

Paper Reference(s) 1EN0/02
Pearson Edexcel GCSE Level 1/Level 2 (9–1)

English Language
PAPER 2: Non-fiction and Transactional
Writing

Time: 2 hours 5 minutes plus your additional
time allowance

Reading Texts Booklet

DO NOT RETURN THIS READING
TEXTS BOOKLET WITH THE
QUESTION PAPER

ADVICE

**Read the texts before answering
the questions in Section A of the
Question Paper.**

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**Read the text below and answer
Questions 1–3 on the Question Paper.**

TEXT 1

Extract from ‘Down and Out in Paris and London’ by George Orwell (1933).

In this edited extract from a memoir of his time living in poverty in Paris and London, George Orwell describes when most of his money is stolen from his lodgings in Paris. He is left with only forty-seven francs (French money) to live on, and he explains how people can live in the city spending just six francs a day.

It is altogether curious, your first contact with poverty. You have thought so much about poverty—it is the thing you have feared all your life, the thing you knew

(continued on the next page)

Turn over

would happen to you sooner or later; 5
and it is all so utterly different. You
thought it would be quite simple; it is
extraordinarily complicated.

You discover, for instance, the secrecy 10
attached to poverty. At a sudden stroke
you have been reduced to an income of
six francs a day. But of course you dare
not admit it—you have got to pretend
that you are living quite as usual. From
the start it tangles you in a net of lies, 15
and even with the lies you can hardly
manage it. You stop sending clothes
to the laundry, and the laundry worker
catches you in the street and asks you
why; you mumble something, and she, 20
thinking you are sending the clothes
elsewhere, is your enemy for life. The
tobacconist* keeps asking why you
have cut down your smoking. There are
letters you want to answer, and cannot, 25
because stamps are too expensive. And
then there are your meals—meals are the

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Turn over

worst difficulty of all. Your food is bread
and margarine, or bread and wine, and
even the nature of the food is governed 30
by lies. You have to buy rye bread
instead of household bread, because
the rye loaves, though dearer**, are
round and can be smuggled in your
pockets. This wastes you a franc a day. 35
Sometimes, to keep up appearances, you
have to spend money on a drink, and go
correspondingly short of food. Your linen
gets filthy, and you run out of soap and
razor-blades. Your hair wants cutting, 40
and you try to cut it yourself, with such
fearful results that you have to go to the
barber after all, and spend the equivalent
of a day's food. All day you are telling
lies, and expensive lies. 45

You discover the extreme
precariousness of your six francs a day.
Mean disasters happen and rob you of
food. You have spent your last money on
half a litre of milk, and are boiling it over 50

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Turn over

the spirit lamp. While it boils a bug runs
 down your forearm; you give the bug
 a flick with your nail, and it falls plop!
 straight into the milk. There is nothing
 for it but to throw the milk away and 55
 go foodless.

You discover what it is like to be hungry.
 With bread and margarine in your belly,
 you go out and look into the shop
 windows. Everywhere there is food 60
 insulting you in huge, wasteful piles;
 whole dead pigs, baskets of hot loaves,
 great yellow blocks of butter, strings of
 sausages, mountains of potatoes, vast
 cheeses like grindstones. A snivelling 65
 self-pity comes over you at the sight of
 so much food.

tobacconist* – a seller of cigarettes
 and tobacco

dearer** – more expensive

Read the text below and answer Questions 4–7 on the Question Paper.

TEXT 2

Extract from ‘Channel 4’s ‘Dispatches’ uncovers the hidden reality of the working homeless’ by Datshiane Navanayagam (2018).

This edited extract is from an article about the ‘working homeless’.

I was homeless growing up. My dad was disabled, lost his business and we ended up losing our home. I was 11 years old.

We were passed from pillar to post by local authorities before being put into emergency accommodation with four of us in a single room. I had just started secondary school and my sister was

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Turn over

coming to the end of primary school. It was very chaotic. I remember trying to do my homework on the bed because there wasn't space for a table. 10

We moved into temporary accommodation for a couple of years before being placed in a housing association* flat. Because my dad was disabled, we were given a ground floor flat but it used to flood with raw sewage a few times a year and we had damp and mould. 15 20

After we were flooded four times in five weeks, Westminster environmental health found three inches of standing water under the floor, which was why we had the chronic damp. The housing association didn't fix it. Instead, we were evicted. 25

Becoming homeless again was something I had been so fearful about.

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Turn over

But I'd assumed if I worked hard, went 30
to university and got a job it would
not happen to me again. But it did. By
then, I was working and my sister had
graduated and got a job. Yet we were
homeless in 2013 for 18 months, placed 35
in a series of hotels (often with no
laundry, no Wi-Fi, no fridge) for a couple
of weeks at a time before being moved
on. It is exhausting and expensive not
having a permanent space, and so hard 40
to focus on your job.

I set out to investigate the phenomenon
of working people who are homeless
because working is sold as the route
out of homelessness. It should be a 45
guarantee that you are not at risk of
becoming homeless.

Yet when we spent a few months
filming at a volunteer-run night shelter
in London, we heard that more and 50
more of the people staying, around
30–40 per cent, are in work. We heard

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Turn over

about the impact of sharing a dormitory
so you can't get proper rest, and how
people go through stages of depression. 55

One of the men was working in a
zero-hours** contract job, was behind on
his rent because of the insecurity of the
hours, and ended up on the street. Then
he got a job but was still sleeping rough 60
because saving for a deposit is so hard.
He is now at the night shelter. No one
at his workplace is aware of his living
conditions. A lot of people hide it out of
fear or shame. 65

We met another woman who works in
teaching and sleeps in another night
shelter in South London. She lost her
home after her marriage ended and her
only possession is her car. She would 70
spend the night on a town hall floor, get
up, get dressed in her car, and put her
make up on to make it look like she'd
had a lovely night's sleep. But the mental
toll of keeping up that pretence is huge. 75

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Turn over

Lots of people are very vulnerable. If you don't have strong networks or family connections, it can happen terrifyingly easily. But if you don't have shelter as your bottom line, how is anything else, including work, supposed to function? 80

Exclusive analysis shows that more than 33,000 families are holding down a job despite having nowhere stable to live. This has increased by 73 per cent since 2013, when it was 19,000 families. 85

housing association* – an organisation renting houses and flats to people on low incomes or with particular needs

zero-hours contract** – having a job but with no fixed hours or regular pay

SOURCES:

Text 1: 'Down and Out in Paris and London', George Orwell, Penguin Classics New Edition.

Text 2: Channel 4's 'Dispatches' uncovers the hidden reality of the working homeless, Datshiane Navanayagam, The Big Issue.