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**Pearson Edexcel**  
**International GCSE**

Centre Number

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# English Language A

## Paper 1

Tuesday 5 June 2018 – Morning  
**Time: 2 hours 15 minutes**

Paper Reference

**4EA0/01R**

**You do not need any other materials.**

Total Marks

### Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

### Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- The quality of written communication will be assessed in your responses to Questions 6 and 7  
– *you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*
- Copies of the Edexcel Anthology for International GCSE and Certificate Qualifications in English Language and Literature may **not** be brought into the examination.
- Dictionaries may **not** be used in this examination.

### Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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## SECTION A: Reading

You should spend about 45 minutes on this section.

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

*Chris Froome is now a world famous professional cyclist. In this passage, he describes a time in his youth when he trained in Africa. He was racing against a more experienced rider, a Rastafarian<sup>1</sup> nicknamed Leone Nero.*

**Catch me ... if you can!**



We have raced down to the Forest Line road, dodging the stray goat crossing the road and the colourfully painted matatus<sup>2</sup> that grind to a halt at a moment's notice. The chaos passes and we're onto the open road and into the Ngong Hills.

One last ride before I die?

It will be in these hills, for sure. The canopy of blue sky barely above me, the world transforming itself from urban grime to rural safari below me. You can lift your hands up and away from your handlebar grips and stretch your arms skyward in triumph like a winner. Your hands will be breaking through the floor of heaven. One last ride before I die? Take me here. 5

I am chasing him. As always. The Ngong Hills. We are riding down the spine of them now, he and I, chasing each other. I am sixteen. My head is never anywhere else but in the clouds. I dream of the great races. But first, I must catch him. Twenty kilometres we race along this brown, arid, corrugated spine. 10

For a while in the hills I thought I might get one over on him. I am mad for the climbs. He let me spin away once or twice but always he reeled me in. Down. Down. The road ribbons and twists around the countryside. 15

We pass ostriches with long legs no more muscular than my own. If I point that out to Leone Nero and the boys they won't let me live it down. It's true though.

We are cutting through this world, he and I. We are racers. I am chasing him. He is my prey. He is cackling like a hyena because he knows I will never catch him. I don't have it in my haunches<sup>3</sup>. He has thousands of miles of roads and hills packed in there, all compressed into clenched muscle. Teasing me with his back wheel. Now you see it, now you don't. 20



I can't win, but he stays close enough to taunt me.

Down we go. It becomes stiller and it becomes hotter. The further into this dimple in the earth's skin we ride, the more it is like a furnace. We will rest and laugh together when we get to the end. The end is the moonscape of Magadi with its salt-crusted shores and boiling soda lakes. There will be candy cotton pink clouds of startled flamingos. And my mother following an hour or two behind in the car will bring food to restore and recharge us before we turn back for home. 25 30

We race on. There are two dangers: homicidal drivers and potholes. This is Africa. Do we worry? Never.

In fact, I have taken my helmet off. I shouldn't but the heat is my alibi. The helmet is tied round my handlebars, clipped on. He is not even dressed to race. He has a T-shirt and gym shorts on. And a pair of sneakers. I am in full racing gear. He loves that. 35

People in cars stick their heads out of the windows. *Look at that skinny cyclist kid trying to catch up with that Rastafarian on a bike! Aah! Look!*

We hit a pitted stretch of road. We hit it fast. If one slows down then the other wins. We push hard. Then *pop!* My helmet unclips as I hit one of the little speed bumps that wear and tear has made for the battered Magadi road. The helmet falls a few inches and catches my front wheel, sending it jolting sideways, towards him. 40

He rides straight over it. The helmet jams into his front wheel. The front wheel stops dead and the back wheel buck-jumps from the road. He is launched down the road at over sixty kilometres per hour, flying like a missile with dreadlocks.

How far? He says fifty metres. I'm not so sure. The flying isn't the thing anyway. The landing is the issue here on the downward grooves of the Magadi road. 45

He lands first on his elbows and his knees. The road seizes huge patches of skin from the joints and from the front of his body. There is blood everywhere. His knees alone are a horror show.

I am scared and I feel guilty. Stupid. Sick. Any water I have left in my bottles I use to try to clean his wounds. I might as well try damming Lake Magadi with sticking plasters. He is calm but we are both sweating in the dead heat and I know that his sweat is running freely into his raw, vivid wounds. We sit there on the side of the road for ten, twenty minutes. I apologize. He waves it away. Every time, he waves it away. Maybe Mum will drive past and save us. Let it be. 50 55

Finally he stands up gingerly and gets back on his bike.

This is too much.

'Stop. I can carry you on my bike. I can hold you.'

His laugh scolds.

'What are you now? An acrobat? Let's ride.' 60

<sup>1</sup> *Rastafarian* - a member of a religious movement. Rastafarians wear their hair long in rope-like locks known as dreadlocks

<sup>2</sup> *matatus* - minibuses or similar vehicles used as taxis

<sup>3</sup> *haunches* - the upper part of the leg



1 In which hills are the cyclists racing?

.....

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

2 Look again at lines 1 to 13.

Give **two** words or phrases that the writer uses to show the difficulties the cyclists face.

1 .....

.....

2 .....

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(Total for Question 2 = 2 marks)

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3 In your own words, explain what we learn about Leone Nero.

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(Total for Question 3 = 5 marks)



4 How does the writer try to create interest in the events described in this passage?

In your answer you should write about:

- the way the race is described
- the relationship between the two cyclists
- particular words, phrases and techniques.

You may include **brief** quotations from the passage to support your answer.

(12)

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(Total for Question 4 = 12 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS**





## SECTION B: Reading and Writing

You should spend about 45 minutes on this section.

You must answer both questions, 5 and 6.

Remind yourself of the passage, *Explorers, or boys messing about? Either way, taxpayer gets rescue bill* from the Edexcel Anthology.

### Explorers, or boys messing about? Either way, taxpayer gets rescue bill

Adapted from an article published in *The Guardian* newspaper, Tuesday January 28 2003

#### Helicopter duo plucked from liferaft after Antarctic crash

Their last expedition ended in farce when the Russians threatened to send in military planes to intercept them as they tried to cross into Siberia via the icebound Bering Strait.

Yesterday a new adventure undertaken by British explorers Steve Brooks and Quentin Smith almost led to tragedy when their helicopter plunged into the sea off Antarctica.

The men were plucked from the icy water by a Chilean naval ship after a nine-hour rescue which began when Mr Brooks contacted his wife, Jo Vestey, on his satellite phone asking for assistance. The rescue involved the Royal Navy, the RAF and British coastguards.

Last night there was resentment in some quarters that the men's adventure had cost the taxpayers of Britain and Chile tens of thousands of pounds.

Experts questioned the wisdom of taking a small helicopter – the four-seater Robinson R44 has a single engine – into such a hostile environment.

There was also confusion about what exactly the men were trying to achieve. A website set up to promote the Bering Strait expedition claims the team were planning to fly from the north to south pole in their "trustworthy helicopter".

But Ms Vestey claimed she did not know what the pair were up to, describing them

as "boys messing about with a helicopter".

The drama began at around 1am British time when Mr Brooks, 42, and 40-year-old Mr Smith, also known as Q, ditched into the sea 100 miles off Antarctica, about 36 miles north of Smith Island, and scrambled into their liferaft.

Mr Brooks called his wife in London on his satellite phone. She said: "He said they were both in the liferaft but were okay and could I call the emergency people?"

Meanwhile, distress signals were being beamed from the ditched helicopter and from Mr Brooks' Breitling emergency watch, a wedding present.

The signals from the aircraft were deciphered by Falmouth\* coastguard and passed on to the rescue coordination centre at RAF Kinloss in Scotland.

The Royal Navy's ice patrol ship, HMS Endurance, which was 180 miles away surveying uncharted waters, began steaming towards the scene and dispatched its two Lynx helicopters.

One was driven back because of poor visibility but the second was on its way when the men were picked up by a Chilean naval vessel at about 10.20am British time.

Though the pair wore survival suits and the weather at the spot where they ditched was clear, one Antarctic explorer told Mr Brooks' wife it was "nothing short of a miracle" that they had survived.

Both men are experienced adventurers. Mr Brooks, a property developer from

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London, has taken part in expeditions to 70 countries in 15 years. He has trekked solo to Everest base camp and walked barefoot for three days in the Himalayas. He has negotiated the white water rapids of the Zambezi river by kayak and survived a charge by a silver back gorilla in the Congo. He is also a qualified mechanical engineer and pilot.

He and his wife spent their honeymoon flying the helicopter from Alaska to Chile. The 16,000-mile trip took three months.

Mr Smith, also from London, claims to have been flying since the age of five. He has twice flown a helicopter around the globe and won the world freestyle helicopter flying championship.

Despite their experience, it is not the first time they have hit the headlines for the wrong reasons.

In April, Mr Brooks and another explorer, Graham Stratford, were poised to become the first to complete a crossing of the 56-mile wide frozen Bering Strait between the US and Russia in an amphibious vehicle, Snowbird VI, which could carve its way through ice floes and float in the water in between.

But they were forced to call a halt after the Russian authorities told them they would scramble military helicopters to lift them off the ice if they crossed the border.

*Falmouth\**: coastal town in Cornwall, England

Ironically, one of the aims of the expedition, for which Mr Smith provided air back-up, was to demonstrate how good relations between east and west had become.

The wisdom of the team's latest adventure was questioned by, among others, Günter Endres, editor of Jane's Helicopter Markets and Systems, who said: "I'm surprised they used the R44. I wouldn't use a helicopter like that to go so far over the sea. It sounds as if they were pushing it to the maximum".

A spokesman for the pair said it was not known what had gone wrong. The flying conditions had been "excellent".

The Ministry of Defence said the taxpayer would pick up the bill, as was normal in rescues in the UK and abroad. The spokesperson said it was "highly unlikely" it would recover any of the money.

Last night the men were on their way to the Chilean naval base Eduardo Frei, where HMS Endurance was to pick them up. Ms Vestey said: "They have been checked and appear to be well. I don't know what will happen to them once they have been picked up by HMS Endurance – they'll probably have their bottoms kicked and be sent home the long way".

Steven Morris



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5 How does the writer criticise the actions of the two men in this passage?

You should refer closely to the passage to support your answer. You may include **brief** quotations.

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**(Total for Question 5 = 10 marks for reading)**



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**6** 'No votes for under 25s!'

A newspaper is running a campaign to raise the legal age for voting to 25. It believes that young people are immature and do not act responsibly.

Write a letter to the newspaper explaining your views.

(10)

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(Total for Question 6 = 10 marks for writing)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS**







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(Total for Question 7 = 20 marks for writing)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 20 MARKS**  
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS**



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**Sources taken/adapted from:**

*The Climb* by Chris Froome with David Walsh, published by Penguin Books (2015)

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