

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Insert

The source that follows is:

Source A: 21st Century prose-fiction

The Life of Pi by Yann Martel

An extract from the middle of a novel written in 2001

Please turn the page over to see the source

IB/G/Jun23/E5 **8700/1**

Source A

This extract is from the middle of a novel. The narrator, a teenage boy called Pi, is in a large lifeboat in the Pacific Ocean. There are no people with him in the lifeboat but there are several animals, including an orang-utan, a zebra and a hyena.

- It was the hyena that worried me. I had not forgotten Father's words. Hyenas attack in packs whatever animal can be run down. They go for zebras, gnus and water buffaloes, and not only the old or the infirm in a herd but full-grown members too. They are hardy attackers, rising up from buttings and kickings immediately,
- 5 never giving up for simple lack of will. And they are clever; anything that can be
- 6 distracted from its mother is good.

I could hear the hyena whining. I clung to the hope that a zebra, a familiar prey, and an orang-utan, an unfamiliar one, would distract it from thoughts of me. I kept one eye on the horizon, one eye on the other end of the lifeboat.

- I am not one to hold a prejudice against any animal, but it is a plain fact that the spotted hyena is not well served by its appearance. It is ugly beyond redemption. Its shaggy, coarse coat is a bungled mix of colours, with the spots having none of the classy ostentation of a leopard's, they look rather like the symptoms of a skin disease. The head is broad and too massive, with a high forehead, like that of a
- bear, but suffering from a receding hairline, and with ears that look ridiculously mouse-like, large and round, when they haven't been torn off in battle. The mouth is forever open and panting. The nostrils are too big. The tail is scraggly and unwagging. All the parts put together look doglike, but like no dog anyone would
- 19 want as a pet.
- I was hoping the hyena would stay under the tarpaulin. I was disappointed. Nearly immediately it leapt over the zebra and onto the stern bench. There it turned on itself a few times, whimpering and hesitating. I wondered what it was going to do next. The answer came quickly: it brought its head low and ran around the zebra in a circle, transforming the stern bench, the side benches and the cross bench just beyond the tarpaulin into a twenty-five-foot indoor track. It did one lap-two-three-four-five-and onwards, non-stop, till I lost count. And the whole time, lap after lap, it went yip yip yip yip yip in a high-pitched way.
 - My reaction, once again, was very slow. I was seized by fear and could only watch. The beast was going at a good clip, and it was no small animal. The beating of its legs against the benches made the whole boat shake, and its claws were loudly clicking on their surface. Each time it came from the stern I tensed. It was hair-raising enough to see the thing racing my way; worse still was the fear that it would keep going straight.
- After a number of laps it stopped short at the stern bench and crouched, directing its gaze downwards, to the space below the tarpaulin. It lifted its eyes and rested them upon me. The look was nearly the typical look of a hyena blank and frank, jaw hanging open, big ears sticking up rigidly, eyes bright and black. I prepared for my end. For nothing. It started running in circles again.

30

- When an animal decides to do something, it can do it for a very long time. All morning the hyena ran in circles going yip yip yip yip yip. Every time the hyena paused at the stern bench, my heart jumped. And as much as I wanted to direct my attention to the horizon, to where my salvation lay, it kept straying back to this maniacal beast.
- Things ended in typical hyena fashion. It stopped at the stern and started producing deep groans interrupted by fits of heavy panting. I pushed myself away on the oar till only the tips of my feet were holding on to the boat. The animal hacked and coughed. Abruptly it vomited. A gush landed behind the zebra. The hyena dropped into what it had just produced. It stayed there, shaking and whining and turning around on itself, exploring the furthest confines of animal anguish. It did not move from the restricted space for the rest of the day.

END OF SOURCE

There is no source material printed on this page

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Candidate signature	I declare this is my own work.

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Explorations in creative reading and writing

Monday 5 June 2023

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

Source A – provided as a separate insert.

Instructions

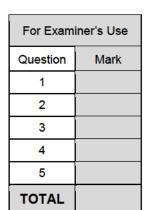
- Answer all questions.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must not use a dictionary.

Information

- · The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for Section A and 40 marks for Section B.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your reading in Section A.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your writing in Section B.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the source and all five questions you have to answer.
- You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.





Section A: Reading

Answer **all** questions in this section.
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

1	Read again the first part of the source, from lines 1 to 6 .	
	List four things about hyenas from this part of the source.	[4 marks]
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Look in detail at this extract, from lines 10 to 19 of the source:

I am not one to hold a prejudice against any animal, but it is a plain fact that the spotted hyena is not well served by its appearance. It is ugly beyond redemption. Its shaggy, coarse coat is a bungled mix of colours, with the spots having none of the classy ostentation of a leopard's, they look rather like the symptoms of a skin disease. The head is broad and too massive, with a high forehead, like that of a bear, but suffering from a receding hairline, and with ears that look ridiculously mouse-like, large and round, when they haven't been torn off in battle. The mouth is forever open and panting. The nostrils are too big. The tail is scraggly and unwagging. All the parts put together look doglike, but like no dog anyone would want as a pet.

How does the writer use language here to describe the hyena's appearance?

You could include the writer's choice of:

- words and phrases
- language features and techniques
- sentence forms.

 [8 marks]





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Turn over ▶



0 3	You now need to think about the whole of the source.	
	This text is from the middle of a novel.	
	How has the writer structured the text to interest you as a reader?	
	You could write about:	
	 what the writer focuses your attention on at the beginning of the source how and why the writer changes this focus as the source develops any other structural features that interest you. 	[8 marks]
		[o marks]



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0 4	Focus this part of your answer on the second part of the source, from line 20 to the end.
	A student said, "This part of the story, where the hyena behaves wildly, is funny rather than frightening. The writer suggests that the hyena is actually no serious threat to Pi."
	To what extent do you agree?
	In your response, you could:
	 consider your impressions of how the hyena behaves evaluate how the writer presents the threat of the hyena to Pi support your response with references to the text.
	[20 marks]
	,





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Section B: Writing

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

Write in full sentences.

You are reminded of the need to plan your answer. You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

0 5 A wildlife magazine is running a creative writing competition and the winning entry will be published in its next edition.

Either

Write a description of a zoo or wildlife park as suggested by this picture:

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or

Write a story about a human meeting an animal.

(24 marks for content and organisation 16 marks for technical accuracy) [40 marks]

Turn over ▶



Do not write outside the box You are advised to plan your answer to **Question 5** before you start to write.



Turn over ▶







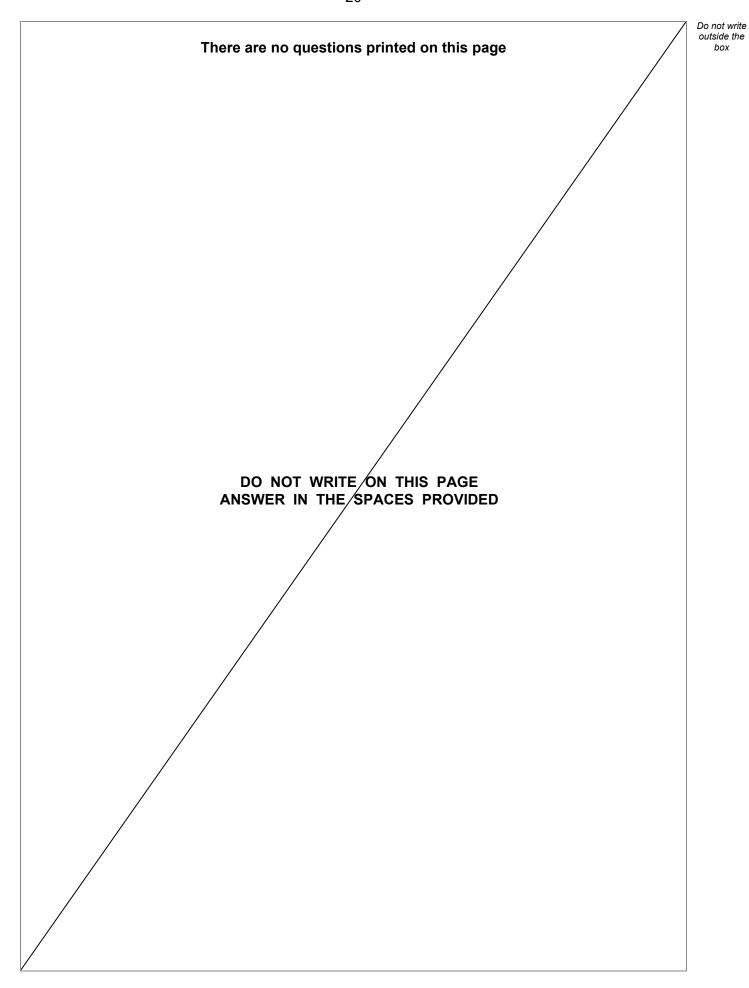


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Question number	Additional page, if required. Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.



Question number	Additional page, if required. Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.



24 There are no questions printed on this page DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED

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