

Paper Reference(s) 1EN0/02

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

English Language

Paper 2: Non-fiction and Transactional Writing

Section A: Reading Texts Insert

Monday 12 June 2017 – Morning

**Time: 2 hours plus your additional time
allowance**

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| <p>DO NOT RETURN THE INSERT WITH THE QUESTION PAPER.</p> |
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ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

- **Read the texts before answering the questions in Section A of the question paper.**

Read the text below and answer Questions 1–3 on the question paper.

TEXT 1

Extract from ‘Grey is the Colour of Hope’, a memoir written in 1988 by Russian writer and poet Irina Ratushinskaya.

The memoir covers Ratushinskaya’s arrest, details of her time in a Russian ‘strict regime’ camp and her release in 1986. She was arrested and imprisoned for writing what was considered to be ‘anti-Soviet’ poetry. In this edited extract the camp officer, Podust, is checking the prisoners’ possessions in ‘the Zone’.

Striding into the Zone, Podust heads purposefully for Natasha’s bed, turning it inside out to search for those wretched socks. She knows that Natasha is particularly sensitive to the cold, is running a constant temperature and therefore sleeps in woollen socks (our

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(Turn over)

blankets being what you would call
 symbolic), which she keeps in her bed
 with her nightdress, separately from 10
 her other things. Storage space is at a
 premium anyway, because every small
 bedside locker must be shared by two
 prisoners. These lockers have two
 shelves and one drawer, and everything 15
 must be crammed into them – letters,
 tooth powder, clothes and the like. At
 first, there was one locker for every
 prisoner and the ‘surplus’ lockers were
 removed only a year later. Even so, it 20
 was a tight squeeze. Try to picture it for
 yourself, my readers: go through your
 cupboards and wardrobes and pick out
 what you would consider to be the barest
 essentials to serve you for the next 25
 seven years. Don’t forget to include your
 maximum allowance of five books, letters,
 photographs of your nearest and dearest
 (whom you won’t see for years to come),
 stamps, envelopes, those treacherous 30
 underclothes, a couple of towels...

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(Turn over)

Hold it! You're overdoing it a bit, aren't
 you? Forget about the address book –
 that will be confiscated during your very
 first search. Better just sit down and 35
 memorise the most important addresses.
 Put that toothpaste back, too, it's
 against regulations. You can take a box
 of tooth powder, though. And why are
 you packing those red socks? Do you 40
 want to find yourself on report for them,
 the way Lagle Parek, later to join us in
 the Small Zone, did in 1985, and forfeit
 a meeting with a relative? Better not
 risk it. You're taking a track suit? What 45
 on earth for? To do exercises? Well, of
 course, doing exercises is not forbidden
 by the regulations, but there is no time
 set aside for them, and it's better not to
 keep the track suit in your locker: it will 50
 be confiscated. Stow it away somewhere
 safe. Oh, and keep the amount of
 underwear down to a minimum: the
 regulations are that you wear one set, and
 have one change only. You could try 55

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(Turn over)

secreting a few more things, but the chances are they will be found and confiscated.

Now take a look: see how much stuff you have gathered? Virtually impossible to pick it all up at once, isn't it? And now, try to fit it all into a locker with an actual storage space of thirty by thirty by seventy centimetres. It must be stowed tidily, too, so Podust will have no cause for complaint.

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(Text 2 begins on next page)

Read the text below and answer Questions 4–7 on the question paper.

TEXT 2

Extract from ‘Don’t dread downsizing – a smaller home makes you feel like newlyweds!’ This is an edited version of an article that appeared in ‘Woman and Home’ magazine and the ‘Daily Mail’ newspaper in January 2016. In the article, Libby Purves talks about moving into a smaller home with her husband.

LIBBY PURVES: Don’t dread downsizing – a smaller home makes you feel like newlyweds!

We did it! We decluttered, emptied sheds, filled skips, overloaded local charity shops. We defied sentiment and moved on. We downsized! We admitted that we are, mainly, only two in the house. I contemplated the sprawling vagueness of my home in Dunwich, Suffolk; the way

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that long-beloved objects and furniture
 were hardly noticed any more. I saw
 our yards of dusty, random books (no 10
 one needs four copies of The Mayor Of
 Casterbridge – how did that happen?).

I shuddered at neglected chests and
 hampers and deep, deep wardrobes
 full of random oddities. (No one needs 15
 three snorkel sets, either.) I admitted that
 there are limits to the number of stuffed
 babyhood toys it is sane to keep. Then
 there was the stuff inherited when my
 mother floated peacefully into eternity, 20
 leaving me with great drifts of her lifetime
 archives and possessions to sort out.
 As we hauled and sorted and stared in
 amazement at the junk we owned, the very
 bricks seemed to sigh with relief. 25

We left a huge basement library,
 dining-room and mini-cinema, a big sitting
 room, three bedrooms plus guest flat.

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We now have two small but shipshape bedrooms and a tiny downstairs room with a sofabed. I am incurably keen on having people to stay, so we've put a shepherd's hut in the garden for when the spare room and sofabed are full. To my husband's despair, I have also sneaked in one classy fold-up, a moderately upmarket camp-bed and one lethal World War I khaki canvas thing. Hospitality is my non-negotiable red line. 30 35

No two downsizings are the same, and ours was rural. But many of the lessons we learned apply to anyone. The first is about clutter. You can't cram a quart into a pint pot, as Granny used to say, so be realistic. Take a deep breath, get some plastic boxes and start half a year before the move. Categorise things as pure rubbish or charity-shop and jumble-sale. 40 45

Note which of your children, nephews, nieces or friends' offspring are setting up 50

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home, and ply them with your unwanted furniture, curtains, crockery and kitchen equipment. It's nice to think of it being used, and, frankly, one rarely misses anything. A bonus is that as you reduce the volume, you rediscover long-forgotten treasures. In the new house are pictures, objects, photos and nice jugs we hadn't registered for years, because they were in the spare bedroom or a dark cupboard.

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They spring back to life in their new setting.

Mementos of bygone family and friends spring back, too: not lost but revived and freshened in memory to smile from new mantelpieces. We have fewer walls to hang things on, so our huge collages of holidays or schooldays are out of their dusty frames and in a big, safe art folder.

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Furniture? Face it, some of it just won't fit. It'll cramp your new rooms. Our enormous

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bed had to go, and the sofa the old dog used to like, and the stupidly big armchair and that interesting hall cupboard.

Books? We sold a third of them, but the 75
 very act of culling* meant the rediscovery
 of treasures. There'll still be somewhere
 to bung** what's left. Family archives,
 old letters, children's primary school
 drawings, treasured toys for potential 80
 or actual grandchildren. Most downsize
 homes have somewhere – a glory-hole for
 such things. And if not, there is always
 Big Yellow Storage. Expensive, yes, but it
 offers a year or two to convince yourself 85
 that some things really aren't worth
 hoarding. One is not a dung beetle, or a
 dead Egyptian Pharaoh.

A bit sad, you say? A bit Aunt-Agatha?
 Not at all. It's more like being newlyweds 90
 again: nesting in the tiny first flat with the
 wedding-presents. Honest.

culling* – cutting down
 bung** – put, dump

SOURCES:

Text 1: Grey is the Colour of Hope, Irina Ratushinskaya, 1988, Hachette UK, 2016.

**Text 2: Don't dread downsizing – a smaller home makes you feel like newlyweds!, Libby Purves, 2016,
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-3389761/LIBBY-PURVES-Don-t-dread-downsizing-smaller-home-makes-feel-like-newlyweds.html>**

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