ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 3 Text Analysis

February/March 2017

2 hours 15 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer two questions.
You should spend about 15 minutes reading the passages and questions before you start writing your answers.
Both questions carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
The following text is a transcription of part of a job interview. The candidate, Riya, has applied for a job in a bank in Canada and is being interviewed by a senior staff member.

(a) Imagine that you are the interviewer. You have been asked to report back to your manager about the interview. Write an email to your manager outlining your thoughts about how suitable Riya is for the job and giving your reasons. You should write 120–150 words.

(b) Compare the language and style of your email with the language and style of the original text.

TRANSCRIPTION KEY

(1) = pause in seconds                     (.) = micro-pause                     // = speech overlap
underlining = stressed sound/syllable(s)

Interviewer: so tell me a little bit about yourself riya

Riya: so (.). my name is riya (.). im brazilian (.). i graduated in two thousand and nine (.). my major is in business administration (.). i have experienced working as a financial assistant (.). and also in the banking industry (.). im really organised (.). i like to keep things organised so if i have to find something really quickly (.). its easier (1). also i like to work with people (.). helping people and i like to work with numbers (1). and i really like to work in groups (.). or in teams so i can share and learn new things (2). thats all

Interviewer: your english pronunciation is excellent

Riya: oh thank you

Interviewer: where did you learn english

Riya: er i took some classes in brazil (1). for about two years (1). but it was just you know when your country doesnt speak that language er we (.). you cant learn enough (.). so i came to canada last year

Interviewer: good for you and er (.). during that time (.). what did you do (.). did you take more classes did you

Riya: er i actually first stayed for three months so i was in a school (.). i took classes for three months (1). after that er (1). i found a job

Interviewer: okay and was that in an english speaking job

Riya: yes i was speaking just english

Interviewer: okay (.). so what do you want to do long term

Riya: i want to run a branch and my goal is (1). i want to become a bank manager and after i become a bank manager i want to transfer my position to another branch (.). to another country (.). i dont want to just stay (.). if i find a job here in toronto i want to transfer to another country

Interviewer: another which im sorry (1). another country
Riya: country

Interviewer: okay my apologies

Riya: no problem (.) its my pronunciation (.) im sorry

Interviewer: so (.) as an assistant bank manager (.) give me an example of how you would deal with a customer (2) who is very angry

Riya: whos very angry (2) when i was working in the bank i was new (.) so one day i had a customer yelling because of a problem he had in his account and i didnt know if i should call my manager (.) but i decided to handle that situation myself and i started to use my communication skills (.) talking very slow (.) trying to calm down the client (.) reassure him that everything was going to be fine (.) er in the end i could solve his problem and he left the bank happy (1) not really happy of course because he was angry but i could solve his problem
Texts A and B are both about a Jamaican sprinter, Usain Bolt, winning the 100 metres final in the 2012 Olympic Games in London, England.

Text A is an extract from Bolt's autobiography in which he recounts running in the race.

Text B is an online newspaper report about Bolt's success in the race.

Compare the language and style of Text A and Text B. [25]

Text A

‘On your marks…’

The crowd quietened down, people started to whisper. A call of ‘Ssshhhhhh!’ hissed around the seats and blew across the track like a cold wind. I dropped to my knees, crossed myself and said a little prayer to the heavens.

_Please give me the strength to go out there and do what I have to do…_ 5

Another call. ‘Get set…’

_Don’t false start…_

**Bang!**

I moved after the ricochet of the pistol, and as my body rose I quickly assessed the situation. There had been no early reaction.

_Cool, you’re on point. It’s go time…_ 10

I could always tell instantly whenever I’d made a great start or not. If it was good, the push felt smooth, the muscles were strong and power pumped through my legs. It was like an explosion away from the blocks. But the perfect start in a competitive race happened rarely, maybe once every couple of years. If a start was bad, I always felt awful. Limp. Weak. There was no energy whatsoever.

As I leapt from the line, I knew my push had been bad. The rest of the field had burned down the track ahead of me but I knew I had to concentrate on my own strides rather than anyone else’s. Despite my stupid start, gold was still in reach.

_Relax…Relax…Calm down…_ 20

I focused on my technique again, my drive phase had been good and after another second had passed, I glanced across the pack. The race had evened out. I could see a line of people. Everybody was equal.

_Alright, we’re all together, nobody’s pulling away. It’s over now…_ 25

My long strides pushed me past the other athletes; I was like a sports car moving into top gear. I passed the 60-metre mark, then 65. I was hitting high speed as everyone else fell off behind me.
Text B

9.63 seconds... Legend Bolt retains 100m crown after stunning victory sees him shatter his OWN Olympic record

Bolt did it again. He did it as he said he would. As predicted, this was his time. Bolt became the first athlete this century to retain his Olympic 100 metres title, the first since Carl Lewis in 1988. Nobody stays the fastest man in the world for long and there were many who thought Bolt would repeat the brief flickering of many past champions. They were wrong, so very wrong.

Having given the field a head start, he then accelerated. It was as if Batman had flicked the switch on the Batmobile, the one that sends the machine into warp speed. We almost expected to see an ignition of white-hot flame at Bolt's tail.

And that is what Bolt is, in essence. A latter-day superhero. He draped the Jamaican flag around his shoulders like a Caped Crusader, too, and mimed firing his arrow as if an Olympian of old. He is old, Bolt, yet so very new.

His talent is one of the purest skills of all: the ability to run faster than any other man. But his manner is modern. He knows his place in sport's galaxy, his status, and what it represents.

He is charismatic, mesmerising. Once he entered the track nobody could take their eyes from him; and then when he started running, blink, and he was gone.

Bolt was in his element. When his name was announced, he went through his showman's routine. He shut his eyes, pretended to be deeply focused, then lifted his head up with a broad grin and made a running gesture with his fingers, put them to his forehead and then away in a salute.

The crowd loved it.

It is easy to root for Bolt, the way it is any man who combines supreme athleticism with charm and personality. Bolt has such charisma. Even operating from a rare position of vulnerability, his demeanour suggested he was the man to beat. So it proved.

The moment the pistol sounded, all doubts about his fitness evaporated. Slow out of the blocks, as he would be at 6 feet 5 inches from a crouching position, it was instantly the Bolt of old, motoring as if slung from a catapult, tearing up the super-fast surface as if it would curl up beneath his feet as he went.