

**Controlled Written exam:
Example marked candidate response 2**

Integrated Skills in English – ISE IV

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

Integrated Skills in English IV

Time allowed: 3 hours

This exam paper has three tasks. You must complete all tasks.

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

Read the information below and then, **in your own words**, write an article for a local newspaper:

- i) assessing the value of the development of a new forest in your area (using Woodland Forest as a model)
- ii) analysing what approach the organisation that manages this project should take to ensure the new forest's success **and**
- iii) discussing how the people in your area might react to such a project.

(Write about 350 words)

Use your own words as far as possible. No marks for answers copied from the reading text. You must make reference to both the text and the graphic information in your answer.

Woodland Forest – real growth!

Over the past 25 years, an area that was once full of abandoned industrial buildings has been transformed into the stunningly beautiful Woodland Forest.

We all know that trees help clean up the environment, but the development of Woodland Forest has had many other positive spin-offs. Wildlife's certainly thriving, with animals and birds coming back to the area.

Children adore playing there, adults are eager to walk there, tourists now flock to the area – what's not to like? Well, some people whinge about the 'hordes' of tourists 'blocking the roads' with their cars. I can't say I noticed.

And, at first, there were some raised voices. To quote one: 'Planting all those trees is nonsense! Give us houses, not a forest!' Another moaned 'Work is the key, and a forest won't give us jobs.' But the Woodland Forest Company persisted. Ironically, the forest has led to more house-building as people move to the area, and to more jobs. There is an unexpected number of jobs in forested areas: from manufacturing paper products using sustainable sources to re-planting trees.

Not to mention tourism, which is doing very well indeed. The economy of the area is booming! And the cherry on the cake? Local people are very much happier.

But of course, the Woodland Forest Company didn't just plant the trees anywhere. This wouldn't have worked nearly so well as planned planting. They planted trees both on open land and around areas of housing. The great thing is that it's so easy for people to use the forest. The company also produced a tourism marketing plan. This looked at who might visit the forest, what kind of activities they'd like and where they'd prefer to stay. The company works closely with schools too – so important!

With such amazing results, the project has proved itself, despite some opposition. May it inspire others to develop forest areas!

WOODLAND FOREST FACTS – 1992-2017

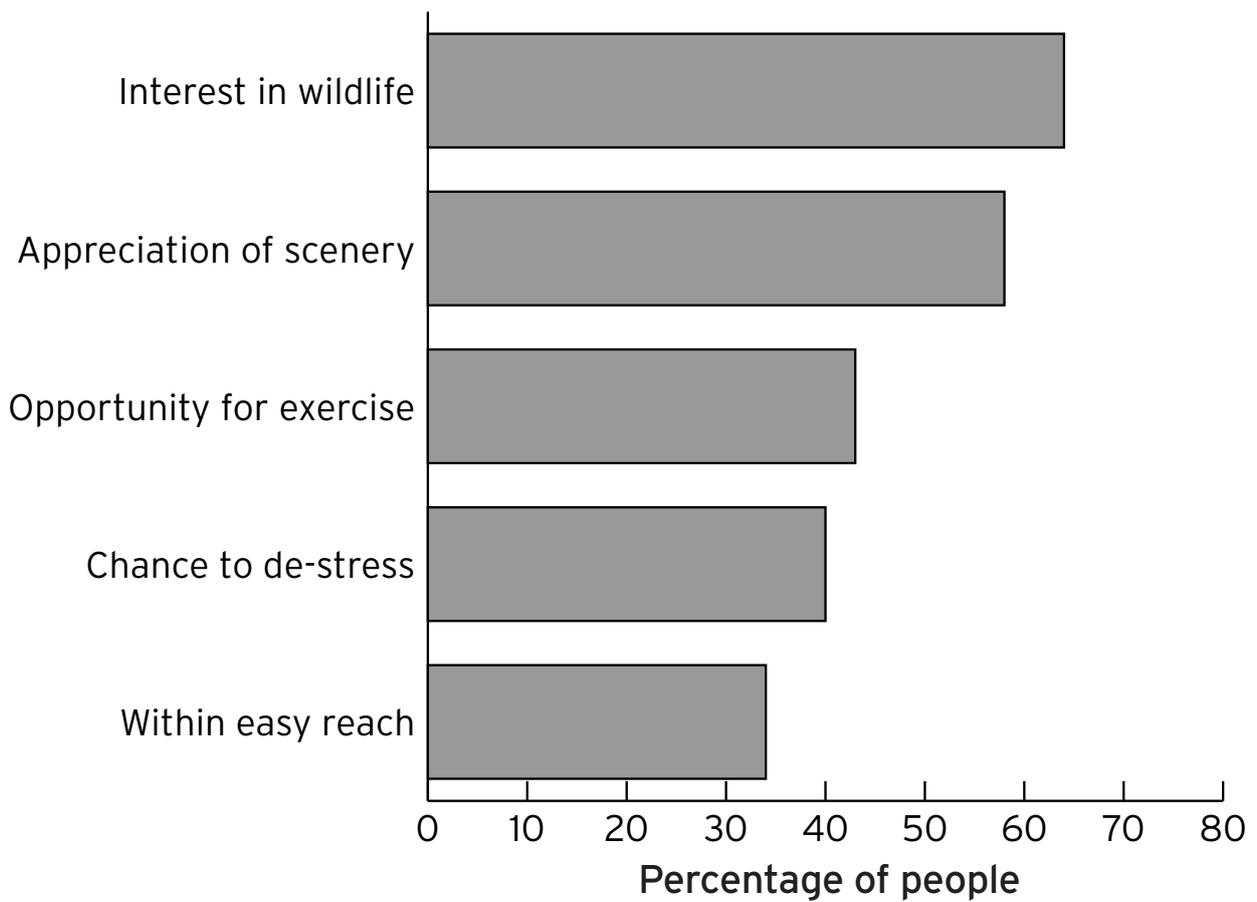
No. of trees planted		8 million
New jobs created to date		5,000
No. of visitors		7.8 million
Money brought into local economy		£376 million
Amount spent on creating the forest		£50 million (same as building 1km of motorway)

WOODLAND FOREST 10-YEAR PLAN: 2017-2027

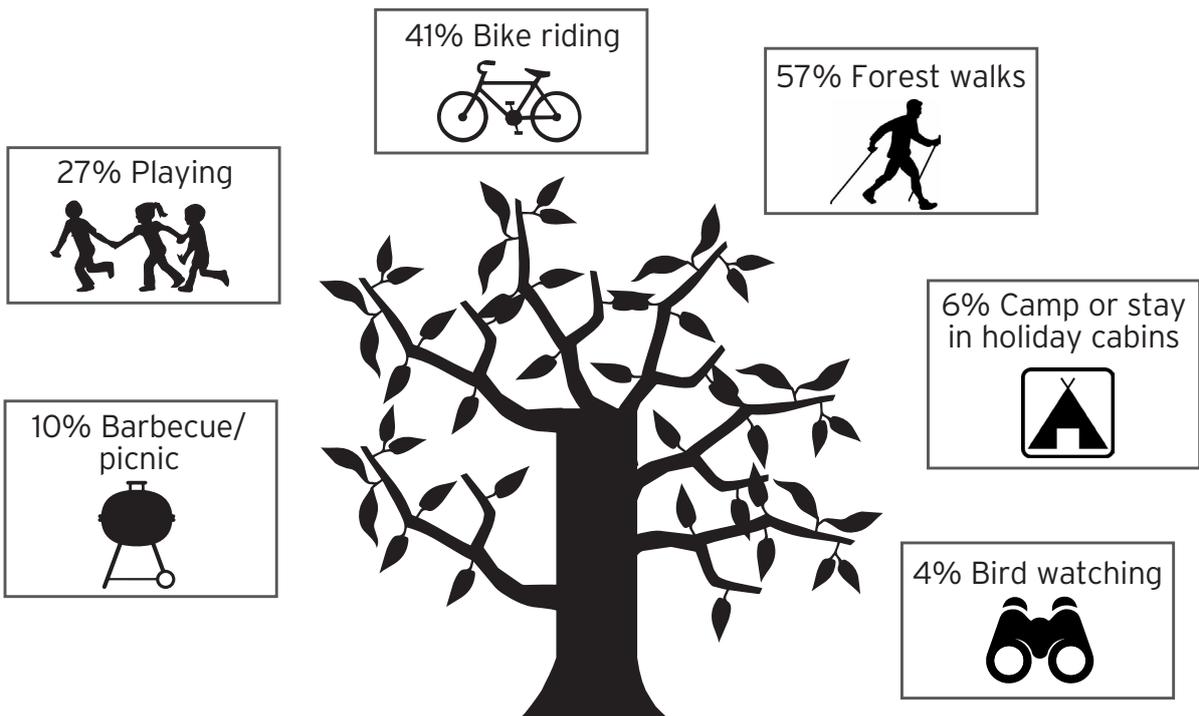
Planned increase in visitor spending		15%
New jobs planned		1,500

www.nationalforest.org

REASONS PEOPLE VISIT FORESTS



POPULAR FOREST ACTIVITIES



Why a new forest is a green lung for our success?

It is widely known that forests are the magic tool in order to prevent catastrophic events such as desertification and that they do really affect our power in contrasting all the effect of climate change. To put it simply a forest is a "green lung" that make the world breathe. Nonetheless not everyone is aware of the extraordinary value of a forest in economic, touristic and social life. For instance the "Woodland Forest" – a project which had been divided townspeople into supporters and haters who shouted "it is of no avail planting trees" – in 25 years – has revolutioned the livelihood of the hinterland. Suffice it to say that 7.8 million visitors since 1992 to 2017 visited the forest, ensuring a real growth both in the economy and in the prestige of the towns near-by. A wide range of activities has encouraged people visiting the forest, a lot of bikers have enjoyed the "Woodland Forest" (41% of forest activities is represented by bike riding).

Asserting that a project of £50 million brought 376 £ million to the local economy means that deciding to invest in developing a forest is a successful path. But how to take advantage from this project? First of all it is necessary to plan properly taking in account both pros and drawbacks. Secondly we should focus on our priorities: do we want to offer a great scenery for trekkers or facilities for camping? We have to choose, all in all, "grasp all, loose all," focusing on one thing is the key ingredient for a significant growth.

Nevertheless it is crucial to consider local people reactions to the development of a forest even to understand how far this project is possible and how to make it popular. Not everyone would agree with recognising the project as a useless strategy in order to improve various aspects of their livelihood. Indeed a forest is a real opportunity to lead to economic growth but also to a more eventful social and cultural life, organising concerts and exhibitions too which can make both the area and the inhabitants benefits from the project.

Word count: 350

Rationale

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
This is a satisfactory execution of the task. There is good understanding of the source materials demonstrated and the candidate has referred to both text and graphics although more information could have been included, particularly from Text A. All three points are covered, but there is little expansion of ideas when assessing the value of the development of a new forest in the candidate's area. *Tip: Candidates must analyse the task in detail.
Text organisation
The text is organised into paragraphs, but there could be more to effectively present the ideas in a logical manner. Some cohesive devices are not used accurately, eg 'Suffice it to say', and the conclusion is a little unclear.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The format, style and register are appropriate and the response reads like an article written for a newspaper. The questions in the body of the paragraphs help to draw the reader in, eg 'But how to take advantage from this project?', '...do we want to offer a great scenery for trekkers...?'.
Effect on the reader
The desired effect is mostly achieved, the reader would be informed.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: C
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
There is satisfactory coverage of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level, ie evaluation, analysis etc. Language is used with a satisfactory level of accuracy in most of the text although errors, eg '...since 1992 to 2017...', '...local people reactions...' and 'has encouraged people visiting the forest...' are basic but do not impede understanding.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling and punctuation are good throughout.

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

Read the text below and then, **in your own words**, present the information given as an online forum with two or more contributors for a business website:

- i) analysing to what extent the exhibition exceeds expectations
- ii) evaluating the impact of any negative aspects of the exhibition **and**
- iii) outlining what other museums might learn from the exhibition.

(Write about 300 words)

Use your own words as far as possible. No marks for answers copied from the reading text.

From: kim@mail.com
To: joeyg@frooglemail.com
Subject: Exhibition

Hi Joey

So, you're off to the 'Past Sounds' exhibition at the History Museum! I can't get enough of it!

Before I went, I couldn't have imagined anything more boring than an exhibition of hundreds of sound recordings. But I was blown away by the variety of recordings – from political speeches to animal sounds.

And it isn't just the recordings that hit the spot. The photo collections and the old recording machines didn't disappoint either – surprisingly!

Another plus was the numerous listening posts with headphones. Without so many of these, the queues might have been unbearable. I've been dipping into some recordings during my lunch hours – very easy for locals to pop in and out!

I admit that, at first, I nearly gave up because of the sheer number of recordings to choose from, and, indeed, some others did. Not a great start, but eventually spotting a helpful timeline on the wall saved the day, with the recordings listed by date. Without this, I wouldn't have made such good choices. Head straight for the timeline – and take your glasses as the print's really small! I was pretty irritated by the lack of information generally. But I managed to get going, and it didn't spoil my enjoyment of the recordings, nor most other people's. Once you start listening, the impressive content of the recordings can't be ignored.

Not 100% perfect, I know, but others should note the success of this exhibition. Museums can't function on air, of course, but this proved that exhibitions can bring in money. With no set admission charge, just a donation box (which people were putting money into), everyone's a winner. The range of exhibits was impressive and what quality! And if I had to highlight one good thing, it would be not cramming too much into too little space. A welcome change!

Enjoy the exhibition!

Love
Kim

'PAST SOUNDS'

As I wrote a few days ago, I visited the brand-new exhibition at the local museum and it wasn't as I expected. My preconceived ideas were so varied and so negative that when I found myself there, I was completely stunned.

At first, I'll be frank, I wasn't really fussed and my first impression was as poor as I expected, because of a scheme that didn't offer enough information about the recordings. On the other hand, I was grateful to see that they were ordered by their date.

In addition, I must say that the vast quantity of material is better than imagined, with a range of ancient pictures and machines which were used to record sounds a long time ago. @Kim 11:05

@Jo-ey 11:17

I'm afraid I can't agree with you @Kim, when I visited the exhibition, my first impression was that it was plenty of information and, I don't know if you realized because you didn't include it, but there was a collection of recordings that could be heard with headphones. About the preconceived ideas, I admit that I hadn't great expectations, but I found the collection astonishing.

11:19 @Bill

I know overpopulation is a problem in some places of the world but, is it really necessary to spend ages to listen to a baby crying?

1 ANSWER

@Jo-ey 11:20

I couldn't agree more, that almost made me leave without having finished.

@Kim 11:24

I can see your view, but for me this is a minor problem. The exhibition has more pros than cons and one of the most positive points that I could see was that it could create a path which many other museums should follow. One of the first steps would be the removal of extra charges for visiting the exhibition, followed by the inclusion of a wider variety of exhibits.

Word count: 294

Rationale

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
<p>This is a satisfactory execution of the task. The candidate refers to source material although not in depth and therefore partial understanding of source material is demonstrated. All parts of the question are covered although there is little development, eg the negative aspects of the exhibition are mentioned rather than their impact evaluated – as per the instructions of the task.</p> <p>*Tip: Candidates must analyse the task in detail and ensure that all requirements of the task are satisfied. Failure to do so will have a detrimental effect on the grade awarded.</p>
Text organisation
<p>The text is a well-structured online forum, with the contributors' names and times of their posts and shows the interaction between the various contributors with suitable expressions, eg 'I'm afraid I can't agree with you', 'I couldn't agree more', 'I can see your view'. There is a logical development of ideas and arguments as the contributions are added and, overall, the response flows well and is easy to read.</p>
Appropriacy of format, style and register
<p>Appropriate format, style and register are generally realised. However, along with the phrases mentioned above, some of the language, eg '...in addition...' is a little too formal for an online forum. However the use of language such as 'I was completely stunned' and 'I wasn't really fussed' demonstrates an awareness of style and register overall.</p> <p>*Tip: At this level, candidates are expected to appreciate subtle distinctions of style.</p>
Effect on the reader
<p>Overall, the desired effect on the reader is achieved.</p>

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: D
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
<p>Although there is a satisfactory level of accuracy in most of the response, the range of grammatical, functional and lexical items is restricted for the level. While errors do not impede understanding, they are quite basic (eg 'it was plenty of information', 'I hadn't great expectations', '...spend ages to listen to...').</p>
Spelling and punctuation
<p>Spelling is good (there is only one error, ie '...by the inclusison...'). Punctuation is satisfactory, although some sentences are rather long (eg Jo-ey's first post).</p>

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

'I think the reward for conformity is that everyone likes you but yourself.'

(Rita Mae Brown, Writer, 1944)

Write an essay:

- i) discussing what the writer implies about the ways people behave in society
- ii) evaluating how far you think this statement is applicable to all situations **and**
- iii) giving relevant examples to illustrate your viewpoint.

(Write about 250 words)

“Self-acceptance and the key to fulfillment.”

Most people are nowadays concerned about social constructs and how they affect their daily lives. There was a point in history when we started highly regarding other people's impressions about us, instead of caring about our true inner self. That ceaseless pursuit of external, instant reward has led many of us into an absence of self-esteem.

Consequently, Rita Mae Brown's statement could not be any more revealing and sincere. Due to the high expectations our acquaintances set on us, we have gradually become people-pleasers, instead of discovering who we really are. Therefore, people nowadays act, dress and eat according to what society imposes.

In addition, we have progressively become more conformist and simple-minded just to satisfy other's demands.

We upgrade our cars, buy brands new phones or purchase the latest trends in fashion in order to find a place for ourselves in a society that praises the lack of social values. Plus, we have forgotten how to say “NO”, simply because we fear social rejection. Nevertheless, the main thrust is that everytime we are too scared to share our point of view, we are denying our true inner self.

In conclusion, I am inclined to believe that the more transparent and straight-forward we are, the more we will accept ourselves as who we truly are. The key to a fulfilled and complete life is self-acceptance, rather than just accepting someone else's compliments as a source of happiness.

Word count: 237

Rationale

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: A
Overall achievement of communicative aim
This is an excellent execution of the task. All the requirements of the task are completely satisfied with no omissions or irrelevance. The candidate fully explores the quotation, expands appropriately on all points and provides complex ideas and well thought out examples with clarity and precision.
Text organisation
The response is very well-organised into appropriate paragraphs. All ideas are very clearly presented and progress logically with appropriate expansion. The quick succession of new ideas and arguments engages the reader from start to finish. The candidate uses simple cohesive devices effectively and the response flows well.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The format, style and register are appropriate and consistent, with a clear introduction and conclusion. It reads very well as an essay.
Effect on the reader
A totally positive effect on the reader.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: A
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
The candidate displays a comprehensive and reliable mastery of a very wide range of language to write fluently and convincingly at this level with a high degree of accuracy. The lexis used is perfectly suited to the task (eg 'social constructs', 'people-pleasers', 'we fear social rejection'). Sentences are a little short at times but, in the case of this essay, they are effective.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling is highly accurate and punctuation is used correctly throughout.