



GCSE

C700U20-1



S25-C700U20-1



FRIDAY, 6 JUNE 2025 – MORNING

ENGLISH LANGUAGE – Component 2
19th and 21st Century Non-Fiction Reading
and Transactional/Persuasive Writing

2 hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Resource Material for use with Section A.

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions in Sections A and B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

1	1
---	---

 .

Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

You are advised to spend your time as follows:

- Section A – about 10 minutes reading
 – about 50 minutes answering the questions
- Section B – spend 30 minutes on each question
 – about 5 minutes planning
 – about 25 minutes writing

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A (Reading): 40 marks

Section B (Writing): 40 marks

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

SECTION A: 40 marks

Answer **all** the following questions.

The **separate Resource Material for use with Section A** is a newspaper article, 'Preet Chandi is the first woman of colour to complete a solo expedition to the South Pole' by Rachel Treisman.

The extract on the opposite page is part of a diary of an expedition to the North Pole by Norwegian explorer, Fridtjof Nansen.

Read the newspaper article, 'Preet Chandi is the first woman of colour to complete a solo expedition to the South Pole', in the separate Resource Material.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1 |
|---|---|
- a) Name one of the endurance events Preet Chandi has taken part in. [1]
- b) How long did Preet Chandi train for her South Pole expedition? [1]
- c) How will the adventure grant be used? [1]
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|
- Preet Chandi is described as being a very inspiring person. How does the writer try to show this? [10]

You should comment on:

- what is said
- the use of language, tone and structure
- other ways the writer tries to show that Preet Chandi is a very inspiring person.

You must refer to the text to support your comments, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

To answer the following questions you must read the diary entries of Fridtjof Nansen on the opposite page.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 3 |
|---|---|
- a) What job did Fridtjof Nansen have while his companion, Johansen, looked after the dogs? [1]
- b) When Johansen fell into the icy water, how did he manage to get out? [1]
- c) How did the men keep warm after their final meal? [1]
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 4 |
|---|---|
- "Fridtjof Nansen's diary entries suggest that day by day he increasingly felt the expedition had become too difficult to continue."

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

You should comment on:

- what is said
- how it is said.

[10]

You must refer to the text to support your comments.

To answer the following questions you must use both texts.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 5 |
|---|---|
- Using information from both texts, explain briefly what food and drink Preet Chandi and Fridtjof Nansen had on their expeditions. [4]
- You should make it clear which text you are referring to.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 6 |
|---|---|
- Both of these texts are about polar expeditions.
- Compare:
- the challenges Preet Chandi and Fridtjof Nansen faced when they were on their expeditions
 - how the writers make these challenges clear to readers. [10]
- You must use the text to support your comments and make it clear which text you are referring to.

In 1895, Norwegian explorer, Fridtjof Nansen, set off on sledges and with dogs on a two-man expedition to the North Pole but was forced to return. This is part of the diary he kept.

“Tuesday, April 2nd. It was a hard day; we made just seven miles and I am beginning to doubt seriously the possibility of continuing northward much longer. The continual lifting of the heavily loaded sledges is calculated to break one’s back. The ridges of ice, with rubble on either side, became worse and worse and making one’s way through every ice ridge is desperate work. It is astonishing that we have not got farther; we seem to toil all we can, but without much progress and I think that it may be impossible to reach the Pole itself. Sooner or later I think we must turn back. When we stopped, my companion, Johansen, looked after the dogs and I started the supper. This was a sort of fish rissole known as ‘fiskegratin’ in Norway, and made of fish-meal, flour, and butter.



“Friday, April 5th. Began our march at three in the morning but the ice was bad, with lanes and ridges, so that we made little progress. These ridges are our despair. It is like driving over a tract of rocks, and delays us terribly. First, I went on ahead to find a way to get my sledge through; then I fell through the ice into the freezing water. Johansen is no better off with his two sledges to look after. Yesterday he fell into the water too but he managed to catch hold of the sledge, and the dogs pulled him out. There is no possibility of drying or changing one’s clothes, and one must wear a chain mail of ice until they thaw and dry on the body, which takes

for ever in this temperature. I begin to think more and more that we ought to turn back.

“Saturday, April 6th. Yesterday our lack of progress brought me to the verge of despair. When we stopped this morning, I had almost decided to turn back. We hardly made four miles yesterday. Lanes, ridges, and endless rough ice: it looks like an endless mass of ice-blocks, completely covered with thin, loose snow, through which one falls suddenly up to one’s middle. And thus it extends, mile after mile, northward. We surely cannot go on.

“Monday, April 8th. The ice grew worse and worse: ridge after ridge, and nothing but rubble to travel over. We made a start at 2 o’clock this morning, and kept at it as long as we could, lifting the sledges all the time; but it grew too bad at last to make any real progress. I went on a good way ahead but saw no reasonable prospect of advance. It was a veritable chaos of ice-blocks, stretching as far as the horizon. I therefore became determined that tomorrow we would return homeward, and tonight, at our northernmost camp, we indulged in a banquet of beef stew. After supper we permitted ourselves the luxury of a little extra drink, consisting of hot water in which milk-powder had been dissolved. It tasted something like boiled milk and we thought it wonderfully comforting. Then, feeling full, we crept into our sleeping bags for warmth.

SECTION B: 40 marks

Answer Question

2	1
---	---

 and Question

2	2
---	---

.

In this section you will be assessed for the quality of your writing skills.

For each question, 12 marks are awarded for communication and organisation; 8 marks are awarded for vocabulary, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling.

Think about the purpose and audience for your writing.

You should aim to write about 300–400 words for each task.

2	1
---	---

Your local council is keen to improve local areas that are run-down or unattractive. They have invited the public to write in with suggestions about areas that need improvement. Write a letter to the council suggesting one or two places that need improvement, giving your views about what should be done and how the changes would benefit the area.

Write your letter.

[20]

2	2
---	---

Write a review for a school/college magazine about **one** of the following:

- music
- a computer game
- a film
- a podcast
- a TV series
- a book

Write your review.

[20]

The space below can be used to plan your work.

END OF PAPER