

Integrated Skills in English

ISE IV



The Controlled Written examination

Pilot Examination

January 2008

10.00am-1.00pm

Your full name:
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Candidate registration number:

Centre:

Time allowed: 3 hours

Instructions to candidates

1. Write your name, candidate number and centre number on the front of this examination paper.
2. You must not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
3. This examination paper contains **three** tasks. You must complete **all** tasks.
4. Use blue or black pen, not pencil.
5. Write your answers on the examination paper.
6. Do all rough work on the examination paper. Cross through any work you do not want marked.
7. You must not use a dictionary in this examination.
8. You must not use correction fluid on the examination paper.

Information for candidates

The tasks in this examination have equal weighting.

You are advised to spend about 75 minutes on Task 1, 60 minutes on Task 2 and about 45 minutes on Task 3.

| Examiner's use only | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Task 1 | | | | | |
| Task fulfilment | A | B | C | D | E |
| Accuracy and range | A | B | C | D | E |
| Task 2 | | | | | |
| Task fulfilment | A | B | C | D | E |
| Accuracy and range | A | B | C | D | E |
| Task 3 | | | | | |
| Task fulfilment | A | B | C | D | E |
| Accuracy and range | A | B | C | D | E |

Integrated Skills in English IV

Time allowed: 3 hours

This examination paper contains three tasks. You must complete all tasks.

Task 1 – Reading into writing task (text synthesis)

Read the information below. Then, **in your own words**, write a formal report (approximately 350 words) for a global development think tank:

- i) summarising the information given about the British Government's plans to reduce the country's carbon footprint, evaluating the motivational impact of saving money on saving energy **and**
- ii) discussing to what extent you consider 'environmental issues are now political issues', illustrating your viewpoint with relevant examples.

New gadget puts the finger on Britain's waste of power

It's the size of a CD case, sits on your kitchen worktop and could transform household habits. What is more, it is coming to homes across the UK to reduce the country's carbon footprint. Enter the 'real-time display' or, to you and me, a power meter.

While nuclear power and the prospect of Britain 'running out of electricity' dominate the energy debate, the Government announced plans for real-time displays to improve household efficiency. In the Energy White Paper, ministers said that power companies should offer real-time displays from next year. In addition, the Government wants 'smart meters' to be implemented within a decade. Displays show consumers how much power they are using and at what cost. Smart meters combine this process with a payment meter linked to an energy companies' headquarters.

The units are programmed to the user's 'eco-profile' – the size of house and number of householders – the time, as well as a power tariff. The display then tells you the amount of power you are using and how much it is costing, hour by hour, month by month. Switch a light on and the rate rises slightly. Seeing the cost per month drop before your eyes as you switch off unnecessary lighting, standby buttons or over-charged mobile phones, helps to concentrate the mind as does a happy/sad face on the monitor.

The Government estimates users will save about £5 a month, which might not sound a lot, but multiply that by the number of households across the country and that is a lot of cash and carbon. Appliances left on unnecessarily are estimated to waste £900 million of electricity a year, with a typical household wasting £25 just by leaving them on standby. The power company, SSE, is in talks with the Government about running a widespread pilot scheme. SSE acknowledges the paradox of a power firm issuing gadgets which deter customers from using electricity. 'We live in a changed world where environmental issues are now political issues. We need to embrace that,' the spokesman says.

A recent study in Canada showed that homes with display metres recorded savings of 6.5% over two years. A drop like that could help the Government to reduce carbon emissions by 400,000 tonnes every year, the equivalent of taking 100,000 cars off the road.

Phillip Sellwood, Chief Executive of the Energy Saving Trust, said: 'Saving money remains the biggest incentive for people saving energy, and in April this year 93 per cent of people cited this as the major reason why they plan to change their behaviour'.

(Source: Adapted from *The Times*, 26 May 2007)

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

Task 2 – Reading into writing task (text transformation)

Read the texts below. Then, **in your own words**, present the information given as a formal article (approximately 300 words) discussing how 'The Zimmers Band' challenge society's perceptions of the elderly and commenting on strategies for longevity.

Rock elders aim for chart success

A rock band made up of senior citizens is making a bid for chart success to prove that older people have still got what it takes. The 40-strong band, which includes some centenarians, recorded My Generation at the legendary studio two at Abbey Road – the very place where the Beatles recorded most of their hits.

The group was the brainchild of documentary maker Tim Samuels, who has made a series about disenfranchised groups fighting back. 'This is about old people standing up to the society that has cast them aside,' says Samuels.

(Source: Adapted from www.news.bbc.co.uk, 2007)

Interview with Buster Martin, 100, of 'The Zimmers Band' and Sebastian Lander

You've had more than two million downloads for your band's cover of My Generation. Living the rock'n'roll life?

No, but I am getting lots of attention because people have seen me in a documentary about the band. I'm just an old man who likes to work. The closest I get to it is a singsong in the pub, and, if I feel like it, a dance.

Your answer to exercise?

Sometimes I do press-ups or go for a 10 mile run.

Are you pulling my leg? That's nearly a half-marathon. Can you touch your toes too?

Yes, but not all that well with my back as it is. When it's better I could challenge you to a 10 mile run and be waiting at the finish line for you.

Is your back an age-related ailment?

No. I slipped on a junk mail pamphlet. The doctor gave me some ointment but I can't reach my back, and I'd rather not take painkillers. You kill the pain for a while and then it comes back with a bang. The only way to get rid of it is to work it off.

Do you mean doing stretching exercises?

No, just working. I live 50 yards from where I work three days a week as a mechanic and a car valet.

So you are the ultimate workaholic?

Not a workaholic, I'm a keep-fit merchant, because if you keep on working, you keep fit.

Is this a work ethic that has been drummed into you from an early age?

When I was 10 I was put on a steam train from Cornwall to London by the orphanage I grew up in. I arrived at 10am and by midday I was working in a market. My job was pulling the stalls out and doing repairs.

What's the secret to a long life?

People keep asking me that. I just take life as it comes. If you worry about things too much, you worry yourself into a grave. If you're always happy, it's good for your body and your health.

(Source: Adapted from *The Times*, 2 June 2007)

