

General Certificate of Education
January 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 2 Using Language

EA2W

Wednesday 12 January 2005 9.00 am to 11.30 am

In addition to this paper you will require:
a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is EA2W.
- There are **three** Sections:
 - Section A:** Language Analysis
 - Section B:** Language Production
 - Section C:** Commentary on Language Production
- You must answer all four questions.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 120.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- Each question is worth equal marks.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Advice

- It is recommended that you spend 30 minutes studying and preparing the source materials for the Language Analysis and Language Production tasks.

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE

SECTION A – Language Analysis

Answer Question 1.

1 Text A, which you will find on pages 4 and 5, is a leaflet entitled *Mobile Phones and Health* published by the Department of Health in 2000.

- Comment linguistically on the significant features of the text.
- Explain how these language features contribute to the text's meanings.

In your answer you should consider:

vocabulary and meanings
grammatical features, including sentence functions, types and structures
how language is used to inform, advise and raise awareness.

(30 marks)

Text A – For use in Section A – Language Analysis

Mobile Phones and Health

Using mobile phones

Over half the people in Britain have mobile phones. In a wide variety of settings - at work, at home, out and about, for convenience and security - they have become part of our way of life.

Mobile phones are low power devices that emit and receive radio waves. These connect each phone to a network of base stations, so that users can make and receive calls.

Radio waves have been used for communication for over 100 years. But the speed with which mobile phones have become so widely used is unprecedented. This has led to public concern about their possible impact on health.

This leaflet offers the latest information and advice based on both current knowledge and remaining uncertainties so that people can make their own informed choices about how to use mobile phones.

It also outlines further work that is under way.

Independent assessment

Radio waves emitted above a certain level can cause heating effects in the body. International guidelines seek to ensure that exposure is kept below that level. All mobile phones sold in the UK meet these guidelines.

The balance of current research evidence suggests that exposures to radio waves below levels set out in international guidelines do not cause health problems for the general population. However, there is some evidence that changes in brain activity can occur below these guidelines, but it isn't clear why. There are significant gaps in our scientific knowledge. This has led a group of independent experts - commissioned by Government and headed by Sir William Stewart - to recommend "a precautionary approach" to the use of mobile phones until more research findings become available. If you use a mobile phone, you can choose to minimise your exposure to radio waves. These are ways to do so:

- keep your calls short
- consider relative SAR values (see over page) when buying a new phone.

Children and young people under 16

Mobile phones are very popular with young people and have obvious attractions for personal security and keeping in touch with others. Parents and young people should make their own informed choices about the use of mobile phones. The current balance of evidence does not show health problems caused by using mobile phones.



However the research does show that using mobile phones affects brain activity. There are also significant gaps in our scientific knowledge. Because the head and nervous system are still developing into the teenage years, the expert group considered that if there are any unrecognised health risks from mobile phone use, then children and young people might be more vulnerable than adults.

The expert group has therefore recommended that in line with a precautionary approach, the widespread use of mobile phones by children (under the age of 16) should be discouraged for non-essential calls.

In the light of this recommendation the UK Chief Medical Officers strongly advise that where children and young people do use mobile phones, they should be encouraged to:

- use mobile phones for essential purposes only
- keep all calls short - talking for long periods prolongs exposure and should be discouraged

The UK CMOs recommend that if parents want to avoid their children being subject to any possible risk that might be identified in the future, the way to do so is to exercise their choice not to let their children use mobile phones.

SAR values

It is possible to measure how much radio wave energy your body receives from each model of mobile phone.

This is called the specific absorption rate or SAR. From 2001, there will be a European Standard method for measuring the SAR. This information will be provided to consumers for each model of mobile phone sold in the UK from this time. Users may wish to take account of these relative SAR values when choosing a mobile phone. All models sold in the UK already meet international exposure guidelines.

Hands-free kit

The level of effectiveness of hands free kit to reduce SAR is still uncertain. Further research is being carried out to investigate SAR levels when using phones with hands free kit and the results will be made available as soon as they are completed.

Action by Government

The advice in this leaflet is based on a report for the Government, published in May 2000, by a group of independent experts led by Sir William Stewart. The group looked at recent research, took evidence from scientists, and listened to the views of the public at open meetings around the UK.

The Government is already putting some of its main recommendations into practice. On the advice of the Stewart Group further major research, funded by government and the mobile phone industry, is now being undertaken.

For further information visit the websites

- Department of Health
website: www.doh.gov.uk/mobilephones
- Report of the Stewart Group
website: www.iegmp.org.uk
- World Health Organisation
website: www.who.int
- National Radiological Protection Board
website: www.nrpb.org.uk

or write to: NRPB, Chilton, Didcot, OX11 0RQ

If you are concerned about a mobile phone base station in your neighbourhood, look for the companion leaflet Mobile phone Base stations and Health.

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TURN OVER FOR SECTION B

SECTION B – Language Production

Answer Questions 2 and 3.

- 2** You have been asked to produce a leaflet to advise teenagers on the health risks associated with tattoos. The leaflet will be available in schools, pharmacies and doctors' surgeries. Your leaflet should be about 400 words long. Give brief indications of design features.

In your answer you should draw on the ideas contained in **Text B** which you will find on pages 7, 8 and 9. You will need to select appropriate ideas and adapt the way they are expressed to suit the needs of your new audience.

(30 marks)

- 3** Your local art gallery is staging an exhibition on the cultural history of tattooing. Write the text for an information board to stand at the entrance to the exhibition. Your information board text should be about 200 words long.

In your answer you should draw on the ideas contained in **Text C** which you will find on pages 10, 11 and 12. You will need to select appropriate ideas and adapt the way they are expressed to suit the needs of your new audience.

(30 marks)

SECTION C – Commentary on Language Production

Answer Question 4.

- 4** Explain the linguistic devices you have used to make your leaflet and information board suitable for their different purposes. Use examples from your texts to illustrate your points and provide reasons for your linguistic choices.

(30 marks)

Texts B and C for use in Section B – Language Production

Text B is a page entitled *Piercing and tattoos* from the British Medical Association website.

Text C is a page entitled *How Tattoos Work* from the howstuffworks website.

Text B

Text B (pages 7-9) is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Text C

Text C (pages 10-12) is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

END OF TEXTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Text A: *Mobile Phones and Health* (The Department of Health, The National Assembly for Wales, Scottish Executive, the Northern Ireland Executive) 2000

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