

Tuesday 5 November 2013 – Morning

GCSE ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A680/01/RBI Information and Ideas (Foundation Tier)

READING BOOKLET INSERT

Duration: 2 hours



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The materials in this READING BOOKLET INSERT are for use with the questions in Section **A** of the Question Paper.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of **10** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Water: don't waste it



Increasing demand for water by human beings and the effects of climate change mean that the future of our water supply is not guaranteed. If present levels of water consumption continue, two-thirds of the global population will live in areas of water shortage by 2025.

On average, each person in Britain uses approximately 150 litres of tap water a day. Even though the UK is rainy, we are not free from the problems of water scarcity. The UK has already witnessed some of its worst droughts ever. We, too, can run out of water. But there is hope.

So what can we do?

We all waste a lot of water at home and at work. If we all made some simple and quick changes in our lives, we could save loads of water! We must start thinking about how much we really rely on this limited and shared resource. Water shortage is becoming a big topic here in the UK and abroad. Climate change is set to have a major impact on our water resources, making dry places even drier and wet ones too wet. It is time for us all to act!

Here are some tips to get you started right away.

Turn off the tap

Remember to turn off the tap while brushing your teeth. A running tap wastes over six litres per minute. If the entire adult population of England and Wales remembered to do this, we could save 180 mega litres a day – enough to supply nearly 500,000 homes with water. Similarly, by washing your fruit and veg in a bowl rather than under a running tap, you can cut down on water waste effortlessly. And as an added bonus, you can use the left-over water to feed your house plants.

Stop those drips

A dripping tap wastes at least 5,500 litres of water a year: that's enough water wasted to fill a paddling pool every week for the whole summer. So fix leaky taps! Make sure you check taps regularly and replace worn tap washers as soon as possible. Mending your faulty tap washer could save you over £18 a year. Also, make sure to check kitchen pipes for any leaks.

Don't throw water away

A bath typically uses around 80 litres of water whereas a quick shower can use a third of that amount. But beware – many power-showers may actually use more than a bath. You can reduce your water use by recycling bathwater to water your garden.

Finally, about a quarter of all the clean, drinkable water we use in our homes is flushed down the toilet. If you're looking to buy a new loo, consider buying a water-efficient toilet or one with a dual flush. If your loo is still as good as new, put a water-saving device into the cistern. Give your water company a call; they may give you one of these devices for free.

Rubbish for rubbish bins

Try to avoid flushing away cotton balls and tissues – throwing them in the bin will cut down on the amount of water that is wasted by every flush.

Question: Tara Begum has no way to feed her family. How will they manage to stay afloat?



PRACTICAL ACTION
Technology challenging poverty



Answer: With water hyacinths, bamboo, cow dung ... and you.

Bangladesh is struggling to keep its head above water. Floods are drowning farmland, destroying homes and leaving thousands of families on the brink of starvation and disease. But you can help them by supporting this Practical Action project – and others like it around the world – by giving £25 towards a real, long-term solution to poverty.



How? Well, as well as helping local people construct flood-resistant homes, for the past few years Practical Action has also been helping them construct 'floating gardens' – rugged 'rafts' made from easily obtainable materials. Because the gardens float on rising floodwater, they enable hungry families to grow enough food to feed themselves – and sometimes even enough to sell at local markets for a few, precious extra coins. Could you help us carry on our work with £25 today?

For thousands of families like Tara's, floating gardens are a lifeline.

Today, Bangladesh's floods have affected more than a million people. Usually it's the poorest families, already desperately struggling to scrape a living from tiny plots of land, who lose the most. With nothing to fall back on, they're left with no means of feeding themselves and no money to buy what few crops are available at market. They are dangerously prone to starvation and disease.

Which is why your £25 is so vital. For those who have lost everything, floating gardens mean – at the very least – they can feed their family. With your help we could break this cycle of misery and give those with nowhere else to turn the hope of a more secure future.

Your £25 could provide four more vulnerable families with a floating garden.

Question: Where do poor people grow food when their farmland is underwater?

Answer: On a floating bed of weeds, of course.

When Tara Begum and her family watched floodwater swamp their precious farmland, they were desperate. But, with our help, they were able to rise above what nature had thrown at them. Using a technique we've already shared with thousands of other families like Tara's, we helped them construct a garden that simply floated several feet above where they had once grown crops. What's more, because the garden is made from layers of water hyacinths, bamboo, compost and cow dung, all the necessary materials are easily obtainable and affordable.

Rather than being at the mercy of the floods, it meant Tara could grow red onions, sweet pumpkin and tropical vegetables like Kang Kong and okra. In Tara's words, *"Before, I had no means to feed my children. Now, I even have enough to sell at market – and my neighbours have copied the garden so they can do the same."*

Such a simple technique – but it's been a lifeline to families like Tara's. There are so many other desperate families who could benefit from this practical and imaginative solution. So if you'd like to support a different type of charity, please help our work today with a donation of just £25. Because the people we help – like Tara – desperately need your support.

Thank you

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