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NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS 2015

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF
OTHER LANGUAGES
HIGHER

X222/12/02

Section B: Reading Section C: Writing

MONDAY, 25 MAY
1.50 PM – 4.00 PM



Fill in these boxes and read what is printed below.

Full name of centre

Town

Forename(s)

Surname

Number of seat

Date of birth

Day

Month

Year

Scottish candidate number

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For this examination you must use **blue** or **black** ink.

Section B Reading

25 marks are allocated to this section.

Read the two texts and answer the questions which follow.

Use of a dictionary is **not** permitted.

Section C Writing

There are three parts in this section.

25 marks are allocated to this section.



SECTION B—READING

Recommended Time: 40 minutes

Text 1

Read the review below and answer the questions that follow.

1 When you're at a party, do you suddenly feel the need to escape somewhere quiet and just sit there? Until I read Susan Cain's book *Quiet*, I thought it was just me. I'd see other partygoers grow increasingly excited, noisy and outgoing as the night went on and wonder why I felt so compelled to go home. I thought perhaps there was a lack of iron in my diet. But it's not just me. It's something shared by introverts all over the world. We feel this way because our brains don't like too many things going on at the same time. I am genuinely amazed by this news. In fact, I read much of *Quiet* shaking my head in wonder and thinking: "So that's why I'm like that! It's because I'm an introvert! Now it's fine for me to refuse party invitations. I never have to go to another party again!"

2 Cain is an introvert. It has always been, she writes: "private occasions that make me feel connected to the joys and sorrows of the world . . . I like reading and listening to music on my own". She's an introvert in a world that, she argues, respects extroverts: the noisy and confident ones who love socialising. We make them our bosses and our political leaders.

3 We introverts try to copy extroverts, and the stress of not being "true to ourselves" can make us physically and mentally ill. One introvert Cain knew spent so much of his adult life trying to be extrovert he ended up catching double pneumonia. This would have been avoided if he'd spent time relaxing by himself. In America, extroverted parents have been known to send their introverted children to

psychiatrists to be cured. We think extroverts are great because they're charismatic and chatty and self-assured. In fact, they love themselves, they're not thoughtful and we're making a big mistake organising our society around their endless talk.

4 We form our workplaces around extroverts. I like Cain's nightmare descriptions of open-plan offices where group brainstorming sessions hit introverts like firestorms. Thinking in groups is ideal for the dominant extrovert. The loudest, most socially confident and quickest on their feet win, whereas the thoughtful and quietly well-informed don't get a chance. School classrooms are increasingly designed to reflect this environment. Children are made to sit facing each other and are rewarded for being outgoing rather than original. "You Can't Ask a Teacher for Help Unless Everyone in Your Group Has the Same Question" read a sign in one New York classroom she visited.

5 I finished *Quiet* a month ago and I can't get it out of my head. It is in many ways an important book—one that might well effect change in schools and offices. It's also clever to write a book that tells many readers how undervalued they are. I'm thrilled to discover that some of the personality traits I had found shameful are actually indicators that I'm amazing.

6 Cain says we think in an "unusually complex fashion". We like discussing "beliefs and morality" more than small talk about the weather. We "desire peace". We're "modest". The introvert child may suffer from "depression, anxiety and shyness, but under the right conditions can grow strong and



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 2 *

magnificent". When I get to this part I think: Yes! We are like this! With good parenting we can become "exceedingly kind, conscientious and successful at the things that matter to us".

7 One problem: the "Are You an Introvert?" checklist. She lists 20 statements. The more we answer "true" the more introverted we are: "I often let calls go through to voice mail. I do my best work on my own. I don't do a lot of multi-tasking. I seem to care less than my peers about wealth, fame and status . . ." At the bottom of the quiz she mentions: "If you found

yourself with a roughly equal number of true and false answers, then you may be an ambivert—yes, there really is such a word."

8 I do the test. I answer "true" to exactly half the questions. I do the test on my wife. She answers true to exactly half the questions too. We're both ambiverts. Then I do the test on my son. He's also an ambivert. In my household we're 100% ambivert. But we ambiverts don't get another mention in the book. Even for a writer like Cain, we ambiverts are too grey. But I suspect there are a lot of ambiverts out there.

[Turn over



QUESTIONS

Marks

DO NOT
WRITE
IN THIS
MARGIN

1. Complete the sentences below.

Write **no more than three words from the text** for each answer.

(i) The writer has a different sense of self from that of

_____.

1

(ii) The writer jokes that his body's _____ explained his wish to be alone.

1

(iii) *Quiet* provokes feelings of _____ in the writer.

1

(iv) Cain gets her basic motivation in life from

_____.

1

2. Choose the correct answer for each question and tick (✓) **one** box.

Parents of introverted children should

A watch out for problems like pneumonia.

B get them specialist help.

C leave them as they are.

D point out the advantages of extrovertness.

1

3. Cain doesn't like the sign in a New York classroom because it

A encourages too much noise.

B makes children face each other.

C discourages individuality.

D suggests the teacher is bossy.

1



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 4 *

Marks

4. Give short answers to these questions.

(i) Why should *Quiet* be easy to market?

_____ 1

(ii) What do introverts find uninteresting?

_____ 1

(iii) Which statement in the introversion checklist suggests a lack of ambition?

_____ 1

(iv) Why does the reviewer describe ambiverts as “grey”?

_____ 1

Choose the correct answer for each question and tick (✓) **one** box.

5. The writer’s feelings about the book are

A first positive before becoming sceptical.

B sceptical before becoming positive.

C sceptical all the way through.

D positive all the way through. 1

6. *Quiet* is a book which essentially

A criticises extroverts.

B praises introverts.

C praises workplaces and classrooms.

D identifies introverts’ problems. 1

12 Marks



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 5 *

Text 2

Read the novel extract below and answer the questions that follow.

- 1 Janice Mee had been showing Damon's pictures to strangers all morning. She took a break, ate at the restaurant at the top of the shopping centre. From one window, the view was of Calton Hill. She'd climbed it with Damon one day, back when he was seven or eight. She had photos of the trip in one of her albums: Calton Hill, Edinburgh Castle, the Museum of Childhood . . . there were dozens of albums. She kept them in the bottom of the wardrobe. She'd taken them out recently, brought the whole lot downstairs so she could go through them, reviving memories of holiday camps and days at the seaside, birthday parties and sports days.
- 2 From one of the restaurant's other windows, she had a good view of the Fife coastline. She couldn't see as far inland as her home town. There were times in her life when she'd contemplated a move: somewhere further south, or north to Dundee. But there was something comfortable about the place you were born, where your family and friends were. Her parents and grandparents had been born there, the history of the place inextricably linked to her own.
- 3 Her mother had only been a little girl at the time of the General Strike, but remembered people putting up barricades in the local streets. Her father had climbed up a lamp-post to watch the funeral of John Thomson, the local goalkeeper who'd died in a terrible accident during play. The way a family stretched back in time could be measured. But that sense of history misled you into thinking that the future would be the same. As Janice was finding out, the thread of continuity could be snapped at any point along the way.
- 4 She ate the roll, filled with prawn mayonnaise, without any pleasure or sense of taste. She knew she'd drunk her coffee only because the cup was empty. One pale prawn sat on the rim of the plate, where it had fallen from the roll. She left it where it was and got up from the table.
- 5 Outside the shopping centre she crossed Princes Street and headed for Waverley Station. A line of taxi cabs snaked up from the underground concourse back up on to Waverley Bridge. The drivers sat behind their wheels, some reading or eating or listening to their radios. Others staring into space or sharing news with fellow drivers. She started at the back of the queue and worked her way forwards. Her friend John had given her some names. One of them was Henry Wilson. The drivers all seemed to know him, called him "The Lumberjack". They put out a call to him. Meantime, she showed them her pictures of Damon and explained that he'd been picked up on George Street.
- 6 "Anyone with him, love?" one driver asked.
"A woman . . . short blonde hair."
The driver shook his head. "I've a good memory for blondes," he said, handing back the flyer.



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 6 *

7 The problem was, a couple of trains had just arrived—London and Glasgow. The taxis were moving faster than she could, heading down to where their passengers waited. She looked back up the slope. More taxis were joining the back of the queue. She couldn't tell who she'd talked to and who was new. Engines were starting, fumes getting into her lungs. Cars sounding their horns as they moved past her, heading down into the station, wondering what she was doing on the roadways when there was a pavement the other side. Day-trippers looked at her, too. They knew she'd never get a taxi here, knew the system: you queued at the rank.

8 Her mouth felt sour and gritty. The coffee had been strong: she could feel her heart pounding. And then another car sounded its horn. "All right, all right," she said, passing down the line to the next taxi, which was already moving off. The car-horn sounded again: right behind her. She turned on it and glowered, saw it as another black cab, window open. Nobody in the back, just the driver, leaning towards her. Short black hair, long black beard, green tartan shirt.

9 "Lumberjack?" she said.
He nodded. "That's what they call me."
She smiled. "John Rebus gave me your name." Cars were held up behind him. One flashed its lights.
"You better get in," he said. "Before they have my licence off me for obstruction."
Janice Mee got in. The taxi went down into the station, and took the next ramp back up, then turned round and crossed the traffic, settling at the back of the queue of cabs. Lumberjack pulled on the handbrake and turned in his seat.
"So what does Inspector Rebus want this time?"
And Janice Mee told him.

[Turn over



Marks

QUESTIONS

7. Give a short answer to this question.

Which phrase suggests that Janice doesn't often think of events from Damon's childhood?

1

8. Choose the correct answer for each question and tick (✓) **one** box.

Where is Janice's home?

A Central Edinburgh

B On the Fife coast

C Inland in Fife

D Dundee

1

9. Janice's mother had memories of strikers trying to

A get people to join them.

B block the way.

C use posters for publicity.

D climb up the lamp-posts.

1

10. Janice's sense of history

A goes back several centuries.

B fits neatly into the future.

C might not be helpful in future.

D contains some factual errors.

1



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 8 *

Marks

11. Janice doesn't eat her last prawn because

- A her mind is elsewhere.
- B she's in too much of a hurry.
- C it's pale and unappetising.
- D it's fallen out of the roll.

1

12. Give short answers to these questions.

- (i) How does she ensure she has enough time to speak to each taxi driver?

1

- (ii) Why is she showing the drivers the pictures of Damon?

1

Questions 13 – 15: Which THREE of the following events occur in paragraphs 6 – 7? Tick THREE boxes.

- A The driver's sexist language makes her feel uncomfortable.
- B The crowd of new passengers blocks her way.
- C She loses track of which taxi is which.
- D She starts breathing in the petrol fumes.
- E The noise becomes too loud for her.
- F She feels that being on the road is too dangerous.
- G She is prevented from getting onto the pavement.
- H People think she is trying to jump the queue.

3

[Turn over



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 0 9 *

Marks

16. Write a **one-word** answer to each question.

(i) Which word in paragraph 8 means “stared aggressively”?

_____ 1

(ii) Which offence does Lumberjack say he doesn't want to commit?

_____ 1

17. Choose the correct answer and tick (✓) **one** box.

The story of Janice at the taxi rank is one of

A deception and confusion.

B hard work and failure.

C rudeness and misunderstanding.

D difficulty and persistence.

1

13 Marks



SECTION C—WRITING

Part 1

Recommended Time: 10 minutes

Read the following text. Look carefully at each line. In each line of the text there is either **one** extra word or **one** missing word. Write the extra or missing word in the spaces 1–10. The task begins with two examples (a) and (b).

The Golden Eagle	
The golden eagle is / very large bird of prey with a	a. <u> a </u>
wingspan of more than <u>the</u> two metres. Adult golden	b. <u> the </u>
eagles are famous for the light golden of brown colouring	1. _____
on their head, neck and shoulders. Almost of the breeding	2. _____
golden eagles in Britain are in Scotland. Golden eagle	3. _____
prefers open, treeless areas dense woodland. Golden eagles	4. _____
they are sensitive to human disturbance and build their	5. _____
nests in remote, inaccessible places. They have no any natural	6. _____
predators. The main threat from human activity, with many	7. _____
golden eagles being killed by poison shooting. Furthermore,	8. _____
poor habitat means that even an adult pair can survive	9. _____
they will rarely breed in successfully in this country.	10. _____

5 Marks

[Turn over



Part 2

Everyday Communication

Recommended Time: 30 minutes

Recommended Length: 140 words (*you do not need to write any e-mail addresses*)

Your school/college supports several charities. The charity committee is now looking for ideas for next year's fundraising activities.

Write an **E-mail** to the committee with detailed ideas on how students and staff can raise money for these charities.

8 Marks



Blank lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines.



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 1 4 *

Part 3

Recommended Time: 50 minutes
Recommended Length: 240 words

Read the two tasks below. One is work-related and the other is study-related.

*Answer **one** task only on the lined answer sheets on Pages 16, 17 and 18.*

Write the task number selected in the box provided on Page 16.

Task 1: Work

Your company is reviewing its “Workplace Monitoring” policy.

Your employer is entitled to:

- use CCTV
- check your phone calls and e-mails
- check websites you visit

According to your contract, monitoring is necessary:

- to prevent crime
- to check performance
- to prevent viruses entering electronic systems

All employees are being asked for their opinions about monitoring in the workplace.

Using the above points, **e-mail** your manager with your views. You may add any ideas of your own.

12 Marks

OR

Task 2: Study

Does modern education depend too heavily on technology in the classroom?

Some say modern technology:

- is more stimulating
- provides unlimited resources
- offers specialist support

Others are concerned about:

- health and safety
- the pace of change
- the loss of social interaction

Write an **essay**, giving your views. Use the points above and add any ideas of your own.

12 Marks



* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 1 5 *

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

DO NOT
WRITE
IN THIS
MARGIN

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* X 2 2 2 1 2 0 2 1 9 *

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

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