ENGLISH LANGUAGE – AS unit 1
Exploring Language

MONDAY, 14 MAY 2018 – MORNING

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer both questions: one question in Section A and one question in Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question. You should divide your time accordingly.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

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Section A

Analysing Language

1. The three texts on pages 4-6 present a range of reactions to the election of Donald Trump as American president in November 2016. Read Texts A, B and C and then answer the question below.

   Analyse and evaluate the language used in each of these texts to reflect the writers' reactions to Trump's victory.

   In your answer, you should consider:

   • the purpose of each text and the ways in which the writers engage their audiences

   • how the writers portray the impact of Trump's election

   • the similarities and/or differences between the texts. **[55]**

   Text A is an extract from an editorial in an American magazine *The New Yorker*. The magazine's editor, David Remnick, wrote the piece the day after the election.

   Text B is an online article published on Foxnews.com, the website of an American news network. It was written in the hours after the election.

   Text C is a Facebook post from the office of the British Prime Minister, Theresa May, written the day after the election.

Text A: an extract from an editorial published in *The New Yorker* magazine

An American Tragedy
by David Remnick
November 9th 2016

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The election of Donald Trump to the Presidency is nothing less than a tragedy for the American republic, a tragedy for the Constitution, and a triumph for the forces, at home and abroad, of nativism[1], authoritarianism, misogyny, and racism. Trump's shocking victory, his ascension to the Presidency, is a sickening event in the history of the United States and liberal democracy. On January 20, 2017, we will bid farewell to the first African-American President—a man of integrity, dignity, and generous spirit—and witness the inauguration of a con who did little to spurn endorsement by forces of xenophobia[2] and white supremacy. It is impossible to react to this moment with anything less than revulsion and profound anxiety.

There are, inevitably, miseries to come: an increasingly reactionary Supreme Court; an emboldened right-wing Congress; a President whose disdain for women and minorities, civil liberties and scientific fact, to say nothing of simple decency, has been repeatedly demonstrated.

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Trump is vulgarity unbounded, a knowledge-free national leader who will not only set markets tumbling but will strike fear into the hearts of the vulnerable, the weak, and, above all, the many varieties of Other whom he has so deeply insulted.

All along, Trump seemed like a twisted caricature of every rotten reflex of the radical right. That he has prevailed, that he has won this election, is a crushing blow to the spirit; it is an event

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that will likely cast the country into a period of economic, political, and social uncertainty that we cannot yet imagine. That the electorate has, in its plurality, decided to live in Trump's world of vanity, hate, arrogance, untruth, and recklessness is a fact that will lead, inevitably, to all manner of national decline and suffering.

It is all a dismal picture. Late last night, as the results were coming in from the last states, a

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friend called me full of sadness, full of anxiety about conflict, about war. Why not leave the country? But despair is no answer. To combat authoritarianism, to call out lies, to struggle honorably and fiercely in the name of American ideals—that is what is left to do. That is all there is to do.

[1]nativism - the policy of protecting the interests of native-born people
[2]xenophobia - the dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries

Text B: an extract from an online article published on Foxnews.com

Trump wins presidency, defeats Clinton in historic election upset
Published November 08, 2016
Foxnews.com

5 Donald Trump, defying the pundits and polls to the end, defeated Hillary Clinton in Tuesday's presidential election and claimed an establishment-stunning victory that exposes the depth of voter dissatisfaction – and signals immense changes ahead for American policy at home and abroad.

Speaking to cheering supporters early Wednesday morning at his victory party in New York City, President-Elect Trump said Clinton called to congratulate him, and Fox News confirms
10 she has conceded. Despite their hard-fought campaign, Trump praised Clinton for her service and said, "It is time for us to come together as one united people."

"I will be president for all Americans," Trump vowed, after a brief introduction by running mate Mike Pence. Sounding a call to "reclaim our country's destiny," Trump declared: "The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer. … America will no longer settle for
15 anything less than the best."

Trump will be the oldest president in U.S. history, entering the Oval Office at age 70. With her defeat, Clinton falls short in her second bid to become the first female president of the United States. Amid Trump's victory, his party also were projected to hold onto their majority, improving Trump's chances of advancing his agenda in office.

20 A surge of support in key battlegrounds – and especially surprise victories in states like Pennsylvania and Wisconsin – helped propel Trump to victory. Trump built a commanding lead early on with wins in heavily contested North Carolina, Florida, Ohio and Iowa.

Trump's victory marks the second time Clinton was thwarted in her bid to become the first female U.S. president, having been defeated by President Obama in their 2008 primary race.
25 But Trump has been able to defy expectations from the start. He defeated a deep field of 16 competitors during the Republican primaries – stitching together a motivated coalition of voters invigorated by his outsider, populist message; throwing his rivals off their talking points during a raucous marathon of debates; and commanding media attention throughout with his unpredictable, learn-as-he-goes campaign style.

30 He also defied party orthodoxy[1], railing against free-trade deals and staking out a sometimes-confusing set of positions on foreign policy that may yet evolve. Democrats have criticized him heavily for statements expressing admiration for Russia's Vladimir Putin and a desire to rebuild ties with Moscow.

[1]orthodoxy - accepted theory and practice

Text C: a post from the official Facebook page of the British Prime Minister

<u>**Theresa May**</u>
9 November 2016

10 Downing Street
I would like to congratulate Donald Trump on being elected the next President of the United States, following a hard-fought campaign.

Britain and the United States have an enduring and special relationship based on the values of freedom, democracy and enterprise.

We are, and will remain, strong and close partners on trade, security and defence.

I look forward to working with President-elect Donald Trump, building on these ties to ensure the security and prosperity of our nations in the years ahead. – Prime Minister Theresa May

<u>**Like**</u>   **Comment**   **Share**
14k

2,101 shares

Section B

Contemporary English

2. The following set of data is a selection of Instagram bios (biographies), where the contributors convey essential information about themselves.

Read the data then answer the question below. You should use appropriate terminology and provide relevant supporting examples.

Use your knowledge of contemporary English to analyse and evaluate the ways in which contextual factors affect how writers use language in these Instagram bios. **[25]**

TEXT 1 (an American politician)
Hillary Clinton
5 posts   100k followers   0 following
Doting grandmother, among other things. #Hillary2016 hrc.io/instagram

TEXT 2 (a photographer)
Instagram Famous Photographer
1923 posts   121k followers   1203 following
I have a ton of followers and IDK how it happened. People like me pics – metaphorically and literally. Honestly, I'm pretty talented, because I can make mundane situations look extraordinary. Why do I do it though? The 'likes' give me life. "Spiritual quote that has no connection to anything that has been said previously."
LinkToMyTumblrWhichIsJustThesePhotosButIfYouFollowMeThereTooIWon'tFeelDeadInside.com

TEXT 3 (an actor)
orlandobloom
143 posts   341k followers   177 following
orlandobloom Father, actor, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. Grateful for this human life experiment.

TEXT 4 (an aspiring comedian)
Mojtaylor3
369 posts   446 followers   495 following
mojtaylor Public speaker, runner, diver. Push_talks Exec, occasional zombie. #London #Cheshire …All views my gnome. Let's get #shituations in dictionary

TEXT 5 (an online cook)
Foodie
153 posts   2719 followers   301 following
I haven't eaten or prepared a meal in years without sharing it with the internet. It's my passion. #Foodie #DIYcook…Does it bother you that I apparently live in a fantastical land of majestic meals? If not, follow me on Pinterest for cooking projects you'll fail at.
Pinterest.com/ICreateUnrealisticStandardsOfCulinaryArtsForNormalPeople

TEXT 6 (the British Prime Minister)
ukprimeminister
47 posts   14.8k followers   10 following
UK Prime Minister The official account of the Prime Minister Theresa May, based at 10 Downing Street. www.number10.gov.uk

END OF PAPER