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

Wednesday 6 November 2019

Morning (Time: 2 hours and 5 minutes) | 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 'Hidden Figures: The Untold Story of the African American Women Who Helped Win the Space Race' by Margot Lee Shetterly (2016).

This edited extract describes the experience of African-American female mathematicians who worked at NASA, the American centre for studying space. The women worked in an area known as the 'West Computers' from 1943 to 1958.

Thirty minutes and back to work. Just enough time for a hot lunch and a little conversation.

Most groups sat together out of habit. For the West Computers, it was by mandate*. A white cardboard sign on a table in the back of the cafeteria beckoned them, its crisply stenciled black letters spelling out the lunchroom hierarchy**: COLORED COMPUTERS. It was the only sign in the West Area cafeteria; no other group needed their seating prescribed in the same fashion. The caretakers, the laborers, the cafeteria workers themselves did not take lunch in the main cafeteria. The women of West Computing were the only black professionals at the laboratory—not exactly excluded, but not quite included either.

In the hierarchy of racial slights, the sign wasn't unusual or out of the ordinary. It didn't signal the kind of racial violence that could spring out of nowhere, striking even the most economically secure Negroes like fuel poured on a smouldering ember. This was the kind of garden-variety segregation that over the years blacks had learned to tolerate, if not to accept, in order to function in their daily lives.

But there in the lofty environment of the laboratory, a place that had selected them for their intellectual talents, the sign seemed especially ridiculous and somehow more offensive. They tried to ignore the sign, push it aside during their lunch hour, pretend it wasn't there. In the office, the women felt equal.

But in the cafeteria, and in the bathrooms designated for colored girls, the signs were a reminder that even within the US Civil Service, even after Executive Order 8802, some were more equal than others. Even the group's title was both descriptive and a little deceptive, allowing the laboratory to comply with the Fair Employment Act—West Computing was simply a functional description on the organizational chart—while simultaneously appeasing Virginia's discriminatory separate-but-equal statutes***.

The sign in the cafeteria was evidence that the law that paved the way for the West Computers to work at Langley was not allowed to compete with the state laws that kept them in their separate place. The front door to the laboratory was open, but many others remained closed, like Anne Wythe Hall, a dormitory for single white women working at Langley. While Dorothy walked several blocks each morning from the Lucys' house to the bus, the women at the dormitory enjoyed a special bus service. There was nothing they could do about that, or the separate "Colored girls" bathroom. But that sign in the cafeteria . . .

It was Miriam Mann who finally decided it was too much to take. "There's my sign for today," she would say upon entering the cafeteria, spying the sign designating their table in the back of the room. Not even five feet tall, her feet just grazing the floor when she sat down, Miriam Mann had a personality as outsized as she was tiny. The West Computers watched their colleague remove the sign and banish it to the recesses of her

purse, her small act of defiance inspiring both anxiety and a sense of empowerment.
The ritual played itself out with absurd regularity. The sign, placed by an unseen hand, made the unspoken rules of the cafeteria explicit. When Miriam snatched the sign, it took its leave for a few days, perhaps a week, maybe longer, before it was replaced with an identical twin, the letters of the new sign just as blankly menacing... 40

Note: as this is an American text, American spellings are used throughout.

*mandate** - order
*hierarchy*** - order of importance
*statutes**** - laws, rules

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

TEXT 2

Extract from 'The Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank (published in 1947).

These edited diary entries were written by Anne Frank during World War II (1939-1945). At this time, because they were Jewish, Anne's family lived in hiding from the Germans occupying Holland (the Netherlands).

Saturday, 20 June, 1942

My father was thirty-six when he married my mother, who was then twenty-five. My sister Margot was born in 1926, I followed on June 12, 1929, and, as we are Jewish, we emigrated to Holland in 1933.

The rest of our family felt the full impact of Hitler's anti-Jewish laws, so life was filled with anxiety. In 1938 after the riots, my two uncles (my mother's brothers) escaped to the U.S.A. My old grandmother came to us, she was then seventy-three. After May 1940 good times rapidly fled: first the war, then the capitulation*, followed by the arrival of the Germans, which is when the sufferings of us Jews really began. Anti-Jewish decrees** followed each other in quick succession. Jews must wear a yellow star, Jews must hand in their bicycles, Jews are banned from trams and are forbidden to drive. Jews are only allowed to do their shopping between three and five o'clock and then only in shops which bear the notice "Jewish shop". Jews must be indoors by eight o'clock and cannot even sit in their own gardens after that hour. Jews are forbidden to visit theatres, cinemas, and other places of entertainment. Jews may not take part in public sports. Swimming baths, tennis courts, hockey fields, and other sports grounds are all prohibited to them. Jews may not visit Christians. Jews must go to Jewish schools, and many more restrictions of a similar kind.

So we could not do this and were forbidden to do that. But life went on in spite of it all. Our freedom was strictly limited. Yet things were still bearable.

Friday, 9 October, 1942

Dear Kitty***, I've only got dismal and depressing news for you today. Our many Jewish friends are being taken away by the dozen. These people are treated by the Gestapo without a shred of decency, being loaded into cattle trucks and sent to Westerbork, the big Jewish camp.

Westerbork sounds terrible: only one washing cubicle for a hundred people and not nearly enough lavatories. There is no separate accommodation. Men, women, and children all sleep together…

It is impossible to escape; most of the people in the camp are branded as inmates by their shaven heads and many also by their Jewish appearance. If it is as bad as this in Holland, whatever will it be like in the distant and barbarous regions they are sent to? We assume that most of them are murdered.

*capitulation** - surrender
*decrees*** - rulings
*Kitty**** - Kitty was Anne's imaginary friend and she sometimes wrote to her in her diary

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Sources:

Hidden Figures: The Untold Story of the African American Women Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly © Harper Collins - February 2017

The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank © Puffin Books - March 1995

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