English as an Additional Language
2019

Question booklet 1

Section 1: Comprehending Multimodal Texts
Part A (Questions 1 to 4) 10 marks
Part B (Questions 5 to 9) 20 marks
• Answer all questions
• Write your answers in this question booklet
• Refer to information from the texts when answering Questions 1 to 9
• Allow approximately 85 minutes

Examination information

Materials
• Question booklet 1 (Section 1)
• Question booklet 2 (Section 2)
• 8-page script book
• SACE registration number label

Instructions
• Use black or blue pen

Total time: 160 minutes
Total marks: 60

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Attach your SACE registration number label here
You may make notes on this page.
SECTION 1: Comprehending Multimodal Texts

Part A (Questions 1 to 4)
(10 marks)

Text 1 will be presented twice. You will have a 2-minute break between the first and second presentations of the text. You may make notes in the space provided at any time. After the second presentation of the text you will have 10 minutes in which to complete your answers.

Answer all the questions in this part, using information from the text.

TEXT 1

1. What does Professor Wood’s research clearly show?

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(1 mark)

2. What problems does the overuse of pesticides cause in gardens? Support your answer with information from Text 1.

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(2 marks)

3. List three ways in which good insects are beneficial in a garden.

(a) ____________________________________________________________________________________________ (1 mark)

(b) ____________________________________________________________________________________________ (1 mark)

(c) ____________________________________________________________________________________________ (1 mark)

4. Explain two ways in which members of the community can take action to help to create healthy gardens and farms.

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(4 marks)
You may make notes on this page.
Part B (Questions 5 to 9)  
(20 marks)

Text 2 will be presented twice. You will have a 5-minute break between the first and second presentations of the text. You may make notes in the space provided at any time. After the second presentation of the text, you will have 25 minutes in which to complete your answers. You may then begin writing your answer to the question in Section 2 if you wish to do so.

Answer all the questions in this part, using information from Text 2 (the listening text) and Text 3 (the webpage on page 6). Your answers to all the questions must be in extended prose/paragraphs.

TEXT 2

5. What is the purpose of Text 2? Provide evidence from the text to support your answer.

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6. What language technique does Angela use to appeal to the audience at the beginning of the podcast and how is it effective? Give specific evidence from the text.

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____________________________________________________________________________________________________________  (2 marks)
Here's why the bee population isn't declining!

May 14, 2019

My name is Helen and each week on my blog I expose fake news! This week my focus is on the misreporting by environmental groups, mainstream scientific organisations, and the media, who are all trying to scare us with horrific news about the extinction of bees.

• Don't believe what you read and hear — Channel 6B News reported last week that ‘trouble is brewing because of the decreasing bee populations’ but this isn’t true. Bees are not struggling to survive!
• The Centre for Global Bee Research has claimed that our food system is in chaos. But this is a myth; the bee population isn’t declining, becoming extinct, or in trouble!
• Bee enthusiast Cathy M states that ‘the media keep overemphasising the number of bees that are dying! They are ignoring how many bees are flying around every day. Bees are obviously not endangered!’
• Public interest and funding into bee research is growing because people believe that bees are dying. But where is this money actually going? What is it achieving?

• **Fact:** The bee population fluctuates due to the weather, the season, each bee colony’s health, and what the bees can or cannot find to eat.
• **Fact:** In summer there are roughly 40 000 bees per hive in Australia and in winter this drops to about 10 000 bees per hive.
• **Fact:** The long-term trend over the last 50 years indicates that the number of hives globally is increasing.

So, my fellow dis-beelievers. It is obvious that news about the extinction of bees is greatly exaggerated. Spread the word!

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**Number of bee colonies in Australia 2000 – 2019**

![Graph showing the number of bee colonies in Australia from 2000 to 2019.](source: Australian annual bee report. This confirms that the upward trend of bee numbers is increasing.)

*Source: Images adapted from © William Jones-Warner | iStock.com (bees), © Rawpixelimages | Dreamstime.com (portrait of woman)*
7. To what extent do the graph and the table support Helen’s argument? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.

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(4 marks)

8. How does Helen’s blog engage its readers? Use specific examples from the text to support your answer.

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(4 marks)

Question 9 is on page 8.
9. Both Text 2 and Text 3 are unreliable sources of information. Provide evidence from both texts to support this statement.
Text 1

Science teacher: Good morning students. Have you ever spent time outdoors and seen the damage that insects do to plants? Insects such as locusts, snails, and mites eat plants and often ruin entire crops. But not all insects are pests that cause problems. Today a leading Australian scientist from the Centre for Insect Control, Professor Wood, has come to talk to us about helpful and unhelpful insects. Welcome, Professor.

Professor Wood: It is a pleasure to be here and explain our Australian-wide pest management plan to you. We need the help of young Australians such as yourselves to lead the way and educate others in our community about the environment. My research clearly shows that instead of seeing insects as the enemy and poisoning them, we should learn to use nature’s own defences in our gardening and farming. In this way, we can create and maintain healthy gardens and farms.

Many gardeners and farmers, frustrated by the destruction that is caused by insects, deal with them by using pesticides. Pesticides are chemicals designed to kill insects. However, at the Centre for Insect Control we have found that unfortunately pesticides not only kill bad insects, they also kill good ones that help our gardens and farming land. We know that some insects are good; for example, bees are vital for plant reproduction and the ecosystem. And, let’s not forget, the chemicals we spray on our gardens to kill insects are not good for humans, either!

I am not saying that we should get rid of pesticides altogether, but they are overused, and people should learn that you don’t have to reach for them at the first sight of an insect in the garden! Did you know that good insects can actually help to control bad insects? Good insects help to decompose dead plant material, pollinate crops, and eat pests that are damaging gardens. We all know that bees are vital for pollinating plants, but did you also know that ladybirds eat other insects such as aphids that are harmful to plants?

The number one way to draw beneficial insects into your garden is by growing their favourite flowering plants. You can find information about what plants attract particular insects on our website at www.pestplan.com.au.

Our website aims to raise community awareness to help people identify the good insects and distinguish them from the bad. Learning which insects are helpful will result in a rapid reduction in the overuse of pesticides. Pictures on our website identify the insect species in your garden and we can also record the species and its location in our database. All it takes is a little bit of detective work on your part to make a big contribution to our knowledge of insects, their habitats, and their effect on plants!

Your contribution will help scientists to better understand all these incredible creatures and where they can be found throughout Australia. Who knows, you might stumble across a new species!

The best defence against harmful insects is more people becoming familiar with all the insects in their gardens. Having a variety of plants in your garden will welcome the good insects and help them do their work. Thank you.
Angela: Most people love honey. But are you aware that honey bees help to create a lot of the food that we eat? Today, I am going to talk with Stuart Heng, a bee-keeping enthusiast and author of the book ‘Buzzing Off’. Stuart, welcome to our podcast ‘Important issues’. Unfortunately, all around the world bees are under threat because of a small insect called a mite that is attacking them. So tell us — are bees … buzzing off?

Stuart: Hi Angela. Well, it certainly isn’t the bees themselves that are miss-bee having! It is a much more serious and widespread problem that is affecting the bee population.

Angela: Before we discuss why bees are dying, can you tell our listeners why bees are so important?

Stuart: Well, bees are a very important part of Australia’s agricultural industry. One-third of the food that humans eat requires pollination and bees are one of our most important pollinators.

Angela: In your book, you quote from recently released research into Australian pest control which says that we should be urgently investigating why bees are dying.

Stuart: Yes, Angela. One out of every three things that we eat are linked to bees and the pollination that they do. Bees make honey by collecting the nectar and pollen in flowers. Bees spread pollen from plant to plant, and this helps the plants to produce seeds and fruit. So, without bees, we wouldn’t have many fruits or vegetables and our diet would change to mostly rice, wheat, and corn.

Angela: This is shocking, Stuart! Bees are obviously vital to our food supply — we can’t let them become extinct! But why are bees in so much trouble?

Stuart: Well, Angela, the main problem is a tiny mite. These mites are attaching themselves to bees and infecting them with terrible viruses that eventually kill the bees. Mites suck out the bee’s blood, which reduces the bee’s immune system and makes them vulnerable to the viruses. Once the bee goes back to the hive, it spreads the virus and the whole hive dies.

Angela: In your book, you state that this mite is destroying bee populations in countries all over the world. Luckily, Australia has only had a few sightings in Queensland, but bee keepers are worried it won’t stay that way. We need to get the information out there so people know what they look like and can alert pest control experts if they see them. Also, travellers must remember not to bring in bees or honey products from other countries.

Stuart: Yes, we don’t want the bees in Australia to face an outbreak of the virus. It would kill a lot of bees quickly, so we need to investigate what can be done in Australia if the mite is accidently introduced.

Angela: You are right, Stuart. It starts with educating people about why bees are so important and how we can protect them. Thank you.
English as an Additional Language
2019

Question booklet 2

Section 2: Written Paper (Question 10) 30 marks
• Write your answer in the separate script book
• Remove the tear-out sheets on pages 5 and 7
• Refer to the tear-out sheets when answering Question 10
• Allow approximately 75 minutes
SECTION 2: Written Paper (Question 10)
(30 marks)

Write your answer in the separate script book.

10. Read the following three texts about humans travelling to Mars, and produce an extended written response of approximately 500 words developing a point of view on this topic. Use and reference information, ideas, and opinions from the texts provided.

TEXT 4

Beware! ‘Earth to Mars’ will cause havoc!

An organisation called ‘Earth to Mars’ wants to establish a permanent human settlement on Mars, and many people are keen to be part of this mission. But, surely, once the excitement of being part of the expedition wears off, the reality for participants will set in. Not only will the mission to Mars be extremely dangerous for humans, it may also be a recipe for scientific disaster on a wider scale. Pippa Riley delves into this controversial issue.

First, let me give you some facts about Mars. In some ways, Mars is the planet that is most like Earth because both planets have a similar amount of dry land, and both rotate and revolve on an axis. Mars is also known as the Red Planet because of its iron-rich soil and the dust in the atmosphere. It orbits the Sun in 687 days, yet a day on Mars is only about 39.5 minutes longer than a day on Earth. Mars is the most habitable planet for humans, which makes it an ideal target for exploration.

So, what awaits those who are willing to travel to this planet?

A trip to Mars has huge risks. Past experience shows that just being launched in a space rocket can be very dangerous for the chosen astronauts and volunteers on board. Many rockets explode on take-off, and never even begin the journey. If the rocket does launch successfully, it may collide with space debris and be damaged. Even if it reaches Mars, the spacecraft may crash upon landing. It is therefore a strong possibility that the passengers on this mission may not arrive safely on Mars.

Experts from the University of Hattingen estimate that it will take from 6 to 8 months to reach Mars and, consequently, the astronauts and volunteers will face serious health risks. One of the most worrying aspects is the radiation that passengers will experience without the protection of Earth’s atmosphere — particularly from cosmic rays and high-energy particles from the Sun. Such radiation can damage a person’s DNA and significantly increase their risk of cancer and other health complications in the future.

Critics such as Professor Myrtle Byrne from the Space Organisation of Australia believe that the astronauts will be guinea pigs when it comes to whether or not they can survive on Mars. No one has undertaken this experiment before and so it is hard to predict what participants will need. Oxygen and food will need to be brought with them from Earth, and their life-support equipment could fail at any stage.

Even small details have huge potential risks: for example, everyone on Mars will need to wear a spacesuit and over time these suits will deteriorate. This will lead to carbon dioxide leaking in and mixing with oxygen, which would cause poisoning and suffocation. Also, the machinery and electronics required to build a liveable habitat on Mars will experience natural wear and tear. If these items fail, people will not have the necessary equipment on hand to survive.
Over time, those living on Mars will want to explore their new environment. But the only real way to do this will be by vehicle, such as a rover. What happens when it breaks down or becomes too old to use? There are no replacement vehicles, so exploration will no longer be possible. What if one of the team gets stuck in the middle of nowhere on Mars and doesn’t have enough oxygen to make their way safely back to base camp? They could expire because of lack of oxygen.

The participants for this expedition will include at least one or two doctors. But eventually these doctors may die, and other people may outlive them. What then? Who will be able to perform surgery and provide medical advice?

Living with the same people in a small space could be fun for some personality types, but many will find it unbearable and will eventually feel like they are living in a jail. The astronauts and volunteers will need to live in small inflatable pods, and will end up spending the majority of their time indoors because going outside is too complicated or dangerous. The novelty of being the first to live on Mars will wear off quickly, and loneliness and boredom will set in.

Imagine never again feeling the ocean breeze on your face or being able to jump into the water on a hot summer’s day. Imagine never again hearing the birds singing or seeing the blossom blooming or blue skies brightening up your day. Imagine never again being able to spend your birthdays and other special occasions with friends and family. This will be the life of the participants in the ‘Earth to Mars’ mission. And, over time, the astronauts will die and will not be replaced. Reality for those left behind will become smaller and smaller and lonelier and lonelier.

Going to Mars might sound like a wonderful adventure, but it could just as easily turn into a nightmare. The ‘Earth to Mars’ project should be stopped now!

Source: www.magazine-earhtomars.com
Pippa Riley, 2019
SACE BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Golden ticket to Mars!
Marty Zao, 2019

Jaydin Nguyen, a 24-year old astronomy student at the University of Passing, is on the short-list to be one of the lucky participants on board the ‘Earth to Mars’ mission. This one-way mission will be a leap forward in aerospace history. Jaydin has been selected because of his excellent physical health as well as his highly intelligent, psychologically stable, and creative personality.

All going well, he will depart for Mars in 2024. Jaydin is looking forward to the adventures that lie ahead. ‘I am self-sufficient and know that it will be hard work building everything we need on Mars. We will need to take all the food and oxygen required to keep us going. As part of our training, we are learning many new skills to help us adapt to the range of challenges and difficulties that we may face. I am now learning the basics of medical care as well as automotive, construction, and plumbing skills’, he said animatedly.

Jaydin’s main concern is that the houses designed for the Mars inhabitants are inflatable and could burst. However, those in charge of the Earth to Mars mission believe that this is very unlikely to occur due to the high-quality material used.

It is clear that Jaydin loves to learn and works well with others. ‘It is incredible to think that in the future I may be living on Mars with a select bunch of people and making history!’, he says. He is confident that other participants will be open-minded and tolerant. ‘Everyone chosen to go to Mars will need to be adaptable and a team player, because there will be no legal system or parliament to mediate when there are conflicts. Our key characteristics should be flexibility, tolerance, and good judgment.’

Jaydin is not worried about the hostile environment that participants on the Earth to Mars mission may face, or the fact that they may not always like each other. ‘I have come to terms with the fact that I may never return to Earth, but what I will have achieved for world science, such as identifying rare rock samples, is incredible.’ However, he is optimistic that perhaps, one day, a return to Earth may be possible because technology is advancing so rapidly. He is also fully aware that he may not want to come back, given that he may be physically disabled due to the muscle and bone wastage that is likely to occur on Mars.

Jaydin adds: ‘Some people have questioned why I want to do such a thing, but I can’t think of a better way to make my mark on the world’. But critics such as the Chief Economist of Equitable Spending, Dr Camilla Webster, have argued that the first trip to Mars will cost A$6 billion dollars for four people. She believes that such huge sums of money could be used for much worthier causes on Earth. Jaydin disagrees and is thrilled that the Earth to Mars mission is getting people excited about science and other planets and that, very soon, life on Mars will be a reality.

23 March 2019

News information page 7
Reasons not to travel to Mars

- **Expense**: There will be an enormous cost associated with creating and maintaining a permanent settlement on Mars.
- **Health risks**: Low gravity means loss of bone and muscle strength and potential loss of human life.
- **Harsh environment**: Temperature of ~63 degrees Celsius and poisonous atmospheric gases make it uninhabitable for humans.
- **Ethical issues**: Experimenting with human life, with no knowledge of consequences, raises ethical questions.
- **Impact on lifestyle**: Humans will experience extreme boredom, homesickness, and isolation; their quality of life will be poor.

Reasons to travel to Mars

- **Adventure and exploration**: Space exploration allows humans to satisfy their innate desire to explore and enjoy new challenges.
- **Scientific knowledge and technology**: Exploration encourages innovation in engineering, physics, education, agriculture, medicine, mathematics, and industry.
- **Survival of species**: Having humans live on more than one planet will better ensure their existence for thousands, if not millions, of years.
- **A means of escaping climate change and wars**: Living on Mars allows humans to escape from problems on Earth.
- **Resources**: Resources such as rare minerals can be brought back to Earth to improve life there.

Source: Images © Graphiqa-Stock | iStock.com (space graphics)
Compiled by Harry Doon 2019, www.humanstravellingtomars.com