telegraph Media Group Limited, 11/12/14. 2) "Why is Sugar Added to Our Foods?" authored and published by The Sugar Association, 26/05/15. 3) "How much sugar is too much?" authored and published by Malta Wellness Centre, 23/03/16.

Section B: Reading Non-Fiction

Read the online article: “The Disney film that’s stolen my children’s brains” on page 5.

TASK 2

This article puts forward the writer’s strong opinions about the impact of the film *Frozen*.

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

- facts as well as her own family experiences
- words and phrases to highlight her views
- different types of sentences to add impact.

[24]

It is suggested that you organise your time like this:

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

The Disney film that's stolen my children's brains

Two toddlers stand face-to-face in the playground. And although they're strangers, a flicker of something odd passes between them. It's like static electricity. It makes the hair on my arms stand up.

"You be Anna and I'll be Elsa," commands my small daughter, Mabel. Then they start singing loudly together: "Let it go ... the cold never bothered me anyway."

They are only three and they've never exchanged a word before now, but they speak the universal language of *Frozen*, Disney's biggest grossing movie EVER. It is the fifth highest-grossing movie in box-office history. *Frozen* is like an illness that is sweeping the nation, infecting every child under 16, male or female. I swear the '*Frozen* virus' has been sent from another planet to take over the minds of our children.

Flashback to our half term holiday. Walking across the cliff tops one sunny afternoon, we see a huge crowd of families coming towards us. All four of my offspring (aged three to eleven) are singing 'Let It Go', the film's power ballad. The children in the approaching group are singing it too.

Everyone stops face-to-face while the kids' choir bawl their way through the complete chorus. And we walk on as if nothing unusual has happened! Why?

Because of this song, a song so extraordinary that it even knocked Beyoncé off the top of the U.S. music chart ... and remained there, at No 1 for a record NINE weeks.

This musical is ruling our lives, outstripping *Shrek*, *Toy Story* and *The Lion King* in its popularity. But what has surprised me most is my youngest's absolute devotion to it. Peppa Pig I salute you, but you're history now, babe.

I thought the children would tire of *Frozen* (they did sing the soundtrack all through our eight-hour journey to Cornwall) but they haven't. The obsession shows no signs of stopping anytime soon. Just answer me this: how do you stop them singing, 'Do You Want to Build a Snowman?', 'Fixer Upper' and 'For the First Time in Forever' – songs that wake me in the night? I now hum them in meetings. It is parental abuse! Please make it stop!

On Mabel's birthday we gave her Elsa and Olaf the Snowman. She almost burst with joy, glowing with happiness at her *Frozen* themed gifts. I can't take that feeling away from her.

So what do I do? Ear plugs? Wine with my breakfast? Or worse still, do I just give in and sing along?

© "The Disney film that's stolen my children's brains" by Lorraine Candy. Published by the Daily Mail, 19/06/17.

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