AQA

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number | | | | | | Candidate number | | | | |

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Candidate signature _____

GCSE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Monday 4 November 2019 Morning Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
- **Source A** – provided as a separate insert.

Instructions
- Answer **all** questions.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
TOTAL	

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for **Section A** and 40 marks for **Section B**.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **reading** in **Section A**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **writing** in **Section B**.

Advice
- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
- You are advised to plan your answer to **Question 5** before you start to write.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

Do not write outside the box

Section A: Reading

Answer **all** questions in this section.
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

0 1 Read again the first part of the source, from **lines 1 to 5**.

List **four** things about Zoe's surroundings from this part of the source.

[4 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

3 _____

_____

4 _____

_____

4

Do not write outside the box

0 2 Look in detail at this extract, from **lines 9 to 14** of the source:

> If there are few moments in life that come as clear and as pure as ice, when the mountain breathed back at her, Zoe knew that she had trapped one such moment and that it could never be taken away. Everywhere was snow and silence. Snow and silence; the complete arrest of life; a rehearsal and a pre-echo of death. She pointed her skis down the hill. They looked like weird talons of brilliant red and gold in the powder snow as she waited, ready to swoop. *I am alive. I am an eagle.*

How does the writer use language here to describe Zoe's feelings?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

[8 marks]

Do not write outside the box

8

Do not write outside the box

Extra space

Turn over for the next question

Do not write outside the box

0 3 You now need to think about the **whole** of the source.

This text is from the beginning of a novel.

How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?

You could write about:

- what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning of the source
- how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops
- any other structural features that interest you.

[8 marks]

Do not write outside the box

8

Turn over ►

Do not write outside the box

Extra space

Do not write outside the box

0 4 Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from **line 28 to the end**.

A student said, 'In this part of the story, where Zoe and Jake are caught in the avalanche, I can't believe Zoe is so slow to react to the warning signs because, in the end, the situation sounds really dangerous.'

To what extent do you agree?

In your response, you could:

- consider Zoe's reactions in this part of the story
- evaluate how the writer makes the situation sound dangerous
- support your response with references to the text.

[20 marks]

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Do not write outside the box

Turn over ►

Do not write outside the box

20

Do not write outside the box

Section B: Writing

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.
Write in full sentences.
You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.
You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

0 5 Your school or college is asking students to contribute some creative writing for its website.

Either

Write a story about a magical world as suggested by this picture:

or

Describe a place you think is beautiful.

(24 marks for content and organisation
16 marks for technical accuracy)
[40 marks]

Turn over ►

Do not write outside the box

You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.

Do not write outside the box

Turn over ►

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Turn over ►

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Extra space

END OF QUESTIONS

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DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED

Do not write outside the box

Question number	**Additional page, if required.** **Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.**

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There are no questions printed on this page

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GCSE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Insert

The source that follows is:

Source A: 21st Century prose fiction

The Silent Land by Graham Joyce

An extract from the beginning of a novel written in 2010.

Please turn over to see the source

Source A

This extract is from the beginning of a novel by Graham Joyce. A young married couple, Zoe and Jake, are on a skiing holiday in the French Pyrenean mountains.

It was snowing again. Gentle six-pointed flakes from a picture book were settling on her jacket sleeve. The mountain air prickled with ice and the smell of pine resin. Several hundred metres below lay the dark outline of Saint-Bernard-en-Haut, their Pyrenean resort village; across to the west, the irregular peaks of the mountain range.

Zoe pulled the air into her lungs, feeling the cracking cold of it before letting go. And when the mountain seemed to nod and sigh back at her, she almost thought she could die in that place, and happily.

If there are few moments in life that come as clear and as pure as ice, when the mountain breathed back at her, Zoe knew that she had trapped one such moment and that it could never be taken away. Everywhere was snow and silence. Snow and silence; the complete arrest of life; a rehearsal and a pre-echo of death. She pointed her skis down the hill. They looked like weird talons of brilliant red and gold in the powder snow as she waited, ready to swoop. *I am alive. I am an eagle.*

The sun was up now; in a few minutes there would be more skiers to break the eerie morning spell. But right now they had the snow and the morning entirely to themselves.

There was a whisper behind her. It was the effortless track of Jake's skis as he came over the ridge and caught up with her.

'This is perfection.'

'You ready to go?' she asked.

'Yep. Let's do it.'

They'd got up early to beat the holiday-making hordes for this first run of the morning. Because this – the tranquillity, the silence, the undisturbed snow and the feeling of proximity to an eagle's flight – was what it was all about. Jake hit the west side of the steep but broad slope and she took the east, carving matching parallel tracks through the fresh snow.

But at the edge of the slope, near the curtain of trees, she felt a small slab of snow slip from underneath her. It was like she'd been bucked, so she took the fall-line* to recover her balance. Before she'd dropped three hundred metres, the whisper of her skis was displaced by a rumble.

Zoe saw at the periphery of her vision that Jake had come to a halt at the side of the piste and was looking back up the slope. Irritated by the false start they'd made, she etched a few turns before skidding to a halt and turning to look back at her

husband.

The rumble became louder. There was a pillar of what looked like grey smoke unfurling in silky banners at the head of the slope, like the heraldry of armies. It was beautiful. It made her smile.

Then her smile iced over. Jake was speeding straight towards her. His face was rubberised and he mouthed something as he flew at her.

'Get to the side! To the side!'

She knew now that it was an avalanche. Jake slowed, batting at her with his ski pole. 'Get into the trees! Hang on to a tree!'

The rumbling had become a roaring in her ears, drowning Jake's words. She pushed herself down the fall-line, scrambling for traction, trying to accelerate away from the roaring cloud breaking behind her like a tsunami at sea. Jagged black cracks appeared in the snow in front of her. She angled her skis towards the side of the slope, heading for the trees, but it was too late. She saw Jake's black suit go bundling past her as he was turned by the great mass of smoke and snow. Then she too was punched off her feet and carried through the air, twisting, spinning, turning in the white-out. She remembered something about spreading her arms around her head. For a few moments it was like being agitated inside a washing machine, turned head over heels a few times, until at last she was dumped heavily in a rib-cracking fall. Then there came a chattering noise, like the amplified jaws of a million termites chewing on wood. The noise itself filled her ears and muffled everything, and then there was silence, and the total whiteness faded to grey, and then to black.

END OF SOURCE

Glossary

* fall-line – the most direct route downhill

There is no source material printed on this page

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