

Multiple Choice

Cardiff Castle

It's far from a traditional Welsh castle, more a collection of disparate castles scattered around a central green, encompassing practically the whole history of Cardiff. The most conventionally castle-like bits are the motte-and-bailey Norman shell keep at its centre (built in wood in around 1081 and rebuilt in stone in 1135) and the 13th-century Black Tower that forms the entrance gate.

What does the word 'disparate' mean in the text? [1]

- a) Dispersed
- b) Distressed
- c) Parallel
- d) Unrelated

A 50-minute guided tour takes you through the interiors, from the winter smoking room in the clock-tower with decor expounding on the theme of time (zodiac symbols grouped into seasons, Norse gods representing the days of the week, and a fright for anyone who dares listen at the door – look up as you pass through the doorway)

What does 'expounding on' mean in the text? [1]

- a) Banging
- b) Detailing
- c) Decorating
- d) Fitting

to the mahogany-and-mirrors narcissism of Lord Bute's bedroom, with a gilded statue of St John the Evangelist (the marquess' name saint) and 189 bevelled mirrors on the ceiling, which reflect the name 'John' in Greek.

What does the word 'narcissism' mean in the text? [1]

- a) Self-admiration
- b) Richness
- c) Nastiness
- d) Vain

Text Purposes and Reliability

The extract below is about Will Gane's experience running the 'Badwater' Ultra Marathon – a 135 mile running race through the desert, from ESPN.com, an American Sports website.

Why I'm running the world's toughest race, 135 miles through Death Valley

Entry into Badwater is as tough as the race itself. A panel meticulously reviews each applicant's endurance credentials and their answers to questions including, "Why do you want to run Badwater?" I knew I wanted to run with a purpose. But I was afraid and less than confident. I didn't know how I would be received as a guy fighting for gender equality.

With the support and encouragement of incredible women who have come into my life, I founded Echo 37, a website and movement dedicated to elevating the extent of this problem, examining the causes and exploring solutions. The name of the website pays homage to aviation pioneer and proponent of gender equality Amelia Earhart, the author of my favorite quote: "Never interrupt someone doing something you said could not be done."

The iconic status of Badwater has also helped me to raise funds for Girls on the Run (GOTR), a nonprofit I'm working to help the next generation of women to grow up strong, confident and empowered. There is no way someone could have convinced me to run 3.1 miles when I was 10, but these young girls are doing it and loving it, and they are going to go on to do great things.

Badwater is a symbol of strength and unity. It's not uncommon for a runner to stop to aid another who has stopped due to dehydration, hunger or exhaustion. Some endurance races involve crews who support and guide their runners, a mandatory component of Badwater. I have seen crews help all types of runners, and at times, have sought their help when I was in need of extra water or Gatorade.

At the Daytona 100 Ultramarathon last December, one runner's crew made cookies and handed them out to participants at mile 70. I can't explain how awesome it felt to be handed a cookie after running for 17 hours. Badwater epitomizes the proverb, "To run fast, run alone; to run far, run together."

Tick the statement that best summarises this text.

[1]

A – This text describes how he felt after the race

B – The text describes his journey through the desert

C – The text describes his reasons for running and preparation for the race

D – The text is about how to survive ultra-marathons

Write 'T' or 'F' in the boxes below to show whether you agree or disagree with the statements about the text's purpose. [4]

Statement	True or False
The text is aimed at one individual reader.	
The text is written to inform and entertain the general public.	
The text is written to help personal trainers with their careers.	
The text is intended to help students who study sports in school.	

Match the four text purposes to their definitions. [1]

Personal	A text about a specific job or career
Public	A text intended for a single, private reader
Occupational	A text used to help someone learn
Educational	A text intended for general use by everyone

Tick the box that best describes the purpose of this text. [1]

- Personal use
- Public use
- Occupational use
- Educational use

Summarise

Top tips:

Use your own words (synonyms)

Use bullet points (look at how many marks the question is so you make as many points)

Do not use quotations

Bryson's Wales

And so it was that I found myself, one warm early autumn evening, strolling along Llandudno's grand and sweeping promenade to the small and stylishly discreet St

Tudno Hotel. From without St Tudno's is largely indistinguishable from the other hotels that line Llandudno's sweeping front, but step inside and you find yourself immersed in a honeyed glow of Victorian elegance and smothered with kindness by Janette and Martin Bland, the proud owners, and their attentive staff.

Martin and Janette Bland bought St Tudno's nearly 30 years ago when it was an anonymous and declining B&B and have invested a lifetime in building it up. It has won a flock of awards, including Best Seaside Resort Hotel and — twice — Best Hotel Loos in Great Britain. I never scorn a spotless loo, but in fact it is the snug bar and outstanding restaurant that will bring me back again and again. Chefs Stephen Duffy and David Harding produce exquisite dishes night after night, much of it locally sourced. I had a saddle of lamb that was simply unimprovable.

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In your own words, summarise five things you learn about St Tudno's Hotel. **[5]**

The Fastest Lady on Two Wheels, by Petronella Wyatt

"Stop going so fast," I scream at Milky. He accelerates. Then he decides to brake. My head flies forward as if it has been severed by an axe.

"I just thought I'd stop to point out areas of interest," Milky explains. "We are approaching Ballagarey Corner. It's one of the most dangerous on the circuit." He continues cheerfully, "Once, I lost a mate there."

"Lost him? You mean he took a wrong turning?"

"No, he crashed and went home in a coffin."

We round the corner at 120 mph. Sweat is trickling down my arms. Another graveyard flashes by. Does this island consist only of graveyards? Finally, we leave for the Snaefell Mountain Course. Milky tells me we will get up to such speed that to any bystanders I will be a blur. I say I do not want to be a blur. I can see the obituary in the papers: 'A blur died yesterday while attempting the Isle of Man TT course.'

But there is no reasoning with Milky, who is not only high on adrenaline, but convinced I am his best ever pillion passenger. The mountain course dips and swerves, and there are boulders and abysses everywhere. I see a few sheep. I suppose if I have to land on anything, I would rather it was a sheep. As Milky opens the throttle again, we hurtle past another discouraging sign: 'Be very careful. 164 casualties in 3 years.'

We are on dangerous ground. In fact, we are no longer on the ground at all. We are going so fast we are flying three feet above it. "Where's the bloody ground gone?" I croak. Scenery seems to be zooming towards me. All at once we are back on the ground, but I don't like it any better, for my left ear is nearly scraping it. A passing lorry almost hits us. I think I am going to black out.

Then suddenly, I feel a massive surge of adrenaline. It has finally happened and I want it to go on forever. But Milky slows down and finally brakes. "How fast did we go?" I gasp. He looks at me oddly. He tells me we have hit 166 mph and have broken the course's pillion speed record.

I shriek with ecstasy and insist we do a lap of triumph. I punch the air and shout out, "Look at me. I'm on top of the world."

Summarise Petronella Wyatt's experience riding as a passenger on the TT motorcycle course.

[10]

Section B: Writing

What to do?

You will need to complete 2 tasks in this section, based on argumentation and persuasion. You can draw upon reading materials from section A where appropriate.

You could be asked to write any type of non-fiction writing which include: letter (formal or informal), review, leaflet, guide, speech or article.

Each task is worth 20 marks each (10 marks for communication and organisation; 10 marks for written accuracy).

Aim to write 250 words (around 1 ½ sides of A4).

DON'T WASTE TIME COUNTING WORDS!

Varied sentence openings:

Present tense participle (-ing word)

Visiting St Fagans, was both enlightening and enjoyable.

Past tense participle

Damaged by the huge energy bills, we have to make a commitment to save energy.

Subordinate clause

As we draw closer to the dreaded exams, it is imperative that we remain focused.

Preposition

Within our local community, it seems ridiculous to host a motorcycle race.

Pair of adjectives

Traditional and authentic, the museum has so much character to offer.

Student Friendly Criteria

Band	Communicating and organising	Band	Writing accurately
5 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The writing is grown up. ▪ There is a range of clever rhetorical/literary devices and the piece is very engaging. ▪ You've adapted what you say and how you say it to suit the purpose and audience. ▪ You have used your imagination and how you write is original. ▪ The writing is organised into paragraphs and they are linked by concluding and topic sentences. ▪ FLAIR 	5 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lots of interesting and unusual words are used correctly and for effect. ▪ You vary your sentence structure to achieve a particular effect. ▪ You can use capital letters . , ' ? ! : ; - () ... correctly all of the time. ▪ All spelling, including harder and more complex words, is correct. ▪ You don't switch between tenses and always make sense. ▪ FLAIR
4 7/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The content is well-judged (you've picked the best things to say). ▪ You've adapted what you say and how you say it to suit the purpose and audience. ▪ Lots of rhetorical/literary devices are used for effect. ▪ The writing is organised into paragraphs and they are linked by concluding and topic sentences. 	4 7/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lots of interesting and unusual words are used correctly. ▪ You vary your sentence structure to achieve a particular effect. ▪ You can use capital letters . , ' ? ! : ; ... correctly all of the time. ▪ All spelling, including harder words, is correct. ▪ You don't switch between tenses and always make sense.
3 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The sentences make sense and most of it is interesting. ▪ There is a clear awareness of purpose and audience. ▪ Some rhetorical/literary devices are used for effect. ▪ The writing is organised into paragraphs and they link sequentially. 	3 5/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lots of interesting words are used correctly. ▪ You start sentences in different ways and use subordinate clauses. ▪ You can use capital letters . , ' ? ! : ; ... correctly most of the time. ▪ Most spelling, including harder words, is correct. ▪ You don't switch between tenses and always make sense.
2 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The sentences make sense. ▪ It kind of suits the purpose/audience. ▪ The examiner can see you've tried to make it interesting. ▪ There are paragraphs. 	2 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some interesting words are used. ▪ You sometimes start sentences in different ways. ▪ You can use capital letters . , ' ? ; correctly most of the time. ▪ Most spelling is correct. ▪ You don't switch between tenses. ▪ You usually make sense.
1 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The sentences make sense. ▪ There is organisation (e.g. one point leads on to another). ▪ It kind of suits the purpose and audience but not always. 	1 1/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Everyday words are used. ▪ Most sentences are structured in the same way. ▪ You can use capital letters . , ' ? correctly sometimes. ▪ Some spelling is right. ▪ You sometimes switch between tenses. ▪ Some of your grammar is awkward. You don't always make sense.

Lined writing area with horizontal lines.

A proposal has been made to hold a motorcycle race on the roads in your area. Write a letter to the local newspaper giving your views on this proposal.
