



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

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ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

0991/21

Paper 2 Reading and Writing (Extended)

October/November 2020

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **16** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

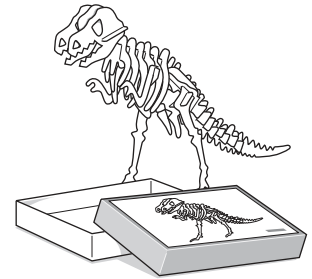
Exercise 1

Read the article about a dinosaur expert called Paul Kearney, and then answer the following questions.

A dinosaur expert

Journalist Dee Nicholson meets dinosaur expert Paul Kearney

According to Paul Kearney, he and other dinosaur experts tend to agree that it's about 65 million years since what is known as the Age of the Dinosaurs ended. It started around 215 million years ago, which means it lasted approximately 150 million years. The end came when a huge asteroid crashed into Earth and caused a series of natural disasters, which then led to massive environmental destruction and the disappearance of most dinosaur species.



Kearney is keen to tell people about the latest thinking on dinosaurs. 'At school, I was taught that they were all enormous. That was what everyone used to think. I was also told they were all stupid,' he said. 'But recent studies show something very different. Some were giants, but many were very small, and lots had large brains.'

I arranged to meet Kearney in a valley in the countryside, where he and two colleagues were searching for fossils – the remains of dinosaur bones. 'Most days when we go fossil-hunting, we get really extreme weather. You're lucky today,' he smiled. 'It's beautiful.' He was right, the sky was blue and the sun warm. 'Also, the ground here's quite flat, but we normally go to very rocky locations,' he explained.

Kearney has discovered a total of 13 new dinosaur species in the last 20 years. 'When I first started fossil-hunting,' he said, 'only about 5 previously unknown dinosaur species were found per year, but it's around 50 these days. The thing is, fossil-hunting has become much more popular around the world.'

I asked Kearney if he'd seen the *Jurassic Park* films. 'Yes,' he said. 'I love them, though they're not always very accurate. The dinosaurs are all green or brown – and that's actually what people once assumed they were like. However, scientists have discovered that many dinosaurs had bright colours. Also, the *Jurassic Park* dinosaurs have scaly skin, like crocodiles, because experts used to think all dinosaurs had skin like that. But the truth is that many were covered in feathers, like birds. Anyway, the films are excellent entertainment. And the best thing for me is that they inspire many people to study dinosaurs.'

Kearney told me how scientists are using new technology to make significant advances in dinosaur studies. 'Scientists used to think that dinosaurs changed relatively quickly over time,' he said. 'However, data shows the opposite was true – dinosaur species changed very little over millions of years.' Kearney himself was in charge of a team which used some new evidence to work out how certain types of dinosaur interacted with each other. 'That study finished last year,' he said, 'but we're beginning a new project next month looking at how dinosaurs moved. And before long, I'll also be joining a team which is studying the food that different species ate. There's so much going on.'

Kearney thinks the future for dinosaur studies is very bright. 'I give talks in schools and young people are very interested in dinosaurs,' Kearney told me. 'Many of them learn a lot about dinosaurs by visiting museums, though I always tell them to learn computer programming if they are serious about developing their interest into a career as it's so essential in research.'

A year ago, Kearney decided to write an up-to-date book about dinosaurs. 'I didn't want to write a kids' book – there are plenty of them already,' he said. As a parent myself, I knew this to be true. What I hadn't expected him to tell me, though, is that hardly any are written for adults. Kearney's recently published book, *The Story of the Dinosaurs*, should help to fill the gap.

- 1 When did the Age of the Dinosaurs begin?
..... [1]
- 2 What conditions does Kearney generally work in when he's looking for dinosaur remains?
Give **two** details.
.....
..... [2]
- 3 How many new species of dinosaur are now discovered each year?
..... [1]
- 4 What does Kearney like most about the *Jurassic Park* films?
..... [1]
- 5 Which two areas of research will Kearney soon start working on? Give **two** details.
.....
..... [2]
- 6 What advice does Kearney give to students who want to become dinosaur experts?
..... [1]
- 7 What was the writer surprised to find out about dinosaur books?
..... [1]
- 8 What facts did people use to believe about dinosaurs that scientists now know are wrong?
Give **four** details.
.....
.....
.....
..... [4]

[Total: 13]

Exercise 2

Read the article about four people (**A–D**) who studied journalism at university. Then answer Question 9 (**a**)–(**j**).

Studying journalism

A Ines

When I was considering what to study at university, my parents encouraged me to choose law. They didn't think journalism was a good idea, but the mix of practical and academic activities attracted me. I admit that early in the course I missed a few classes. Some were first thing in the morning, and some were in the evening, which I found strange because it was very different from school. My attendance improved, however, and I loved being at university in general. During the course, I was able to visit parts of the city near the university to interview residents, take photos and write news stories, and gradually I became an expert on the place – those are some of my best memories. Since graduating, I've worked as a radio producer, a communications manager and now a marketing manager for a software company. So, I'm not a journalist, but the excellent teachers we had helped me develop skills that have been very relevant to what I've done since then.

B Marta

Maybe I didn't work as much as some other students during my journalism degree, but I did what was necessary and I had some great lecturers. We were given projects which involved doing what real reporters do: investigating and writing about crime, sports and business. I remember one evening in the university library watching other students writing long essays; I was writing questions to ask the star player of the biggest football club in the town the following morning. I thought to myself: 'It almost seems unfair that I'm doing something so exciting while everyone else is having such a tough time.' One of my early plans was to become a sports reporter, then I thought about doing travel writing. I struggled to make up my mind about what to do, but I eventually became a media officer for a company that makes sports equipment. I'm responsible for dealing with newspapers, magazines, TV and radio – and social media of course. It's challenging, but my degree gave me the confidence to do it.

C Jess

Since I graduated from university, I've worked as a writer for three different magazines. So although I've moved around, I've essentially been doing the same job. Much of my success is due to the degree course I did, which involved not only writing newspaper articles, but also producing, presenting and editing high-quality film and radio broadcasts. I was lucky enough to study in a department where many of the staff had experience of exactly this type of work, so they really knew what they were talking about. The only thing I didn't enjoy was media law. In fact, I often avoided going to those classes. Looking back, I now wish I hadn't, because it's something I need to know about as a journalist. But otherwise, I'd say that the course as a whole was really interesting. However, anyone who wants to study the media from an academic point of view – for example, looking at how the media influences the way people think – should choose another subject, probably sociology.

D Riko

I remember how students taking more traditional degrees looked at me curiously when I said I was studying journalism. 'I imagine it's not very demanding,' was a common response. 'Did you choose it because you wanted to have a good social life?' others asked. I must admit that I did enjoy my free time at university, and I certainly don't feel bad about that – I worked just as hard as anyone else. Our classes started early in the morning, and in the evenings we often had to report on events in the town for the student newspaper. Our teachers were good at showing us how to adapt our style of writing for different genres, such as short news reports, longer investigations and opinion articles. That was important in making me the newspaper journalist I am today. But we also did lots of other things, including interviewing, filming and media law, so most people wanting to work in the media would benefit from doing a similar course.

9 For each question, write the correct letter A, B, C or D on the line.

Which person ...

- (a) regrets not working harder on one part of the course? [1]
- (b) is glad that they had the opportunity to get to know the local area well? [1]
- (c) suggests that some people considered journalism to be an easy subject? [1]
- (d) feels fortunate that their teachers had previously worked in the media? [1]
- (e) says that the course timetable was hard to get used to at first? [1]
- (f) mentions finding it difficult to decide what career to go into? [1]
- (g) refers to learning things that have been useful in a variety of professions? [1]
- (h) suggests that a journalism degree would not be suitable for everyone? [1]
- (i) suggests that they felt guilty at some point during their course? [1]
- (j) mentions the value of learning how to write a range of text types? [1]

[Total: 10]

Exercise 3

Read the article about a teacher who started keeping bees at her school, and then complete the notes.

Keeping bees at school

Three years ago, Maria Sterling set up what she named the Bee Project at Abbey High, the secondary school in London where she teaches geography. Now, beekeeping is one of the most popular activities at the school. 'We're very proud of our Bee Project,' says Head Teacher Nadia Malan. 'It's great tasting the honey!' says 12-year-old student Luke Davies. 'I really enjoy watching the bees,' agrees Sara, a student in Year 11. 'But the Bee Project is not just about enjoyment,' Maria explains. 'Keeping bees and getting honey from them helps to teach students what it means to be responsible for something.'

The bees are kept in hives – large wooden boxes – at one end of the school sports field. Each one contains thousands of bees. 'The hives are made by some of our students in their technology classes,' Maria says. 'Knowing how to make things with wood is really useful, and it's thanks to the Bee Project that they can do this.'

Maria admits that setting up the Bee Project wasn't as straightforward as she'd hoped it would be. 'Persuading parents that it's safe wasn't easy at first,' she says, 'which is understandable. But it helped when I explained that I remembered being amazed at how gentle bees were when I put my hand inside a hive for the first time.' The other initial problem was the cost of the equipment, especially the protective clothing. 'That's often an issue,' Maria says. 'I didn't have to pay anything for the bees, though.'

Maria has been involved in beekeeping since she was 15, when her father acquired a hive and some bees and asked her to help him. 'Before Dad got the bees, I hadn't realised that bees can do well in a big city. In our area of London, there are lots of trees and flowers. Something else I hadn't expected was that looking after bees can be really relaxing.'

Maria had considered introducing bees into the school where she worked before moving to Abbey High. 'But I was only there for a year and I never got round to setting up a project. It takes up a lot of time,' she says. 'Also, finding a suitable location for the hives can be challenging. I was lucky here because there's some land nearby that isn't built on and there are lots of wild plants that I know bees like.'

The Bee Project has influenced what happens in classes at Abbey High. In science lessons, students find out why bees are important for the environment. 'In geography,' Maria says, 'my students do research into the ways people around the world use bees. It's more meaningful for the students because they can relate the results of their research to our school bees.' And the honey produced at the school doesn't go to waste. In cookery lessons, students discover how to use honey to make some delicious dishes.

Maria is convinced that more schools would benefit from setting up their own beekeeping projects. 'There's plenty of information available about how to do it,' Maria points out. 'And if someone's really interested, they should contact local beekeepers. My dad and I couldn't believe how helpful other beekeepers were when we were beginners.'

You are going to give a talk about beekeeping to your class at school. Prepare some notes to use as the basis for your talk.

Make short notes under each heading.

10 What students at Abbey High school learn from keeping bees:

Example: what it means to be responsible for something

-
-
- [3]

11 What can be difficult about introducing beekeeping in a school:

-
-
- [3]

12 What surprised Maria when she first started beekeeping:

-
-
- [3]

[Total: 9]

Exercise 4

13 Read the article about video gaming and the Olympic Games.

Write a summary about the arguments for AND against including video gaming in the Olympic Games.

Your summary should be about 100 words long (and no more than 120 words long). You should use your own words as far as possible.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your summary, and up to 8 marks for the style and accuracy of your language.

Should video gaming be included in the Olympic Games?

In the last few years, a number of people have spoken out in favour of making competitive video gaming, or e-sports as they are often called, part of the Olympic Games. In response, the International Olympic Committee, which is the governing body that runs the world's greatest sporting event, has discussed the idea with a number of representatives of both traditional sports and e-sports.

What is it about competitive video gaming that might appeal to the Olympic authorities? To start with, e-sports are very popular internationally. Competitive gaming initially became popular in the 1990s, and it has since grown to be a \$1.5 billion industry with approximately 300 million hours of professional e-sports competitions being watched worldwide each year. This means that e-sports would significantly increase the size of audiences for the Olympic Games, something which is very difficult to ignore. At the same time, the fact that so many people follow e-sports suggests that they would be a great potential source of income for the Olympic Games, which could come in the form of more ticket sales, for example.

The first modern Olympic Games in 1896 consisted of 9 sports. This figure rose to 28 by 2016 and is currently at 33. So, there are now almost four times as many sports in the Olympic Games as there were originally. People opposed to including e-sports say that the Games are already too big, so if anything, events should be removed rather than added.

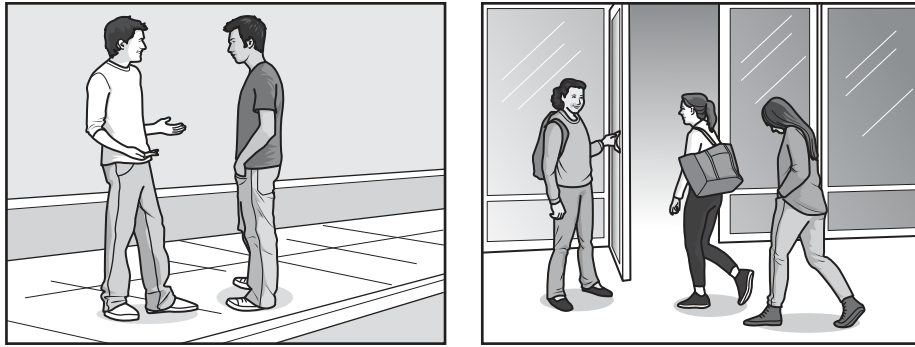
Video games are, in historical terms, relatively new. Therefore, gaming fans tend to be young, and the Olympic Games need more young followers. However, the fact that e-sports have only been in existence for a relatively short period of time introduces a problem: they don't have many standard rules and regulations. Contrast this with table tennis, for example, which has one set of rules that is used for all table tennis competitions around the world. Despite video games being relatively new, there are thousands of different ones which suit many different tastes. This creates a difficulty in terms of the Olympic Games, however: reaching agreement about which video games to include in the Olympics seems impossible.

One of the original principles of the Olympic movement was to encourage physical activity. Therefore, the most common objection to the idea of including e-sports in the Olympics is that they simply don't do this. E-sports fans do point out, though, that professional gamers train for as long as professional athletes – which can be for up to 12 hours a day.

If e-sports were introduced into the Olympic Games, motor or electrical power would be required, which would be a completely new element for the Olympics. Opponents of e-sports say that the Olympics should continue to be about humans, not machines.

The debate is clearly far from being resolved. However, experts believe that if the e-sports industry and fans push hard enough, it is inevitable that video gaming will one day become a part of the Olympic Games.

Exercise 5



- 14** Last week, you met someone who has recently moved to the area where you live. You get on well, and you think your friend would like this person too.

Write an email to your friend about the person you met.

In your email, you should:

- say how you met this person
- explain why you think your friend would like this person
- suggest something you could all do together.

The pictures above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

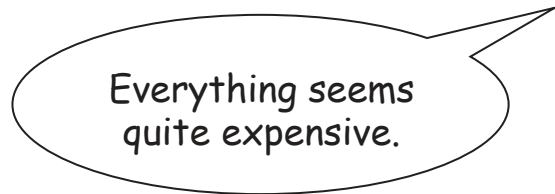
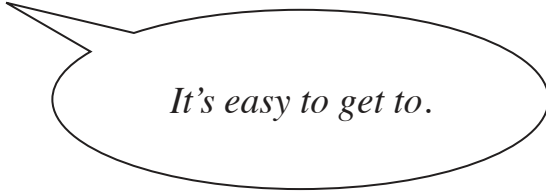
Your email should be between 150 and 200 words long.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your email, and up to 8 marks for the language used.

Exercise 6

- 15** You recently visited a new shopping centre in your town. You have decided to write a review of the new shopping centre for your school magazine.

Here are two comments from other young people about the new shopping centre:



Write a review of the new shopping centre for your school magazine, giving your views.

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your review should be between 150 and 200 words long.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your review, and up to 8 marks for the language used.

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