

Pearson Edexcel Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Communication (Northern Ireland)

Sample Assessment Material – Question Paper

September 2016

Edexcel, BTEC and LCCI qualifications

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Pearson Edexcel		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
		Centre Number	Candidate Number
Essential Skills			
Pearson Edexcel Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication			
Sample Assessment Material		Paper Reference(s)	
Time: 1 hour 45 minutes			
You may use a dictionary.		Total Marks 50	

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 reading questions and complete both writing tasks.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
- *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- There are 25 marks for each section.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets
- *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Your reading skills are assessed in Section 1.
- Your writing skills, including spelling, punctuation and grammar, are assessed in Section 2.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.

- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over

SECTION 1: READING

Total Marks: 25

Context

You are interested in how cars will change in the future.

You decide to find out more about this subject.

Instructions

Read Text A and Text B, then answer questions 1 - 10.

NXXXX

✓

You find this newspaper article.

Text A

Driverless cars

Driverless cars will help generate more than 300,000 jobs in the UK, according to a report by The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). Introducing driverless cars that are connected to the internet will also boost the economy by £51 billion and help to reduce serious road traffic accidents by more than 25,000 a year by 2030.

These figures were announced at the first ever SMMT Connected event, where the motor industry gathered to discuss driverless vehicles. The latest technology from several manufacturing heavyweights was on show, including BMW, Jaguar and Mercedes-Benz.

Recently, the UK became the first country in the world to launch government-funded trials of driverless technology, with tests currently being piloted in six locations around the country. During the pilot scheme, there will be a test driver present in the car in case of emergency. Revisions will be needed to the Highway Code before cars will be allowed onto the road without a test driver.

Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said, 'Connected and driverless cars will transform our roads and the way our society functions, dramatically reducing accidents and helping to deliver more than £50 billion to our economy.'

He went on to say, 'The report clearly shows the UK car industry is leading the way in developing the cars of the future and this will lead to wider economic benefits. The UK must grasp the opportunities ahead and ensure it is at the forefront of pushing through these breakthrough technologies.'

Transport minister Robert Goodwill said that investment in new technology such as driverless cars was vital to the UK's future. 'Connected and driverless cars will help us move towards a smart, safe, efficient and low-carbon future.'

Chancellor George Osborne has announced that the government will invest £200 million in driverless research in the UK. This investment will be matched by businesses and will lead to many opportunities for UK companies to expand.

Other technology giants are also involved. Google is currently carrying out trials of driverless cars in the US and it is thought that iPhone maker Apple may do the same soon.

Text A: Adapted from: <http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/technology/driverless-cars-to-boost-uk-economy-31115181.html>

You find this information on the internet.

Text B

Dave's Driving Blog

The future is now

Car technology is improving all the time and this is good for both drivers and the car industry. It is forecast that the development of driverless cars will be worth billions of pounds to the UK economy and that there will also be thousands of new jobs created.

All the technological updates can be confusing though and many people don't understand all the features that are now available. If this is you, then read the guide below.

Safety features

While driverless cars are still some years away, it's amazing what cars can do to keep us safe already. Some new cars come with a cruise control feature that will warn you if you're getting too close to the car in front. A few new models also feature a lane departure warning that will tell you if you're straying out of your motorway lane. Finally, if you hate parking in tight spaces then why not get a car with parking assist? This will do the hard work for you and is a feature on most new models.

Entertainment

A USB port for you to plug in your digital music player is now a standard feature on new cars. Some new models also come with their own wi-fi hotspot so that you're always connected to the internet. This is very useful as you can use it for live travel news, as well as for entertainment.

New drivers

Learner drivers can download an app to their phone that will give feedback on their driving lessons. Technology can also help younger drivers to reduce their insurance premiums. Many insurance companies offer cheaper deals if young drivers agree to have a black box connected to their car. The box checks if they are driving safely.

The future

There are new developments happening all the time and it is forecast that fully driverless cars will be available by 2030. Major car companies are working hard to make this a reality. The government is also investing £19 million to support real world trials and it is hoped that UK companies will benefit from this research.

Answer question 1 with a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

1 The writer of Text A believes that:

- A driverless cars will lead to more accidents on the roads
- B it is important for the UK to develop driverless cars
- C driverless cars will only work if you live in a city
- D it is too early to be testing driverless cars on the roads

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

2 In Text A, what do the following quotations suggest about driverless cars?

‘transform our roads’:

_____ (1)

‘breakthrough technologies’:

_____ (1)

(Total for Question 2 = 2 marks)

3 What is the main purpose of Text A?

(Total for Question 3 = 1 mark)

4 According to Text A, what must be changed before fully driverless cars can be allowed on the road?

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)

Answer question 5 with a cross in two boxes ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

5 According to Text B, most new cars now come with which two of these features?

- A a wi-fi hotspot
- B cruise control
- C a lane departure warning
- D parking assist
- E a phone app
- F a USB port

(Total for Question 5 = 2 marks)

6 Give two methods that the writer of Text B uses to help present his ideas about car technology.

Give an example to support each method.

Method 1 _____ (1)

Example 1 _____ (1)

Method 2 _____ (1)

Example 2 _____ (1)

(Total for Question 6 = 4 marks)

7 Your friend wants to know if new technology will make driving safer.

Using information from **both** Text A and Text B, advise your friend on why new technology will make driving safer.

(Total for Question 7 = 5 marks)

8 Give **one** quotation from Text A and **one** quotation from Text B which convey the view that the government is helping to develop new car technology.

Text A

(1)

Text B

(1)

(Total for Question 8 = 2 marks)

9 Explain how Texts A and B have similar ideas about how the economy will benefit from new car technology.

Give examples from each text to support your answer.

(Total for Question 9 = 5 marks)

10 You are interested in whether large companies are contributing to research into driverless cars.

Identify **one** piece of evidence from **each** of the texts which suggests that large companies are contributing to research into driverless cars.

Text A _____
_____ (1)

Text B _____
_____ (1)

(Total for Question 10 = 2 marks)

SECTION 2: WRITING

Total Marks: 25

Complete **both** tasks

Task 1

Information

Your community newsletter has asked you to write an article about young people in the community today.

You attend a talk at the Community Centre about compulsory community work for young people. You make the following notes.

Community work for young people

My notes

- some people believe community work should be compulsory for young people
- total of 50 hours of compulsory community work between ages 16 and 18
- community work to be carried out during school / college holidays
- tasks could include charity work, helping the elderly, gardening and litter picking
- points in favour include: teaches value of hard work and skills, important for community
- points against include: young people busy already, might cost too much, and why only 16-18 year olds?

Writing Task

Write an article for your local community newsletter to **argue** whether or not community service should be compulsory for young people.

In your article you should:

- explain the idea about young people and community work
- explore the advantages and disadvantages of the idea
- give detailed arguments to support your view.

You may include any other relevant information.

Remember to write in sentences and to use Standard English.

(15)

Begin your article on the next page.

(Total for Writing Task = 15 marks)

Task 2
Information

You read this poster on the noticeboard of your work/school/college canteen.

We need your ideas

We would like you to tell us what you like about the canteen and what you think could be better.

We would like your ideas as we have some money to spend on improving the canteen. We will spend this on the best ideas that we receive. Options include changes to the menu, new furniture and longer opening hours.

Please email your opinions to Sandra Lee, Catering Manager, at sandra.lee@canteen.biz

Writing Task

Write an email to Sandra Lee to **persuade** her to use your ideas on how to improve the canteen.

In your email you should:

- state what you like about the canteen and what could be improved
- give ideas about how you think the money should be spent
- persuade Sandra Lee (the Catering Manager) to use your ideas.

You may include any other relevant information.

Remember to write in sentences and to use Standard English.

(10)

Begin your email on the next page.

Please insert email header here.

Commented [1]: TYPESETTERS: Please insert email header as per level 1 SAM QP.

To: sandra.lee@canteen.biz
Subject: Canteen

(Total for Writing Task = 10 marks)

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