

English B – Standard level – Paper 1
Anglais B – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 1
Inglés B – Nivel medio – Prueba 1

Tuesday 3 November 2015 (morning)
Mardi 3 novembre 2015 (matin)
Martes 3 de noviembre de 2015 (mañana)

1 h 30 m

Text booklet – Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet contains all of the texts required for paper 1.
- Answer the questions in the question and answer booklet provided.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux candidats

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret contient tous les textes nécessaires à l'épreuve 1.
- Répondez à toutes les questions dans le livret de questions et réponses fourni.

Cuaderno de textos – Instrucciones para los alumnos

- No abra este cuaderno hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuaderno contiene todos los textos para la prueba 1.
- Conteste todas las preguntas en el cuaderno de preguntas y respuestas.

Text A

Free Wi-Fi trumps sleep for SA travellers

Two-thirds of South African travellers want mandatory free Wi-Fi at the country's airports, a new survey shows.

Added by Editor on 13 August 2014.

5 A comprehensive survey of South African travellers has revealed that sufficient free Wi-Fi at airports is more important to them than a comfortable place to take a nap while waiting for a delayed flight.

10 The survey taken by more than 6000 people was conducted by a travel company's website, Travelstart.co.za.

It asked participants what features could be added to South Africa's airports to improve the lives of air commuters. Suggested options included sleeping areas as well as health, wellness and grooming facilities such as gyms and spas.

15 According to Travelstart, all airports already offer free Wi-Fi. However, the allotment of either 30 minutes or 50MB of data already provided free of charge is not sufficient.

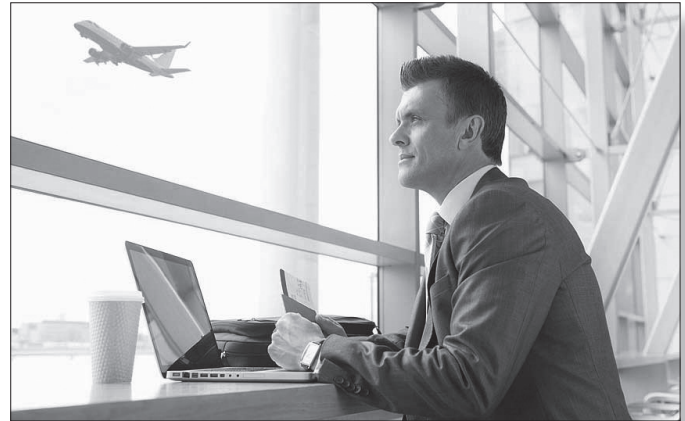
A comfortable place to catch a snooze was the second most demanded feature in the survey, and free transport inside the airport building was the third most popular choice on passengers' wish lists.

20 A significant 27% of travellers voted for airside shower facilities, while 23% said there should be a children's playroom. A library (13% of respondents), a health spa (12%), a cinema (11%), a games room (9%) and a gym (6%) rounded out the top ten.

A few of those surveyed said a swimming pool and a nightclub would be useful at the airport.

25 "While these aspirations might seem unusual, they become less bizarre when you consider some of the weirdest airport features around the world, such as Munich Airport, which houses a wave pool," Travelstart says.

Regarding existing services at airports, survey participants indicated that the clarity of airport announcements should be improved, with 36% saying unclear PA system announcements contributed negatively to the South African airport experience.



Text: www.techcentral.co.za. Used with permission.
Image: Getty Images.

Text B

The Singapore water story



Water: From vulnerability to strength

Singapore has little land to collect and store rainwater. We faced drought, floods and water pollution in the early years when the nation was founded. These challenges have inspired us to innovate and develop capabilities in this area, turning our weakness into strength.

5 Over the last 50 years, through strategic planning and investment in research and technology, Singapore's national water agency PUB has built a diversified supply of water known as the "Four National Taps".

1. Local catchment water

10 Singapore has two separate systems to collect rainwater and used water. Rainwater is collected through a network of drains, canals, rivers, storm-water collection ponds and reservoirs before it is treated for drinking water supply. This makes Singapore one of the few countries in the world to harvest urban storm water on a large scale for its water supply. Since 2011, Singapore's water-catchment area has increased from half to two-thirds of Singapore's land surface.

2. NEWater

A Singapore success story and the pillar of Singapore's water sustainability, NEWater is high-grade reclaimed water produced from treated, used water that is further purified using advanced technologies and ultra-violet disinfection, making it ultra-clean and safe to drink.

15 In 2010, Singapore's latest NEWater plant was completed. Together, Singapore's four NEWater plants can meet up to 30% of the nation's current water needs.

3. Imported water

Singapore has been importing water from Johor, Malaysia, under two agreements. The first agreement expired in August 2011 and the second will expire in 2061.

4. Desalinated water

20 Another technology-based water source is desalinated water. Singapore has two seawater plants: one produces 30 million gallons of water a day to meet about 10% of Singapore's water needs, and the second, with a capacity of 70 million gallons of water a day, opened in September 2013. Today, the two plants can meet up to 25% of Singapore's current water demand.

Water conservation

25 Securing an adequate supply is only half of the water equation – managing the demand side is just as crucial. PUB has a wide-ranging water-conservation plan that encourages customers to use water wisely. Singapore's per capita domestic water consumption has been brought down from 165 litres per day in 2003 to the current 150 litres. The target is to lower it to 147 litres by 2020 and 140 litres by 2030.

Engaging the community

Achieving an adequate and affordable water supply is not enough. It is equally important to get public buy-in, to have greater ownership of and to value our water resources. Therefore, PUB has embarked on a new method in Singapore water management. Today, the water agency encourages the people and also public and private sectors to take joint ownership of Singapore's water resource management.

Note: The rights holder for this text requested amendments to the text, which were made after the examinations were sat.

Text: <http://www.pub.gov.sg>

Image: "Watercan". Licensed under CC BY-SA 2.5 via Wikimedia Commons - <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Watercan.png#/media/File:Watercan.png>

Text C

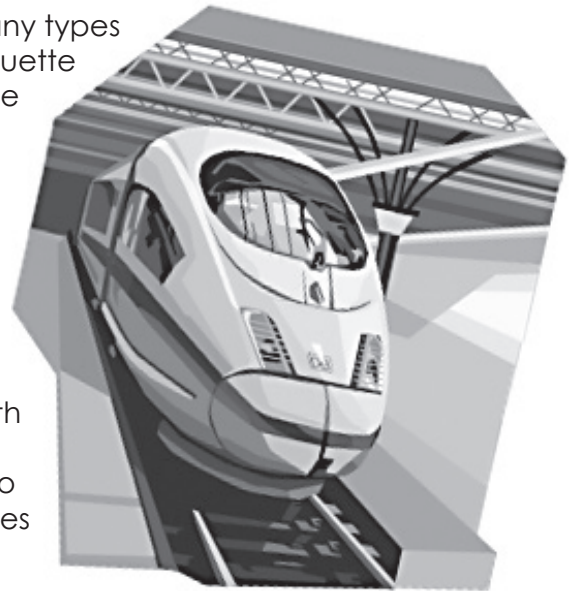
Removed for copyright reasons

Text D

Train travel etiquette

Author: Beth Morrissey MLIS – Updated: 27 December 2012

Trains are a popular transportation option for many types of travellers. Being well-versed in train travel etiquette is essential for train passengers whether they have a short commute or a cross-continental itinerary.



[- X -]

- 5 Passengers should try to avoid seats saved for people with disabilities or mobility problems, including older adults and pregnant women. If these reserved places are occupied, it is polite to give up a seat and stand in order to
- 10 allow these passengers to sit instead. Parents with infants will appreciate being given a seat on a crowded train. It is also polite for passengers who are travelling alone to move seats to allow families to sit together if this can be accomplished.

[- 36 -]

- 15 When mobile phones are used on trains, it is polite to limit the volume or to silence the phone altogether. Conversations should be kept brief, and passengers should avoid raising their voices. The volume levels of other technological devices should be minimized as well, and headphones must be used whenever those devices are employed so that other passengers are not disturbed.

[- 37 -]

- 20 Many trains offer a dining service on board. General dining rules should be followed in dining cars. Waste should be disposed of properly. Some passengers may prefer to bring their own food on board trains. Such food should be easy to eat, not emit a heavy odour, and require no special preparation.

[- 38 -]

- 25 Many travellers prefer trains because they can move about the carriages during their trips. However, train travel etiquette dictates that all passengers attempt to keep aisles as clear as possible. Baggage should be safely stowed, discretion should be used when having conversations in order to respect other passengers, and children should be taught to walk rather than run along aisles. When many passengers are in the aisles together, those carrying children, baggage, or food should be given priority to pass.
- 30 Train travel etiquette should be respected so that all passengers can have the most comfortable journey possible, and it will help ensure that everyone on board enjoys their next train trip.