Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Wednesday 7 November 2018

Morning | Paper Reference **1EN0/02**

English Language

Paper 2: Non-fiction and Transactional Writing

Section A: Reading Texts Insert
Do not return the insert with the Question Paper.

Advice

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

Turn over ▶

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

TEXT 1

Extract from a letter from E.B. White to his wife (1930).

This is an extract from a letter written by the author E.B. White, whose wife is expecting their first baby. He is struggling to tell her how he feels. Instead of talking to his wife directly, he imagines the family dog, Daisy, writing a letter to her explaining his feelings.

Dear Mrs. White:

[Mr.] White has been stewing around for two days now, a little bit worried because he is not sure that he has made you realize* how glad he is that there is to be what the column writer in the Mirror calls a blessed event. So I am taking this opportunity, Mrs. White, to help him out to the extent of writing you a brief note which I haven't done in quite a long time but have been a little sick myself as you know. Well, the truth is White is beside himself and would have said more about it but is holding himself back, not wanting to appear ludicrous**.

What he feels, he told me, is a strange queer tight little twitchy feeling around the inside of his throat whenever he thinks that something is happening which will require so much love and all on account of you being so wonderful. (I am not making myself clear I am afraid, but on the occasions when White has spoken privately with me about this he was in no condition to make himself clear either and I am just doing the best I can in my own way.) I know White so well that I always know what is the matter with him, and it always comes to the same thing – he gets thinking that nothing that he writes or says ever quite expresses his feeling, and he worries about his inarticulateness just the same as he does about his bowels, except it is worse, and it makes him either mad, or sick, or with a prickly sensation in the head. But my, my, my, last Sunday he was so full of this matter which he couldn't talk about, and he was what Josephine*** in her simple way would call hoppy****. He was particularly so because it seemed so good that everything was starting at once – the song sparrow that even I could hear from my confinement in the house, and those little seeds that you were sprinkling – all starting at the same time as the baby, which he seems to think exists already by the way he stands around staring at you and muttering little prayers. Of course he is also very worried for fear you will get the idea that he is regarding you merely as a future mother and not as a present person, or that he wants a child merely as proof of his vanity. I doubt if those things are true; and as for his regard for you, he has told me that, quite apart from this fertility, he admires you in all kinds of situations or dilemmas.

Well, Mrs. White, I expect I am tiring you with this long letter, but as you often say yourself, a husband and wife should tell each other about the things that are on their mind, otherwise you get nowhere, and White didn't seem to be able to tell you about his happiness, so I thought I would attempt to put in a word…

Lovingly, Daisy

*realize** - American spelling of *realise*
*ludicrous*** – foolish, stupid
*Josephine**** - the couple's housekeeper
*hoppy***** – a made-up word for excited

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

TEXT 2

Extract from 'The Pregnancy Book' by the Department of Health (2009).

In this extract, from the section 'Feelings and Relationships', there is information and advice about relationships in pregnancy.

COUPLES

Pregnancy will bring about big changes to your relationship, especially if this is your first baby. Some people cope with these changes easily, others find it harder. Everybody is different.

It is quite common for couples to find themselves having arguments every now and then during pregnancy, however much they are looking forward to the baby. Some arguments may be nothing to do with the pregnancy, but others may be because one of you is worried about the future and how you are going to cope. It's important to realise that during pregnancy there are understandable reasons for the odd difficulty between you, and good reasons for feeling closer and more loving.

One practical question you will need to discuss is how you will cope with labour, and whether your partner wants to be there. Many fathers do want to be present at their baby's birth. The chapter on labour and birth gives some suggestions for ways in which fathers can help, and what it can mean for them to share this experience.

If your relationship is particularly problematic, or is abusive, do get help. For sources of confidential support, like Relate or Women's Aid, refer to the list of useful organisations featured at the back of the book. It may be that you do not have a partner in this pregnancy and you need extra support from family or friends. You may wish to talk to your midwife about services that may be available.

YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

After you have had a baby, the relationships around you can change. Many women find that they turn to their own mother for help and support. But your mother may not be sure about how much to get involved. You may find that she is trying to take over or that she is so anxious not to interfere that she doesn't help at all. Try to let her and others know what help and support you want from them.

Your relationship with your partner will also change. It is very easy in those exhausting early weeks just to leave things to sort themselves out. You may wake up six months later to find that you have not spent an hour alone together and have lost the knack* of easily talking your problems through. You both need time alone, without the baby, to recharge your own batteries. You also need time together, without the baby, to keep in touch with each other. Your relationship with your baby may not be easy either, particularly if you are not getting much sleep. Don't feel guilty if you sometimes feel resentful at the demands your baby makes, or if your feelings are not what you expected them to be. Talk to your midwife or health visitor if you are upset or worried. But remember, many mothers find their babies difficult at first and come to love them gradually over some weeks.

*knack** – ability

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Sources:

Text 1: *Letter from E.B. White*, 1930, featured in *E.B. White on Dogs*, Martha White 2013; Tilbury House Publishers.

Text 2: *The Pregnancy Book* by the Department of Health, 2009; COI for the Department of Health.

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