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GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR TEACHING FROM 2015

CPD AUTUMN 2018

COMPONENT 2 EXEMPLAR MATERIAL
(UNANNOTATED)

Reading Exemplars

Question 1.4

‘Pieter Sandrick gets across his feelings of increasing terror really well.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

You should comment on:

- what he says
- how he says it

[10]

You must refer to the text to support your comments.

Example 1

I really agree with this statement as he is scared when he says, “I cowered panic-stricken.” The word ‘cowered’ suggests that he feels weak and helpless. This would make the reader feel sorry for him but also want to read on to see what happened.

He also states that he’s “clinging to a tree” which implies that he’s desperate.

Example 2

I agree with this statement. This is because he does not seem too concerned at first: “Then we noticed that...”. The verb ‘noticed’ is rather passive and so shows that the people were not too bothered about the volcano being “completely covered in smoke.”

However, Sandrick’s terror is shown when ‘afterwards came the thick darkness’. The metaphor suggests the conditions were unbearable. In response, he is truly terrified: ‘I cowered panic-stricken’. The emotive adjectives show that he could not move, he was so scared. This makes the reader pity him.

Furthermore, Sandrick’s terror is shown by the description of the oncoming tsunami: ‘with a loud roar’ and ‘like a giant hand’. The use of personification and a simile show that he had no chance against the giant tidal wave as it swept over the town, leaving devastation.

His terror is increased which is shown by the devastation left by the tsunami: ‘many dead bodies’ and ‘how completely the place has been swept away’. The adverb shows that he does not know what to do now as his entire home has been destroyed.

Exemplar 3

I agree that Sandrick gets across his feelings as he builds up terror as the extract continues.

In the beginning, Sandrick describes how he feels grateful for his life: 'I can never be too thankful for such a miraculous escape as I had.' This shows how looking back the experience must have been horrifying as he feels lucky to have escaped. He then goes on to describe the sudden effects of the eruption 'could not see my hand before my eyes'. This begins to introduce the terror as he cannot see things clearly even up close. He then skilfully describes the deterioration which underlines panic and terror: 'Towards night, everything became worse.' He also shows his terrified actions towards the, 'deafening' eruptions as he 'cowered panic stricken'. He further successfully shows terror increasing as he describes the consistency of the volcano, 'constantly repeated shocks,' and how they were the, 'most terrifying.' Further on, he shows more effects of the volcano in a more reflective tone: 'sky had a dark depressing look.'

This shows how the 'towns people,' had almost become numb to the effects. He also shows a climax in terror as he highlights the size of the, 'wall of water'

Terror is skilfully shown as he describes the lack of preparation: 'no time to give any warning.' He shows a huge increase in terror when describing his actions towards the tsunami: 'ran for my life' underlining how he felt threat for his life. Finally, the highlight of terror as he reflects back: 'what I saw haunts me' underlining the impact of the tsunami.

Question 1.6

Both of these texts are about volcanoes that have erupted.

Compare:

- what the writers could see and hear of the exploding volcanoes
- how they get across their experiences to their readers [10]

You must use the text to support your comments and make it clear which text you are referring to.

Example 1

Tom Robbins chooses to see amazement in the eruption of a volcano, whilst Peter Sandrick had no choice but to see horror.

In Tom Robbins' account, Robbins describes the sight as 'mesmerising' and that 'the sound is thrilling and unexpected'. Here I am given the impression that Robbins was oblivious to the obvious danger presented at the crater. Robbins rather gives his sights and sounds the label of an 'unimaginable privilege' and 'breath taking wilderness'. This shows Robbins' more amazed reaction to an eruption. However, Sandrick is the opposite. Sandrick instead chose to use a more horrific choice of vocabulary to portray his negative experience. Sandrick uses 'feared', 'dreadful' and 'most terrifying' to truly explain how he reacted and felt towards Krakatoa's eruption.

Example 2

Both of the texts are about the volcanoes that have erupted but both texts have similarities and differences.

In the text by Tom Robbins he says that when they got closer to the volcano he could see a 'plume of smoke' which shows how quickly the reaction is of the volcano which is similar to Peter as he says that the volcano was 'completely covered in smoke'. The next thing Robbins says is that what they saw was 'so beautiful that it is easy to forget about the danger'. However, this is different to Sandrick as he says you 'could not see my hand before your eyes' because of the 'thick darkness' in the town which implies how bad the air was as they wouldn't have thought it was a nice thing to see. Another thing Robbins says is that the sound of the volcano is 'thrilling' from the 'low booms' which shows how he enjoyed listening to it erupting. This is different to Sandrick as he says the eruptions became 'deafening' which is completely different.

Overall, both texts have the differences and similarities but both texts are mainly different as Robbins enjoyed his experience and says it was a privilege to be there whereas Sandrick only talks about how horrible it was.

Example 3

In Pieter Sandrick's account he could see a 'shower of ashes' and 'large pieces of volcanic rock falling around'. This was then followed by a 'huge wall of water' becoming visible out to sea. However, Robbins witnesses a more explosive reaction with lava exploding 'up 100 metres in the air' as he witnessed the 'fiery crater' from only '500 metres away'. This shows that the two accounts were different. Sandrick describes the noise of the eruption as 'deafening' which resulted in him cowering 'panic-stricken'. The word 'cowering' suggests he is terrified and unable to do anything. This is in contrast to Robbins' account where he describes the 'low booms' of the exploding volcano as 'thrilling and unexpected'. The differences in tone was due to the circumstances of the events. Robbins was there as a tourist and was in very little imminent danger but for Sandrick his entire life was on the line.

Overall, Sandrick portrays his experience as extremely dangerous and life-threatening. This is done through the constant emphasis of how lucky he was to escape. He uses adjectives like 'miraculous' to describe his escape when he explains that he was one of 'only a handful of the population' who escaped death. This conveys the feeling that the eruption was a terrifying and life-changing experience, shown when he says it 'haunts me still', which shows the long term effects of the experience.

However, Robbins was writing to attract people to visit an eruption as a tourist so he puts forward a very positive slant on the event. He uses adjectives such as 'mesmerizing' and 'thrilling' to describe the eruption which is in direct contrast with Sandrick's report. Robbins constantly reminds his readers of the safety of visiting the volcano referring to 'helicopters' and '4x4's' which reassures the reader that they will be properly looked after, encouraging them to go.

Transactional/Persuasive Writing

Question 2.1

A travel magazine is inviting readers to submit articles on places for a good day out for all the family. You decide to write about a place that you know well, where there is a lot to do for everyone in the family.

Write your article.

[20]

Example 1

A Good Day Out

There are lots of great places to visit or a day out with lots of fun wholesome activities to do. But, what is the best day out? I am going to tell you my opinion on the best day out for all the family.

What do you need when looking for a place to go on a family day out with? You need fun, activities great sights and all for a fair price. And in my opinion Blackpool checks all of those boxes. Blackpool has a great number of things to do depending on what you want to do ranging from the blackpool tower to the pleasure beach. Whatever you decide to do it is always a lot of fun.

The Blackpool pleasure beach is arguably the most fun place to go whilst in blackpool because of all the rides you can go on. You could be in there for hours and not even notice because you were having so much fun. Even though the pleasure beach costs the most out of the activities it is definitely the most fun.

The Blackpool tower is definitely the most iconic place within Blackpool and now rather than going and standing up a tower for a couple of minutes you get the Blackpool tower experience which involves a ten minute 4D video about the Tower and how it was built and things like that and then you get to go up the tower and see the astonishing sights that you get to see from the tower

Overall, it is clear to see why I think that Blackpool is the greatest day out for the money it costs and the experiences you get from it will stay with you for a long time.

288 words

Example 2

Don't you just hate having nothing to do at the weekend, because I know I do. There are in fact plenty of thrilling activities to do that will brighten up your weekend. In this article I will be mentioning one of many places to go for a good day out that the whole family will enjoy.

The beach is a perfect place to go for a family day out, in particular I would recommend Brighton beach which is very close to the Brighton Pier. No matter the weather, the beach can be enjoyed at any time of the year.

I will begin by explaining why the beach is the perfect place to take your children. Kids love the beach because there is always something for them to do. They can play in the sand and sea, explore the wonders of beach and there is always an ice-cream van somewhere nearby for when your kids begin to bug you by begging for something to eat. If you go to Brighton beach you could also take them to the pier nearby that is jam-packed with all the rides their little hearts could ever desire. That's kids done, now time for the adults and parents.

If you are a parent reading this you will all agree that taking your children out is a chore. So you might as well make it worth your while by taking them somewhere where there is plenty for you to do too. Most parents like to just sit on the beach and relax, usually accompanied by a book. This is fine however the beach is full to the brim of other activities so why not give them a go. You could explore the beach with your children, take a few family photos to put in the family album and you could even go for a swim. I promise you you'll enjoy it.

You can't have a family day out without bringing the grandparents along. Good thing there is plenty for them to do at the beach. They could go for a little walk or just have some time to themselves while the rest of the family ventures about, or if they want they could join the rest of the family. If they want an adventure, I would also recommend going to one of the little caf  s that surround the beach. This is perfect for their daily fix of tea or coffee, but don't let them stay in there for too long or they'll miss out on all the fun.

Overall, the beach is the perfect day out because there is something fun to do for each family member and you can even have some quality family bonding time.

450 words

Example 3

Manchester: Fun For All The Family!

Need a break from that tedious office job? Or are the kids getting too crazy for you to handle? Or maybe you just need a fun day out for the whole family? Well, look no further because Manchester is the city for you! Whether it's museums or shopping, climbing or photography, there's something to keep everyone entertained (without breaking the bank!)

We've all been there –running a bit low on cash but need to keep the kids occupied for a couple of hours. What about a museum? I know, I know, it sounds boring, but hear me out. Manchester Science Museum provides the opportunity for the whole family to learn about interesting new things but in creative and fun ways! Every couple of months there's a new exhibition like space or the brain or cool chemistry; a great way to keep your kids interested in learning, even in the summer holidays!

Or, if science isn't your cup of tea, then what about Manchester Natural History Museum? It's packed full of fascinating relics and beautiful displays that give you a glimpse of what life was like in the animal kingdom 1000's of years ago. It's the perfect place to keep your whole family (and yourself!) entertained for hours on end. Don't forget to stop by the cosy but affordable coffee shop whilst you're there!

However, I know that wandering around a museum for a couple of hours might not be every member of the families idea of relaxing, but maybe a huge shopping centre is! Manchester is filled with every store you could every need but if you're looking for something indoors then what about the Trafford Centre? With it's beautifully painted ceilings and it's creative fountains, the Trafford Centre is the perfect place to search for that certain book or new bit of makeup (that you don't really need but definitely deserve!)

Perhaps you and your family are more of the adventurous type? Well, Manchester has its very own climbing centre! Built in an abandoned cathedral, it's the ideal activity for either experienced climbers looking for a challenge, or a family of beginners wanting a bit of fun! Plus, the climbing centre gives a great discount for the first time visitors, so why not push yourself and have a great new experience with the whole family?

So, whether you're looking for a cheap day out or to blow off a little steam, Manchester offers it all! Whatever the weather, whatever the occasion, there's something for you and your whole family.

420 words