



GCSE

150/06

**ENGLISH
HIGHER TIER
PAPER 2**

A.M. THURSDAY, 12 November 2009

2 hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A 12 page answer book.

Resource Material for use with Section A.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **all** questions in Sections A and B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

You are advised to spend your time as follows:

Section A – about 50 minutes

Section B

Q. B1 – about 35 minutes

Q. B2 – about 35 minutes

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A (Reading): 40 marks

Section B (Writing): 40 marks

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

SECTION A: 40 marks

Answer **all** the following questions.

The Resource Material for use with Section A is an article by Michael Hanlon, 'The snows of Kilimanjaro'.

The text on the opposite page is a factsheet produced by the WWF (World Wildlife Fund).

Look at the WWF factsheet on the opposite page.

Look at the first four paragraphs.

- A1.** What evidence does this factsheet use to show that climate change is already a serious problem? [10]

You may answer this question using bullet points if you wish.

Now look at the rest of the factsheet.

- A2.** Explain how and why the problems of climate change are likely to get worse, according to this factsheet. [10]

Now look at the article by Michael Hanlon in the separate Resource Material.

- A3.** How does Michael Hanlon try to persuade his readers to 'think more deeply' about global warming?

Think about:

- what he says;
- how he says it. [10]

To answer this question you will need to consider both texts.

- A4.** Compare and contrast what the WWF and Michael Hanlon say about the effects of climate change on **Britain**.

Organise your answer into two paragraphs using the following headings:

- what the WWF says;
- what Michael Hanlon says. [10]

WWF FACTSHEET



Nowhere is safe from the effects of climate change, and we are seeing the first signs of change now. Glaciers are already melting in places as far apart as Switzerland and New Zealand, bringing with them avalanches, soil erosion and dramatic changes to river flows. While Mount Kenya's largest glacier has lost 92 per cent of its mass since the late 1800s, 2,000 glaciers in the eastern Himalayas have disappeared in the last century. These stark statistics speak for themselves.

Away from the mountains, the oceans and seas are warming, causing coral to die and putting many marine creatures at risk. Global warming has caused Arctic temperatures to rise by 5°C over the past 100 years, and the amount of sea ice – essential to the survival of the polar bear – has decreased by six per cent over the past 20 years. Already, fewer than 44 per cent survive the ice-free season.

Cold kills germs and disease-bearing insects such as the mosquito. But as the planet warms up, germs, bacteria and other carriers will multiply. Longer and hotter heatwaves caused by climate change are already creating perfect breeding conditions for rats and other pests, and diseases such as plague and malaria are on the increase.

Scientists around the world are telling us urgently that climate change is real, it is here, and it is serious.

At the speed our climate is changing, the world will soon be warmer than at any time in the last 10,000 years. Climate scientists are telling us to expect an average temperature increase of between 1.4°C and 5.8°C over the next 100 years.

Warmer water occupies more space than cold water, so as the oceans gradually heat up, they also expand – threatening to inundate low-lying coastal regions, many Pacific islands, and coastal wetlands as far afield as Argentina and Bangladesh, Nigeria and the United States.

But it's not just warmer weather that's causing concern. We are talking about climate change, not just global warming, and this is likely to cause more weather extremes, such as heavy rainfall, storms and floods, or prolonged drought. El Niño periods, which already turn the weather upside down in the Pacific every few years, may become more frequent and intense.

Among the other victims of climate change will be some of our most treasured habitats and species. Some animals will be able to adapt to a warmer world, but for many the change will be too abrupt and they will die. Because we've destroyed so many wild spaces, some species will simply have no suitable place to which they can move.

Scientists now predict a 60 per cent loss of summer sea ice by around 2050, which would more than double the Arctic's ice-free season from 60 to 150 days. Sea ice is used by polar bears as a platform from which they hunt ringed and bearded seals, their primary prey. Retreating ice cover and longer ice-free periods limit the time the bears can spend on the ice, so they will have to use more of their vital fat resources to survive during the longer summer season. That means their body weight will fall – and lower body weight reduces female bears' ability to produce milk, which in turn leads to greater mortality among cubs.

In the UK, winters will become wetter and summers will become drier. Sea levels will continue to rise, threatening the south and east coasts in particular. Skiing in Scotland is likely to become a thing of the past as the amount of snowfall decreases by up to 90 per cent. There are even some suggestions that climate change could affect the Gulf Stream, giving the British Isles a colder rather than a warmer climate. We simply can't predict with total certainty what will happen. But do we really want to risk such potential consequences? It may not be too late for action – so long as we act now.

Reproduced from WWF article "Climate Change" (www.wwf.org.uk)

SECTION B: 40 marks

Answer Question B1 and Question B2.

*In this section you will be assessed for your writing skills, including the presentation of your work.
Take special care with handwriting, spelling, punctuation and layout.*

Think about the purpose and audience for your writing.

A guide to the amount you should write is given with each question.

B1. The WWF believes that we must “act now” to protect the environment.

Write a letter to a newspaper about what, if anything, you think should be done to protect the environment. [20]

The quality of your writing is more important than its length. You should write about one to two pages in your answer book.

B2. Write a lively article for a teenage magazine about a famous person you either admire or dislike. [20]

The quality of your writing is more important than its length. You should write about one to two pages in your answer book.



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150/06-A

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Resource Material for use with Section A

The snows of Kilimanjaro – which AREN'T melting – and inconvenient questions about global warming

Just three degrees south of the Equator lies one of the world's natural wonders. The snows of Kilimanjaro, on top of Africa's highest peak, are fabled among climbers and photographers.

The icy cap of this extinct, tropical volcano forms a surreal contrast to the sweltering plains below. The notion of the melting snows of Kilimanjaro – meaning 'shining mountain' in Swahili – has also become an essential part of the environmental movement's beliefs about global warming. If you want to see climate change in action, say the green brigade, look no further than this lofty mountain in Tanzania. Yes, we can argue about ocean currents and hurricanes, heatwaves and floods, but here, on this near-20,000 ft summit, is the evidence for all to see.



Environmentalists say that the snows are shrinking and the glaciers melting. In just a few years, they will be gone – visible proof the planet is getting warmer. The threat is that dramatic warming will have many unwelcome consequences. Warmer seas and melting ice threaten flooding. The deserts will spread and forests may disappear. There are grim warnings of famine in Africa and the spread of malaria northwards into Europe.

Except, inconveniently perhaps, it seems this may not be the case at all. At a recent meeting in Vienna, scientists concluded that the Kilimanjaro ice is secure for decades to come. Indeed, they claim Kilimanjaro's glaciers have actually been growing in recent years.

The confusing story of Kilimanjaro illustrates one of the greatest problems for the green brigade. For global warming to remain at the top of the agenda, the public need to be not merely concerned – they need to be terrified. If we are to take the warming seriously, it must be shouted from the rooftops that we are witnessing the effects right now. Hence the fascination with Mount Kilimanjaro and the totally spurious linking of isolated *weather* events with a slow process of climate change.

The green brigade make a clear link between Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans in 2005, and global warming. A warmer world means warmer seas, and warmer seas mean more hurricanes. So, Hurricane Katrina was down to global warming, right?

Well, maybe, maybe not. The truth is Katrina was a perfectly ordinary hurricane which hit an extraordinary target. If it had come ashore 100 miles east or west, it might have killed a few fishermen, and we would probably never have heard of it. And it's not just hurricanes.

The flooding of Boscastle in Cornwall a few years ago was blamed on global warming, as were the Millennium downpours that submerged half of Sussex. China's cities are

threatened by the spread of the Gobi Desert and, like the Great Heatwave of 2003, these phenomena have all been blamed on climate change. But the reality is more complicated. China has been threatened by deserts for hundreds of years. The Boscastle floods have happened before and will occur again, and the Millennium floods were nothing out of the ordinary.

The trouble is, the whole issue is confusing. Yes, global warming may eventually melt the Greenland ice sheet, but this will take hundreds, if not thousands, of years – not decades. Yes, our weather may change, but we are not yet sure how. Maybe it will become wetter, maybe drier. Yes, there may be more heatwaves. But, equally, this summer, or the next, may be a washout. It's all a question of the long term – not next week. But that doesn't stop campaigners from claiming that sea levels will rise by tens of metres in our lifetime, and showing us maps of the British Isles reduced to a scattered range of semi-submerged mountain tops. Nor will the old chestnut about global warming turning off the Gulf Stream go away. Experts accept that this won't happen – but it has become a green 'truth' that climate change could plunge Britain into a Siberian deep-freeze (if, of course, the heatwaves don't get us first).

All this amounts to a classic case of crying wolf. If every time the wind blows, or it is a bit hot, or a bit cold, the green brigade shriek 'global warming', we will simply start to switch off our attention. The majority of people will say this is just the weather. One day it's hot, the next cold – that's how it always has been. People will say all this global warming is just cobblers, but, sadly, it is not cobblers and we need to think more deeply about it.

(Michael Hanlon, reproduced from the Daily Mail, April 19, 2007)