
GCSE ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Higher Tier Unit 1 Understanding and producing non-fiction texts

Insert

The three sources that follow are:

- **Source 1:** an online article called, 'Coastal towns: Britain's forgotten problem areas' by James Derounian
- **Source 2:** an article called, 'Bear Grylls grilled by council over cliffside slide' by Lewis Smith
- **Source 3:** 'Capsize', an extract from 'Gipsy Moth Circles The World' by Francis Chichester.

**Please open the insert fully
to see all three sources**

Source 1

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Coastal towns: Britain's forgotten problem areas

Too many seaside towns suffer from deprivation, seasonality and an ageing population

by James Derounian

17th October 2013

"Oh I do like to be beside the seaside..." remains a popular song from the 1900s. So it may come as a shock to find a number of official documents, such as a 2007 government select committee report, highlighting that many coastal areas suffer from high levels of deprivation.

Blackpool, which featured in the report, is ranked the 24th most deprived out of 354 local authority areas nationwide, while the relatively prosperous coastal town of Bognor Regis is ranked 279th.

And those who don't like to be beside the seaside so much are the disproportionate number of residents claiming sickness and disability benefits.



Many coastal towns experience high numbers of young people leaving the area, which contributes to an imbalanced and ageing population. There is also a shortage of affordable and decent quality housing that is made worse by the purchase of second and holiday homes.

Professor Steve Fothergill, from Sheffield Hallam University, says "a growing issue concerns workers from abroad, with migrant workers now filling more seasonal jobs". This is related to the challenges of seasonality, such as an influx of summer visitors and seasonal labour, with a consequent strain on services.

Lancaster city council notes how transience – people staying in one place for only a short time - is a major factor, so in Morecambe it was not uncommon for primary schools to experience a 30-40% turnover of pupils in a single year.

A 2013 study gives Skegness the dubious privilege of suffering most - with deprivation levels around two and a half times the average for England. The town tends to attract seasonal workers, many of whom work for the minimum wage, who then stay on when the season ends and struggle to find employment. There is also a large pensioner population living on the state pension.

According to the think tank, the Centre for Social Justice, these downward spirals, whereby disadvantage attracts and perpetuates further disadvantage, are the forces undermining many seaside towns. And while 20% of England as a whole was judged as deprived in 2010, for the 31 larger English seaside towns, the figure leaped to 26.9%. The Centre for Social Justice comments about the "social breakdown" of coastal communities, and the fact that poverty attracts poverty.

This catalogue of woes reflects the government select committee's conclusion that "seaside towns are the least understood of Britain's 'problem' areas" and that "the government does not sufficiently appreciate the needs of coastal towns".

Source 2

Bear Grylls grilled by council over cliffside slide

A slide pinned to a cliff face that shoots users into the sea - as long as the tide is in - has landed adventurer Bear Grylls in hot water.

by Lewis Smith

The television survivalist for whom grappling with crocodiles and venomous snakes is all in a day's work now finds himself facing a more mundane but potentially more successful challenger, the local planning officials.

Chief Scout Grylls provoked the interest of the authorities when he cheerfully tweeted a picture of a slide that had just been installed on the island he owns off the coast of North Wales.

"New slide attached at home on our island! You hit the water very fast!!!" he enthused.

The slide, however, has prompted concerns about safety because it can only be used for two hours a day, when the tide is in, and about planning regulations because it is in a designated area of outstanding natural beauty.

Officials from Gwynedd Council are now investigating whether Grylls has breached any planning rules by installing the slide on St Tudwal's Island West, off Abersoch.

"Officers from the Council's Planning Service are investigating this case and will be discussing the matter with the site owner," said a spokesman for the council.



Grylls won himself a reputation as an adventurer and the all-round tough guy of choice while presenting television shows including *Born Survivor* and *Man Vs Wild*. He was first offered a presenting role after becoming, at the age of 23, one of the youngest people ever to have scaled Mount Everest. He has since broken records for skydiving and high altitude ballooning.

Source 3

Francis Chichester, whilst sailing alone around the world in his yacht Gypsy Moth, describes a night off the coast of Australia.

CAPSIZING

That Monday night was as foul and black a night as you could meet at sea. Although it was pitch dark, the white breakers showed in the blackness like monstrous beasts charging down on the yacht. They towered high in the sky, I wouldn't blame anyone for being terrified at the sight. My light showed up the breaking water, white in the black darkness, and now and then a wave caught the hull and, breaking against it, sluiced over the decks. As I worked my way along the deck I was feeling ghastly, I thought due to sea sickness. When I got below and had stripped off my oilskins I rolled into my bunk and put all the lights out. The bunk was the only place where one could wait below, for it was difficult to stand up. However, lying on my back in the bunk, I dropped into a fitful sleep.

I think I was awake when the boat began to roll over. If not, I woke immediately she started to do so. Perhaps when the wave hit her I woke. It was pitch dark. As she started rolling I said to myself, "Over she goes!" I was not frightened, but intensely alert and curious. Then a lot of crashing and banging started, and my head and shoulders were being bombarded with crockery and cutlery and bottles. I had an oppressive feeling of the boat being on top of me. I wondered if she would roll over completely, and what the damage would be; but she came up quietly the same side that she had gone down. I reached up and put my bunk light on. It worked, giving me a curious feeling of something normal in a world of utter chaos.

I have only a confused idea of what I did for the next hour or so. I had an absolutely hopeless feeling when I looked at the pile of jumbled up food and gear all along the cabin. Anything that was in my way when I wanted to move I think I put back in its right place, though feeling as I did so that it was a waste of time as she would probably go over again. The cabin was two foot deep all along with a jumbled-up pile of hundreds of tins, bottles, tools, shackles, blocks and oddments. Every settee locker, the whole starboard bunk, and the three starboard drop lockers had all emptied out when she was upside down. Water was swishing about on the cabin floor beside the chart table, but not much. I looked into the hull which is five feet deep, but it was not quite full, for which I thought, "Thank God."

I must have got out on deck to pump the water below the level of the batteries. The important thing was that the masts were standing, and the rigging appeared undamaged. I think it was then that I said to myself, "To hell with everything" and decided to have a sleep. I emptied my bunk of plates, cutlery and bottles. One serrated-edged knife was embedded close to where my head had been, and I thought how lucky I was. My bunk was soaking wet, but I did not give a damn how wet it was. I turned in, and was soon fast asleep. I slept soundly till daylight.

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