

January 2015

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE 4EB0/01

English Language B

Paper 1

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with exemplification of a top mark answer. This candidate has hit the criteria and received 97 marks out of a total of 100 marks.

SECTION A

The following questions are based on Text One and Text Two in the Extracts Booklet.

You should spend about 40 minutes answering the questions in this section.

Read Text One in the Extracts Booklet, adapted from an article called 'The Dying Art of Handwriting'.

- 1 According to the writer of Text One, name **one** of the new writing tools. 1 Q01

MacBooks are one of the new tools.

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark) 1

- 2 Handwriting affects mental development, according to the writer. 3 Q02

Using lines 5–14, give **three** ways it does this.

- (i) Writing lends the opportunity to build hand-eye coordination and practise fine motor skills.
- (ii) Handwriting engages different circuits of the brain that typing doesn't, and trains the brain in vision and sensation.
- (iii) Writing activates parts of the nervous system that stay quiet during typing and "helps you correct things".

(Total for Question 2 = 3 marks) 3

- 3 Using lines 15–26, in **your own words** explain the benefits of handwriting. 3 Q03

Handwriting is strongly correlated with high academic achievement. It ~~also~~ can also improve memory - one is more likely to recall something if they have written it down. Furthermore, handwriting can affect the depth and quality with which ideas are communicated.

(Total for Question 3 = 3 marks) 3

4 Why did the writer's friend prefer letters to emails?

2 Q04

The writer's friend preferred letters because they felt more personal, ^{making} ~~and~~ her think of her husband "collecting, composing and writing his thoughts".

(Total for Question 4 = 2 marks) **2**

5 In lines 38–48, the writer makes some points about technology and handwriting.

2 Q05

In your own words identify two of her points and provide an example from the text to support each point.

- (i) ~~Handwriting~~ Different types of writing have experienced ~~a~~ threats of being replaced by technology (e.g. children are now sending emoticons)
- (ii) Writing is a more difficult skill to develop than typing (people who

(Total for Question 5 = 4 marks) **2**

Now read Text Two, 'The Writing is on the Wall'.

6 Using lines 3–11, state **three** things the writer mentions about his handwriting. 3 Q06

(i) He was unable to read his own handwriting.

(ii) Although the content of his writing was acceptable, ~~the~~ it looked very messy.

(iii) He had to take a second attempt to produce writing that he felt ~~was~~ he ~~could~~ could show a friend.

(Total for Question 6 = 3 marks) **3**

7 Give **two** uses the writer has for handwriting. 2 Q07

(i) Signing letters.

(ii) Making notes whilst on the phone.

(Total for Question 7 = 2 marks) **2**

8 Using lines 31–38, in **your own words** explain what worries the writer about what is happening in America. 3 Q08

He is afraid that schools in America will stop teaching handwriting altogether (following the ~~advice~~ ^{resolution} ~~idea~~ of teaching cursive to a mere option). In addition, the idea that Britain will adopt similar ideas is

(Total for Question 8 = 3 marks) **3**

9 In your own words explain why the writer thinks handwriting is important.

3 Q09

The writer believes that handwriting is beneficial because it accelerates the process of learning to read, and is a skill that is ~~totally~~ absolutely essential when called upon.

(Total for Question 9 = 3 marks) 3

Refer to BOTH Text One AND Text Two to answer the following question.

10 Which text is more successful at presenting the writer's concerns about handwriting?

You may choose **either** Text One **or** Text Two but you must explain your choice carefully.

Give **two** reasons why you chose this text and **one** reason for not choosing the other text.

You may wish to comment on the writers' language and techniques.

You should support your points with evidence from the texts.

(6) 6 Q10

From my perspective, Text One is more successful at presenting the writer's concerns about handwriting.

In terms of content, Text One references and draws from external sources ^{very well} (like the University of Washington professor, Virginia Berninger; and Anne Toubek, an author who focuses in handwriting). The incorporation of an anecdote ⁵ reinforces the writer's argument ¹⁰ (the mention of a friend who prefers letters to e-mails) ¹⁵ This makes the text ~~an~~ more credible ²⁰ ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~more~~ credible and thus successful.

Another reason for ~~cross~~ selecting Text One is ~~that~~ the author's meticulous attention towards detail. ~~The~~ Phrases like "handwriting has existed for about 6,000 years" are ~~highly~~ highly useful in assisting the reader to understand the context of the situation at hand.

I would not choose Text Two because the author places too much emphasis on personal experience. ^{While} ~~the~~ ^{his} description of writing a letter to a "bereaved friend" is somewhat helpful, it does not explain any of the cognitive processes that are involved in handwriting (unlike Text One). The threat of technology could be expressed more successfully if ~~a~~ a wider audience was acknowledged.

(Total for Question 10 = 6 marks) **6**

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 30 MARKS

SECTION B

Use ideas from both Text One and Text Two in the Extracts Booklet to answer this question.

You are advised to spend one hour on this section.

- 11 A school or college website has asked for contributions called 'The Importance of Handwriting'.

Write your contribution.

You should include:

- why there is concern about handwriting
- why handwriting is important
- how technology has affected written communication.

Think carefully about the purpose of your contribution and the audience for whom it is intended.

(35)

~~Substantially the threat~~ In recent years, the threat to handwriting has become omnipresent. It is a true epidemic: children who previously enjoyed the feats of learning to write are now content to send a smiley face (or any ^{other} simple emoticon) as a direct expression of their ~~attitudes towards~~ ~~matter~~ own attitudes towards a matter.

But why ^{is} handwriting on the decline? As you ^{have} probably guessed, technological tools like MacBooks and iPads have occupied the

9 11_A01

20 11_A02

5 11_A03

~~Handwritten~~ reputed positions of pen and paper. Yes, people are still writing - that is not the issue - but their processes of doing so are slowly becoming less and less effective. The act of typing does not stimulate the brain as much as that of writing, meaning that society may develop to include citizens who can write on tablets and computers, but not by hand.

You may ~~be~~ ^{still be} pondering why handwriting is so important. Each method ~~poses~~ has its benefits: typing is efficient, and ~~handwritten~~ writing more meaningful. In the long term, while one may be able to produce more work with the assistance of technology, handwriting will bring greater rewards. The process ~~impacts~~ influences three ~~primary~~ primary areas of psychological

development, which are as follows:

1. Academic achievement. Students who ~~developed~~ had consolidated their motor skills through writing ^{were awarded} ~~experiences~~ higher marks in maths and reading tests ^{at later stages} than those who had not.

2. Memory. Generally speaking, ~~if you write~~ you are ~~more~~ far more likely to remember something if you write it ^{down} by hand. This can be attributed to the necessity of creating a sequence of direct marks, or "strokes" ~~when~~ on paper whenever it is called upon.

3. Communication. The Wall Street Journal states that the depth and quality of one's ideas are greater when these are expressed through the means of the pen (as opposed to the

keyboard).

One's own hand-eye coordination ~~and~~ ^{and} motor skills are dependent upon handwriting in the modern day. Different ~~paths~~ ^{neurological} pathways are stimulated through creating pressure with a pen, ultimately contributing ~~to~~ ^{to} the development of ^{both} vision ^{and} sensory experiences.

Technology has affected written communication to a great extent. Of particular significance is the website www.go-on.co.uk, which ~~offers~~ ^{promotes} online assessment as an alternative to traditional testing. This would bear great consequences for users, whose responses ~~to~~ ^{to} qualitative tasks would be less personal and meaningful (as discussed previously). Furthermore, people

SECTION C

You should spend one hour on this section.

Do not retell the events from Text One or Text Two in the Extracts Booklet.

25_{SecC02}

10_{SecC03}

12 Write approximately 400 words on **one** of the following:

EITHER

(a) 'First impressions matter.' To what extent do you agree? (35)

OR

(b) Write a story (true or imaginary) entitled 'The Lost Key'. (35)

OR

(c) Describe your best friend. (35)

(Total for Question 12 = 35 marks)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

Chosen question number: Question 12(a) Question 12(b)
Question 12(c)

~~Issue~~ My first encounter with Melanie Belay occurred as a total accident. I can still recall the gentle hum of the radio; the pale light streaking across the field, dodging its way through the likes of oak and elm.

"Where are you from?" The young boy addressed the group. There was the usual haul for a summer camp & ~~Texas, West York~~ in America: Texas, New York, Connecticut. In my distracted

lumber, my ears misheard the question.

"Alex," I said with confidence. Laughs resounded throughout the vicinity of our circle.

"~~Was~~ "No - where are you from?"

"Oh." ~~was~~ ^{A sound} ~~came~~ came out of my mouth in a near-whisper.

"England." The word was accompanied by ^{nods}.

"All right!" ~~was~~ ^{and} "And you?" He turned to the girl next to me. She sat cross-legged, resting her hands upon the grass beneath.

Her voice was soft.

"Melanie," she uttered. The ~~the~~ remainder of the group sat in awe, silent. Our eyes met for ~~our~~ ~~own~~ a few seconds before laughter burst from our stomachs like popped balloons.

We both had a tendency to distance ourselves from other people, taking steps ~~towards~~ (like this one) to deem ourselves revolutionaries ~~in our own right~~.

~~Her rebellion~~ Her rebellion made ~~room~~

Herself known through aesthetics.
She always wore such wacky
clothes! It ~~was~~ seemed so strange to
me, how she had that knack to
stun people ~~so~~ with her appearance.
Blue ~~lips~~ lips, brown eyes. The
first aura I received of her ~~passion~~
for this occurred when I inquired
about the number of piercings
she had in her left ear.

"Seven!" ~~She~~ ^{she} chirped with pride.
"I want an ~~eleventh~~ eighth."

It was this courage, ~~her~~ this
embrace of oneself that took
the most profound influence
upon me. ~~It was this~~

As we grew closer, she sang ~~for~~
with me, borrowed some of my
shirts (which was of great surprise
to me - I never thought that she
would be inclined ^{towards} such plain
colours), and wrote in my journal.

"Just so you remember me when
this all ends!" ~~She~~ ~~wrote~~ a
most bittersweet message, Jay
scrawled upon the yellow paper.

Question
number

Leave
blank

5i instead of expressing themselves through written means).

5ii were not previously able to handwrite can now express themselves through technology).

8 a source of great worry from to him.