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ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE
GRADE 12
TASK 5 – LANGUAGE TEST (MEMORANDUM)
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026



Examiner: C. Bourbon

Time: 2 Hours

Moderator: S. Shaw

Total: 70 Marks

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION:

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections:
 - SECTION A – Comprehension (30 Marks)
 - SECTION B – Summary (10 Marks)
 - SECTION C – Language structures and conventions (30 Marks)

THIS MEMORANDUM CONSISTS OF 11 PAGES.

MARKING GUIDELINES

NOTE:

- These marking guidelines are intended as a guide for markers.
- It is by no means prescriptive or exhaustive.
- Candidates' responses should be considered on merit.
- Answers should be assessed holistically and points awarded where applicable in terms of decisions taken at the standardisation meeting.
- The marking guidelines will be discussed before the commencement of marking.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MARKERS

Marking the comprehension:

- Because the focus is on understanding, incorrect spelling and language errors in longer responses should not be penalised unless such errors change the meaning/understanding. (Errors must still be indicated.)
- If a candidate uses words from a language other than the one being examined, disregard those words, and if the answer still makes sense, do not penalise. However, if a word from another language is used in a text and required in an answer, this will be acceptable.
- For **open-ended questions**, no marks should be awarded for YES/NO or I AGREE/ I DISAGREE. The reason/substantiation/motivation is what should be considered.
- No marks should be awarded for TRUE/FALSE or FACT/OPINION. The reason/substantiation/motivation is what should be considered.
- When one-word answers are required and the candidate gives a whole sentence, mark correct provided that the correct word is underlined/highlighted.
- Accept dialectal variations.

QUESTIONS: TEXT A

- 1.1 What does the tech executive (mentioned in line 3) mean when he refers to “a naked smart phone” (line 2)? (2)

“A naked smart phone” is one without any additional apps✓ (applications) having been added to enable parents to monitor what their children are doing and ensure their safety.✓

- 1.2 Refer to paragraph 4.

Discuss the effectiveness of this single-sentence paragraph. (3)

This paragraph provides the climax to the list of occasions when the writer’s children need to be monitored.✓ The single sentence as a separate paragraph emphasises the writer’s belief that children are always in need of monitoring.✓ It adds to the overall humorous tone of the passage.✓ Emphasises the mother’s strong dislike of her children’s cell phone use✓ and this reinforces the message of the passage.✓

(1 mark for 3 facts or 3 marks for 2 ideas well-explained)

- 1.3 Refer to paragraph 5. (2)

In your own words, explain the meaning of the following phrase in context of the article, “...he’s selling me on an app”.

The writer is trying to express that the salesman is successfully convincing her to purchase the app✓ as she believes it will help her to solve some of her parenting frustrations.✓

- 1.4 Refer to paragraph 7. (2)

Discuss the TWO issues that the writer mentions with regards to eliminating cell phone use.

The mother is concerned that if she takes their phones away, she will not be able to get hold of them.✓ She believes that if she disables their data, they will be able to access WIFI outside of the home.✓

- 1.5 Refer to paragraph 18. (3)

1.5.1 Explain the difference in meaning between “mentor” and “monitor”.

“Mentor” means to guide or counsel someone towards appropriate behaviour.✓ “Monitor” means to check or to keep under continuing watch or review.✓

(Allow for a range of relevant responses)

- 1.5.2 Why do you think Heitner regards mentoring as “a lot more work” than monitoring in the context of this article? (3)

While monitoring may simply involve picking up a child’s cell phone and checking what has been received or messaged from that phone,✓ mentoring involves actual engagement with the child over a period of time. The mentor has to listen and offer guidance or advice.✓✓

(2 marks for facts and 1 mark further if well explained)

- 1.6 Judging from the information presented by the writer of TEXT A, what impression do you have of her attitude and skills as a parent? (3)

It would seem that the writer has some difficulty in asserting her authority when her child is spending excessive time on her phone.✓ (She acknowledges that her children do not adhere to the cellphone contract they signed.)✓ She is uncertain of herself and what would be best for her daughter. While she would like to place a controlling app on her daughter’s phone, without her knowledge, she cannot bring herself to do that.✓ She obviously respects her children’s rights and so, although she has the daughter’s cellphone in her possession, she hesitates until her only option left is “bribery”.✓ Her approach is good-humoured and she is by no means the controlling parent she would like to be.✓

(2 marks for facts and 1 mark further if well explained)

- 1.7 Refer to paragraph 20.

Is the final paragraph of TEXT A an effective conclusion to the article? Justify your response. (3)

The final paragraph is an effective conclusion because the article has detailed the practical difficulties and moral dilemma which the writer has faced as she tried to establish some sort of control over her daughter’s cell phone usage.✓ She now shares with her readers the outcome which is somewhat unexpected but also humorous in keeping with the tone of the article as a whole.✓✓

(Any other relevant responses - 2 marks for facts and 1 mark if well explained)

QUESTIONS: TEXT B

- 1.8 Read the text of the advertisement from “Protect your kids” to “self-control”. (3)

Critically comment on the diction used in order to persuade parents to invest in this product.

The words chosen for this advertisement all link to a parent’s desire to protect their child or children from harm.✓ Words like “protect” and “safeguard” emphasise how the app will keep a child safe, while words like “controls” and “monitor” highlight what a responsible parent should be doing.✓ “Teach them self-control” suggests that this app could have a long-term benefit, not only for the child, but also for the parent. / Diction is emotive and clearly exploits parents’ worst fears.✓

- 1.9 (2 Marks for facts and 1 if well explained / 1 mark per 3 facts) (2)
Examine the photograph included in the advertisement.

What purpose would you say is served by including this photograph?

The immediate purpose would be to attract attention to the advertisement with a cute little boy using his cell phone. Those readers with similarly small children may immediately want the same protective benefit for their child.✓✓ / The young child seems innocent/ vulnerable and will make parents feel that they must do something to protect their naïve children who will lack judgement.✓✓

(Any other relevant responses)

QUESTION: TEXTS A AND B

- 1.10 In your assessment, to what extent does TEXT B support the views presented in Belinda Luscombe’s article? Justify your response by making specific reference to both TEXT B and TEXT A. (4)

Text B, with its reference to *Kaspersky Safe Kids*,✓✓ links to the *Teensafe* which has caught the attention of the writer in Text A.✓✓ The reference in Text B to “parental controls” would also resonate with the writer of the article labelled Text B.

OR

A difference between the two texts, however, is that Text B focuses on protecting children from danger,✓✓ while the writer is more concerned about denying her child access to her phone in order to enforce some sort of discipline in the way that she uses her phone at home.✓✓

Text A ✓✓ Text B ✓✓ (Award NO marks if there is no comparison made)

(30)

SECTION B: SUMMARY

QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS

TEXT C provides a discussion on how parents can regulate their teenage children's cell phone use. Summarise in your own words **the rules parents should put in place to ensure their teenagers use their cell phones responsibly.**

Use the following main points that the candidate should include in the summary as a **guideline.**

Any 7 valid points are to be credited in paragraph-form.

(Sentences and/or sentence fragments must be coherent.)

NO.	QUOTATIONS	NO.	POINTS
1	"So start the day off right by saying, 'No phones in the morning.'"	1	There is to be no cell phone usage in the morning.
2	"Do not allow anyone to use their phones during meals."	2	Cell phones may not be used during mealtimes.
3	"Stress the importance of interacting with one another in person."	3	It is important for a teenager to interact face-to-face with other people and not through their phones.
4	"Make it clear that during family activities, cell phone use is prohibited."	4	During family activities a teenager may not use his or her cell phone.
or 4	"...discourage bad cell phone habits, like ignoring friends to text someone who is not present."	4	Texting someone elsewhere while ignoring friends who are present is not permitted.
5	"Set limits on cell phone use during homework time..."	5	Using a phone while completing homework tasks is not allowed.
6	"Establish a rule that clearly states what time the phone must be turned off in the evening."	6	There must be a set time for switching phones off at night.
7	"Once you've established clear cell phone rules, create a behaviour contract."	7	Once cell phone rules have been agreed upon, a behaviour contract must be drawn up.

PARAGRAPH-FORM

NOTE: What follows is merely an example. It is not prescriptive and must be used very carefully.

Teenagers should use their cell phones responsibly with there being no cell phone usage in the morning nor during mealtimes. It is important for teenagers to interact face-to-face with people and not through their phones. During family activities a teenager may not use his cellphone. Texting someone elsewhere while ignoring friends who are present and using a phone while completing homework tasks is not permitted. There must be a set time for switching phones off at night. Once cellphone rules have been agreed upon, a behaviour contract can be drawn up.

(90 words)

Marking the summary:

Marking is on the basis of the inclusion of valid material and the exclusion of invalid material.

The summary should be marked as follows:

• Mark allocation:

- 7 marks for 7 points (1 mark per main point)
- 3 marks for language
- Total marks: 10

• Distribution of language marks when candidate has not quoted verbatim:

- 1–3 points correct: award 1 mark
- 4–5 points correct: award 2 marks
- 6–7 points correct: award 3 marks

• Distribution of language marks when candidate has quoted verbatim:

- 6–7 quotations: award no language mark
- 4–5 quotations: award 1 language mark
- 2–3 quotations: award 2 language marks

TOTAL SECTION B: 10

SECTION C: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS

Marking SECTION C:

- Spelling:
 - One-word answers must be marked correct even if the spelling is incorrect, unless the error changes the meaning of the word.
 - Where an abbreviation is tested, the answer must be punctuated correctly.
- Sentence structures must be grammatically correct and given in full sentences/as per instruction.
- For multiple-choice questions, accept BOTH the letter corresponding to the correct answer AND/OR the answer written out in full as correct.

QUESTION 3: ANALYSING ADVERTISING

- 3.1 In your opinion, what type of people are most likely to respond favourably to this advertisement? Motivate your response.

People who are into extreme sports or energetic / adventurous outdoor activities.

People who want to take high-quality photographs.

People who want to monitor their own health.✓✓

(Any TWO) Also accept a group of people✓ and justification.✓ (2)

- 3.2 Although a cell phone is essentially a communication tool, the main focus of this advertisement, for the phone, is not its communication features.

Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

Agree because the advertisement emphasises features other than using the phone to make calls:✓ it will withstand outdoor activities where dust or water are to be found; it has a superior camera; and it enables its owner to monitor his or her health indicators.✓✓

(Two marks for TWO facts and a third mark if well-explained / 3 unique points) (3)

- 3.3 Does the written text at the bottom of the advertisement support the visual image? Justify your response.

Yes, it does because the image is of a young man who has just done a bungee-jump, splashing into water as he does so. The text refers to water protection. The image he has taken of himself is clear, validating the claim that the phone has an advanced camera. After a jump like this, the young man may well want to monitor his heart rate.✓✓✓ (Any THREE points – must refer to the text and the image)

Allow for a range of relevant responses. (3)

3.4 What part of speech is “Adventurous” in “Be Adventurous with Water Resistance”?
Adjective✓ (1)

3.5 “Capture action in a flash with advanced camera...”
Provide a suitable synonym for “advanced” in context.
Modern/latest/up-to-date/state-of-the-art/cutting-edge✓ (1)

[10]

QUESTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MEDIA

4.1 Select an example of jargon from either Frame 1 or Frame 2 and explain its meaning in your own words.
“Instagram influencer”✓: a regular Instagram user with many followers who is able to persuade others to purchase certain products or services (a brand ambassador).✓
“Brand credibility”✓: people believe what is said about a brand and therefore trust it to do what it promises.✓
(1 mark for jargon and 1 mark for explanation) (2)

4.2 Refer to Frame 1.
4.2.1 Comment on the attitude displayed by Thandi. Refer to VISUAL and VERBAL clues to justify your response.
Thandi is very self-assured/confident and believes in herself.✓ She is convinced that her decision to become an Instagram influencer would be regarded by others as “good news” (verbal).✓ Her upright posture with her hands on her hips also conveys her self-assurance. (visual)✓ (3)
(Students must state their point and justify by referring to both VISUAL and VERBAL aspects.)
Allow for a range of responses.

4.2.2 What does the word “sigh” indicate about Mother Anderson’s feelings at that moment?
Mother Anderson is not really interested in what Thandi wants to become. Her sigh indicates that this conversation is wearisome / boring to her.✓✓ (2)
(1 mark per point)

4.3 Refer to Frame 3.
How does the cartoonist make it clear that Mother Anderson is totally unimpressed with Thandi's wish to be to an influencer? Mention TWO VISUAL aspects.

She stares fixedly at Thandi with her eyes narrowed.✓ She does not utter a word in response.✓ (2)

4.4 Choose the correct option from those given below:
Thandi's statement in Frame 4, written in indirect speech, is:

- A Thandi said that she needs an "insta-Gogo influencer".
 - B Thandi said that she would need an "insta-Gogo influencer".
 - C Thandi said that she needed an "insta-Gogo influencer".**
 - D Thandi said that I need an "insta-Gogo influencer".
- (1)

[10]

QUESTION 5: USING LANGUAGE CORRECTLY

5.1	Rewrite this sentence fragment in the passive voice: ...I ask them to put away their cellphones (lines 2-3). They are asked by me to put away their cellphones.✓	(1)
5.2	Correct the concord error in paragraph 2. Lying on the desk in front of them, they <u>ARE</u> completely focused on their cellphones.✓	(1)
5.3	Explain the use of the apostrophe in the phrase "students' cellphones" (line 9). Apostrophe indicates plural✓ possession✓	(2)
5.4	Change the American spelling of "programs" (line 15) to the English or South African spelling of this word. programmes✓	(1)
5.5	Remove the redundancy in paragraph 5. They blatantly or They openly ignore...✓	(1)
5.6	What does "24/7" (line 21) mean?	(2)

	Twenty-four (24) hours a day✓, seven (7) days a week✓	
5.7	Correct a spelling error in paragraph 7. incentives✓	(1)
5.8	Provide the adjectival form of the word “addiction” (line 24). addictive✓	(1)

[10]

TOTAL SECTION C: 30

GRAND TOTAL: [70 MARKS]