

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL 2 FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ENGLISH

PRACTICE PAPER 5 – READING TASK AND ANSWER BOOKLET (BR08)

TIME: 55 MINUTES

Your surname or family name

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Your first forename (if any)

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Your second forename (if any)

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Date of birth

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Centre name

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Centre number

--	--	--	--	--	--

Your OCR candidate number

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FOR EXAMINER USE ONLY	
Question No	Mark
R1	/3
R2	/3
R3	/4
R4	/4
R5	/3
R6	/4
R7	/4
Total	/25

YOU NEED

- This task and answer booklet.
- A pen with black ink **OR** access to a computer and printer to print out your responses which should be firmly attached to this booklet.

You may use a dictionary and spell/grammar check facilities but you must not ask anyone to help you.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

Do **NOT** open this booklet until you are told to do so by the supervisor.

Fill in all the boxes above. Make sure your personal details are entered correctly. Use BLOCK LETTERS.

- Write your answer to each question in the space provided in this answer booklet or attach your printouts to this booklet before handing in.
- Additional answer space can be found on page 17.
- If you use extra paper, make sure that it has your name, candidate number, centre number and question number(s) on it and is securely attached to this booklet.
- When you have finished, hand this booklet to the supervisor.

This document consists of 18 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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RESOURCE DOCUMENTS

Document 1 (page 5) and Document 2 (page 7) and Document 3 (page 9) contain information to help you answer the Reading task.

- The resource documents are perforated along the left hand side or can be separated from the question paper. You can remove them from the Reading task and answer booklet.
- If perforated, please fold page 5, page 7 and page 9 along the perforated strip before removing them from the Reading task and answer booklet.
- You have **55 minutes** to read the resource documents and answer questions 1 to 7. You should spend about **5 – 10** minutes of this time reading the resource documents.

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Northcot Community Centre

Development Proposal



Background

Northcot is a thriving market town in a strategic location. It is close to the M5 motorway and popular coastal sites. A total of 20,000 people live in the town and surrounding villages. For many years the Northcot Community Centre Committee (NCCC) has been campaigning for a modern, purpose-built centre for cultural, business and social events in the town. This will be a valuable asset for all members of the community.

The Proposed Community Centre

The Centre will be a two storey building offering a modern purpose-built venue on one of the main routes into the town. The building will be within close walking distance of the town centre. It will be built on part of the current public car park which is next to the town's supermarket.

All facilities at the new Centre will be multi-purpose:

- A central hall will have a seating capacity of 300 plus a stage area. This hall can be used for a wide range of purposes and can also be divided into smaller spaces if required.
- This hall will be available for local organisation activities, film and theatre, training events and conferences, wedding receptions and other celebrations.
- Adjacent rooms can be used as changing rooms by visiting performers, and also as small meeting rooms.
- A café/bar area will be open during performances and community events.
- An information point and booking office will be linked to the local Tourist Information Centre.
- An upstairs room will be used as a Council Chamber and Marriage Ceremony Room. This room will also include technology to enable it to be used as a training room.

The cost of building the Community Centre will require a one-off increase in the council tax of about £100 per household. In the future there will be ongoing financial costs for upkeep and repairs.

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Document 2



Northcot Town Council

Town Hall,
Central Square,
Northcot
NT3 1BC
Date as postmark

Dear Residents,

As your new Mayor, I am using the first of my monthly newsletters to express my total support for the proposed Northcot Community Centre.

Some people have asked, does Northcot need a Community Centre?

Recent surveys conducted by the Devon Parliament for People with Learning Disabilities, as well as among students at the Community College, show cinema facilities to be a priority need, followed by community facilities and a theatre.

As I'm sure many of you know, it is not just recreational facilities that are so desperately needed. The Town Council and Chamber of Commerce receive many requests for venues suitable for training and conferences. At present we are able to meet only a small number of these requests. This results in a loss of business to Northcot.

I believe that there is definitely a need and that we will all benefit from a high-quality venue. The proposed new Centre will be a fabulous, ultra-modern resource that will be the envy of people in Devon. Northcot's strategic location in the heart of Devon's tourist area means that a Centre of such quality as this will be well-supported. There is no doubt that these facilities will make the activities of local organisations more attractive, thereby increasing membership and participation. This can only be good for Northcot.

Show your support for the Community Centre now – or we will all lose out!

Yours faithfully,

Tam O'Brien

Mayor of Northcot

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Document 3

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Address www.midweekecho.coz/forum

Midweek Echo Forum

Odango

It's outrageous! We must stop the Council getting rid of essential parking in the town. It's OK for them, but I can't walk far and I need the disabled parking next to the supermarket. What about families with young children or people in wheelchairs? Where are they supposed to park? Northcot shops will lose business as we'll all go to other towns. We need parking far more than this expensive community place that no-one wants.

Sheila

Now that the church hall has been closed, Northcot Theatre Players have no home. The new Centre could be used as a theatre for the Players and visiting drama groups. What about giving our young people the chance to see some good quality plays? And a cinema would give local people, especially older ones like me, a chance to see films with their friends. If we all volunteer to help out and also support money-raising efforts, who can complain that it's a waste of tax-payers' money?

Ron

I don't think we need a huge, ridiculously expensive new hall here in Northcot. Local organisations will not want to move out of their existing venues into premises that are bound to be much more expensive to hire. Why should we pay loads more tax for something we don't want? With huge increases in the costs of food and fuel, we don't want to pay for a useless building. Use the money for things we need – like health and education – not a daft community centre. Also, many of us object to an increase in traffic. We already suffer tremendously with traffic and a community centre on that site is only going to make things worse. Our streets are a pollution hot-spot!

Ellie

Some people want to stop young people in Northcot from having fun. Last year the Music Hut closed down due to complaints about noise. Now The Lemon Tree has to stop live music at 11pm. Who goes out before 11pm? All those complainers just want to stop young people having fun. We need the new Centre or Northcot will be a boring, dead-end town. Stand up all you people who want to have fun, and be counted!

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TASK AND ANSWER PAGES

READING TASK (25 marks)**INFORMATION**

You have **55 minutes** to read the resource documents and answer the questions 1 to 7. You should spend about **5 – 10** minutes of this time reading the resource documents.

Answer **all** the questions, using information from the resource documents.

You do **not** need to write in sentences.

Scenario

You live in Northcot. You have seen the Northcot Community Centre Development Proposal (Document 1) and have received a letter from the Mayor of Northcot (Document 2). You have also read comments on a web forum (Document 3).

1 What is the purpose of **each** document?

(3 marks)

2 a) Explain what is meant by the term 'strategic location' as used in Document 1 and Document 2.

(1 mark)

b) Identify **two** ways in which Northcot is in a strategic location.

(2 marks)

3 Compare and contrast the views of Sheila and Ron about the need for a Community Centre in Northcot.

(4 marks)

- 4** Compare and contrast the claims made about the Community Centre in the Development Proposal with the views expressed in the Midweek Echo Forum.

(4 marks)

5 Describe **two** techniques used by the writers in Document 2 and **two** techniques in Document 3 to persuade the reader:

a) Document 2

(2 marks)

b) Document 3

(2 marks)

- 6 a)** Which of the **three** documents do you think contains the most evidence of bias? Give reasons to support your answer.

(3 marks)

- b)** Explain why it is important to be aware of bias when deciding whether or not to support the Community Centre?

(1 mark)

- 7** After reading all the documents, do you think the Community Centre would be useful or a waste of money for Northcot? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3 marks)



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OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

LEVEL 2 FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ENGLISH

PRACTICE PAPER 5 – READING TASKS (BR08)

Mark Scheme

The maximum mark for the Reading paper is 25

This document consists of 5 printed pages

[Turn over

Functional Skills English Level 2 Mark Scheme – Reading (25 marks)

Reading (25 marks)

Q	M/S Ref	Description	Type of Response	Mark allocation	Total marks
1	2R3	<p>Candidate has identified purposes, eg</p> <p>Document 1:</p> <p>a) to inform the reader about the proposed centre</p> <p>b) to explain what the centre will be like/facilities contained.</p> <p>Document 2:</p> <p>c) to persuade the reader to support the centre</p> <p>d) to show the Mayor's opinion of the centre.</p> <p>Document 3:</p> <p>e) to inform the reader about people's views of the centre</p> <p>f) to share opinions about the centre.</p>	Closed	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 1)</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 1)</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 1)</p>	3
2a	2R1	'Strategic location' means the (town's situation) place/area that is important or vital (for the development of the Centre).	Closed	1 (Max 1)	
2b		<p>Examples:</p> <p>a) close to the M5</p> <p>b) heart of Devon's tourist industry</p> <p>c) popular coastal sites.</p>	Closed	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 2)</p>	3
3	2R2	<p>Candidate has compared and contrasted the views of Sheila and Ron on the centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some identification of Sheila's views or Ron's views but no comparison. Some identification of Sheila's and Ron's views but little comparison. Reasonable comparison of the two views though at times implicit (eg by juxtaposing related points. For example Sheila says they need a theatre; Ron says the hall is too big). Good and explicit comparison of the two views including specific examples from each (eg Sheila says it is good for locals and gives older people somewhere to meet, whereas Ron says it is not wanted and locals are happy with existing venues. Although Sheila says fund-raising will offset some of the costs to taxpayers, Ron says it is too expensive and doesn't see why the tax payer should pay. Both agree that funding for young people is important, but Sheila thinks the centre will support young people, and Ron wants the money spent on other things. 	Open	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p>	4

Q	M/S Ref	Description	Type of Response	Mark allocation	Total marks
4	2R2	<p>Candidate has compared and contrasted the claims made in the Development Proposal (Document 1) with the Midweek Echo Forum (Document 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some identification of the claims made in the Development Proposal or some identification of the views in the posts on the forum. • Some identification of the claims made in the Development proposal and some identification of the views in the posts on the forum but little comparison. • Reasonable explanation of a range of views expressed, though at times the explanation is implicit (eg by juxtaposing related views from both documents such as Document 1 positive views: theatre, cinema; facilities for young and old; small part of car park used; Document 3 negative views: don't need facilities; tax increases; loss of car park). • Good and explicit comparison of all views including specific examples from each document (eg Document 1 claims the hall can be sub-divided and be available for various activities whereas Ron in Document 3 says the hall is too big and not needed, but Ellie and Sheila think this is needed; Document 1 claims a small amount of the car parking space will be lost, whereas Document 3 claims that the whole car park will be lost, resulting in loss of business). 	Open	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p>	4

Q	M/S Ref	Description	Type of Response	Mark allocation	Total marks
5a	2R4	<p>Candidate has described the persuasive techniques used by writers.</p> <p>Document 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of pronoun 'you'/speaks directly to the reader • facts/supporting evidence • emotive language/exaggeration alarming, fabulous, desperately needed • warning – lose the resource • statement of personal belief • exclamation mark for emphasis. 	Open	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 2)</p>	
5b		<p>Document 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of pronoun 'you'/speaks directly to the reader • emotive language • exclamation marks for emphasis • rhetorical question. 		<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 2)</p>	4
6a	2R4	<p>Candidate may focus on one document, or on more than one</p> <p>Document 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • openly in favour of the centre/has been 'resolved to build' for some time • main focus is positive features/few details of negatives e.g. car park • limited mention of costs to tax payers. <p>Document 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeks to persuade the reader to support the centre • only information in favour/no negative points • warning: if no support/'alarming loss' • benefits everyone. <p>Document 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal views • details used to support own views/not balanced • pros and neg in document as a whole • seeks to persuade people to agree with views stated. <p>Accept any justifiable answer.</p>	Open	<p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>(Max 3)</p>	
6b	2R4	<p>Accept explanation of why understanding of bias is important (eg so an informed decision is made/not persuaded by one-sided views).</p>		1	4

Q	M/S Ref	Description	Type of Response	Mark allocation	Total marks
7	2R5	<p>Candidate has given their opinion on whether the centre should be developed, together with reasons from the documents and/or personal opinion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinion given with simple reason given from source documents. Opinion given with more developed reasons, some of which may be personal opinion. Opinion given with fully developed reasons, from the documents and/or personal opinion. <p>Possible responses might be: In favour of the centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide range of facilities wanted by people of different ages and several organisations/ purposes/popular local fundraisers/volunteers will off-set costs town's location means it will be supported/ asset. <p>Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase in tax/on-going expenses lose parking/loss of business increased congestion/pollution better ways to spend the money. 	Open	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p>	3
		Total available for Reading			25

Note to markers:

- where a candidate does not meet the minimum required for the award of 1 mark, 0 marks should be awarded. This applies to all mark scheme references.
- accept other valid points not identified in the mark scheme but which occur within the source documents.