

### Paper 2 guide





#### Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer all questions in Section A and ONE in Section B.
- You should spend about 1 hour and 20 minutes on Section A.
- You should spend about 45 minutes on Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
- there may be more space than you need.

#### Information

- The total mark for this paper is 96.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets
  - use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
- Questions labelled with an asterisk (\*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
  - you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.

#### Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.







We use the Edexcel/Pearson exam board



2 hours 5 minutes – 1 hour 20 for reading and 45 minutes for writing.



The timing for each paper will be about a minute per mark.



2 non-fiction texts for reading and 1 transactional writing task.



1 text will be from 20<sup>th</sup> century and the other from 21<sup>st</sup>.



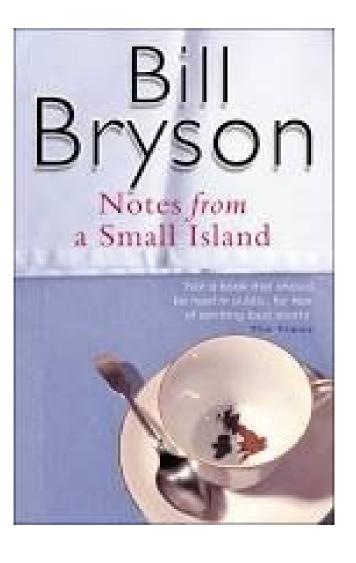
The texts might be extracts from a memoir, autobiography, published diary, or an entire published letter, newspaper or magazine article.



There are 8 reading questions and 1 writing task.

# Basic information





Both texts are about 35-40 lines long.

It is a good idea to read the whole text through first, quite quickly, to get the general gist and then read specifically to answer the questions.

It will always say where the text is from, who wrote it and in what year. Then there is a very brief summary of the text giving you an idea of context.

There will be a glossary at the bottom with asterisks for any particularly difficult words.

Extract from 'Notes From A Small Island: Journey Through Britain' by Bill Bryson (1993).

This edited extract is written by writer Bill Bryson. He moved around Britain documenting his experiences for his travel writing, and here he is trying to decide which local guesthouse he will spend the night in.

Further on along the front there stood a clutch of guesthouses, large and virtually indistinguishable, and a few of them had vacancy signs perched in their windows. I had eight or ten to choose from, which always puts me in a mild worry because I have an unerring\* instinct for choosing badly.

My wife can survey a row of guesthouses and instantly identify the one run by a whitehaired widow with a kindly nature and a fondness for children, snowy sheets and sparkling bathroom porcelain, whereas I can generally count on choosing the one run by a guy with a grasping manner, a drooping fag and the sort of cough that makes you wonder where he puts the philegm. Such, I felt gloomily certain, would be the case tonight.

All the guesthouses had boards out front listing their many amenities\*\* – 'Colour TV',
'En Suite All Rooms', 'Hospitality Trays' – which only heightened my sense of unease and
doom. How could I possibly choose intelligently among such a range of options? One
offered satellite TV and a trouser press and another boasted, in special jaunty italics,
'Current Fire Certificate' – something I had never thought to ask for in a B&B. It was so
much easier in the days when the very most you could hope for was hot and cold in all
rooms.

I selected a place that looked reasonable enough from the outside – its board promised a colour TV and coffee-making facilities, about all I require these days for a lively Saturday right – but from the moment I set foot in the door and drew in the midewy pong of damp plaster and peeling wallpaper, I knew it was a bad choice. I was about to turn and flee when the proprietor emerged from a back room and stayed my retreat with an unenthusiastic 'Yes?' A short conversation revealed that a single room with breakfast could be had for £19.50 – little short of a swindle. It was entirely out of the question that I would stay the night in such a dismal place at such a larcenous\*\*\* price, so I said, 'That sounds fine' and signed in. Well, it's so hard to say no.

My room was everything I expected it to be – cold and cheerless, with grubbily matted carpet and those mysterious ceiling stains that bring to mind a neglected corpse in the room above. Fingers of icy wind slipped through the single ill-fitting sash window. I drew the curtains and was not surprised that they had to be pulled violently before they would budge and came nowhere near meeting in the middle. There was a tray of coffee things but the cups were – let me be charitable – disgusting and the spoon was stuck to the tray. The bathroom, faintly illuminated by a distant light activated by a length of string, had curling floor tiles and years of accumulated muck packed into every corner and crack.

unerring\* - certain amenities\*\* - facilities, services larcenous\*\*\* - criminal, like being stolen from



### Question 1 (2 marks)

### Question 2 (2 marks)

Spend no more than 5 minutes on these two questions.

# Write short quotes from the text to answer the question.

Generally just look for the most obvious answers and make sure they are different to each other.

1	From lines 1-2, identify <b>two</b> details about the guesthouses.				
1.					
2 .					
	(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)				
2	From lines 5-10, give <b>two</b> ways the writer describes people who run guesthouses.  You may use your own words or quotations from the text.				
1.					
2.					
	(Total for Question 2 = 2 marks)				

Further on along the front there stood a clutch of guesthouses, large and virtually indistinguishable, and a few of them had vacancy signs perched in their windows. I had eight or ten to choose from, which always puts me in a mild worry because I have an unerring\* instinct for choosing badly.

My wife can survey a row of guesthouses and instantly identify the one run by a white-haired widow with a kindly nature and a fondness for children, snowy sheets and sparkling bathroom porcelain, whereas I can generally count on choosing the one run by a guy with a grasping manner, a drooping fag and the sort of cough that makes you wonder where he puts the phlegm. Such, I felt gloomily certain, would be the case tonight.



5



Read Text 1 through in more detail in preparation for Question 3 using a highlighter to note interesting words, phrases and techniques.







# Question 3 – 15 marks 15 minutes

This will always be:

# Analyse how the writer uses language and structure to interest and engage the reader.

In your answer you should write about:

- language features and techniques
- structural techniques
- the effect on the reader.

And support your views with detailed reference to the text

This question is based on the **whole text**. You should aim to find at least 5 pieces of evidence with a balance of language and structure.

### The Language and Structure Question

3 Analyse how the writer uses language and structure to interest and engage the reader.

In your answer you should write about:

- language features and techniques
- structural techniques
- the effect on the reader.

Support your views with detailed reference to the text.

(15)

There is a lot of advice on answering this question including how to use PEE, PETAL, embed quotes and communicate effects.

- Perhaps most important is that you reference techniques in this answer. You cannot score more than 6 if you only analyse language or structure.
- You can score a mid-range mark by looking at evidence and techniques one by one but for a higher scoring answer you should look for connections. In the same way, considering whole text structure in this answer may award you higher marks as it will show you have read the whole text.
- There is a list of techniques you might reference on the following slide.

## Language and structural devices/techniques commonly found in non-fiction

	Language		Structure		
Sound	Imagery/ Figurative	Use of vocabulary for effect	Sentence level	Whole text	Formatting
Alliteration	Metaphor	Emotive language used to persuade	Repetition	Organisation of ideas	Paragraphing
Onomatopoeia	Simile	Hyperbole  Direct address	Tripling	<ul><li>Juxtaposition</li><li>Contrast</li><li>Parallelism</li></ul>	Headings
	Personifica tion	Inclusive language	Sentence types  Short/simple  Multi-clause	Chronology Order of events	Dialogue
	Symbolism	Colloquial language Formal/informal terms	<ul><li>Complex</li><li>Minor</li></ul>	Tense Perspective/	
		Jargon Facts and statistics	Punctuation	Narrative voice (first/third)	
		Descriptive language Sensory language Imperatives Semantic/lexical field	Rhetorical question	Use of anecdote (the words within it will come under language)	



## Let's move on....

#### Read Text 2

It will be on the same topic and roughly the same length as text 1 but it will be different in one or more of the following ways:

- Purpose
- Perspective
- Tone
- Form

It will be from the other century

#### TEXT 2

Extract from 'A 'great place to stay' or 'dirty' with 'horrible service' and 'stale' rooms? Opinions are divided over the Canada hotel where William and Kate are set to stay' by Sherelle Jacobs (2016).

This edited extract is taken from The Telegraph newspaper's report on a hotel where members of the British Royal Family are due to stay.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge — who are on an eight-day royal tour of Canada are due to spend the night at a remote three-star hotel where carpeted bathrooms 'smell like cooking at mealtimes'. Critical comments date back several years; many of the more colourful ones have been posted as recently as this summer and September 2016.

William and Kate have said that they are 'delighted' to be staying at the Coast High Country Inn in Whitehorse, in the wild north-west territory of Yukon. But some TripAdvisor users have left scathing comments alleging shower curtains with handprints from former guests, dirty lawatory bowls, and the 'putrid' stink in the rooms. One previous guest described the double room they were sharing with their partner as 'the same size as a cabin on a cruiseliner' and claimed that the bed was so small they were forced to sleep on the floor.

The difficulties when it comes to assessing the veracity\* and accuracy of negative reviews on TripAdvisor have come under scrutiny in recent years. Nor is all the feedback on the Coast High Country inn page negative. The average response seems to be one of restrained approval; many TripAdvisor users have given the hotel three or four stars.

One describes the staff as 'friendly and helpful'; another praises the 'comfy beds and linens; and advises that the restaurant is 'nice to relax with a beer'.

in contradiction to claims about dirtiness and poor-quality staff, an especially enthustastic patron also describes the hotel as having clean, well-appointed rooms and excellent courteous service for only marginally more than you would pay for a far less professional and [more] tired hotel:

But it's hard to ignore the more vitriolic\*\* feedback. The hotel used to house a YMCA hostel\*\*\*. One enraged guest took to the internet to brand its transformation into a hotel in the Nineties as the equivalent of 'putting lipstick on a pig'.

William and Kate will be staying in the best room of the bunch — the Premium King Jacuzzi room which costs from £153 a night. Although this comes with a hot tub, the hotel doesn't appear to have an untarnished reputation in the bath tub stakes — one TripAdvisor user talks about a broken whirlpool; a second expresses their disbelief over a missing bath plug.

The Jacuzzi room comes with a kitchenette. But one individual who stayed in a selfcatering room has also complained about the absence of wine glasses, and 'absolute minimum number' of cutiery.

The royal couple, who will stay at the hotel without their children, may also struggle to get a good night's sleep. One guest review on TripAdvisor laments that 'we could constantly hear a door banging'; another that 'rooms above the pub are loud, late into the evening with music playing till Tam'. And a particularly puzzled guest even retells an episode when the fire alarm went off one day for no apparent reason at all.

The on-site restaurant seems slightly more popular. Health-conscious Kate may nonetheless struggle with the grease-smeared menu of brisket with barbecue sauce, corn bread with whipped maple bacon butter, and flash-fried chicken wings. That's If the food arrives.

veracity\* - truth vitriolic\*\* - poisonous

YMCA hostel\*\*\* - cheap, temporary accommodation for travellers

### The Telegraph





25

30



# Questions 4 (1 mark) and 5 (1 mark)

### Based on text 2 - 3 minutes

You should just write short quotes from the text to answer the question.

Generally just look for the most obvious answers.

4 From lines 7-11, identify <b>one</b> complaint about the hotel rooms.				
	(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)			
5 From lines 16-17, identify <b>one</b> positive comment given about the hotel.				
	(Total for Question 5 = 1 mark)			



Read Text 2 through in more detail in preparation for Question 6 using a highlighter to note text connected to setting, character, perspective, tone, theme and events





### Question 6 – 15 marks 15 minutes

# The evaluation question

This will always be:

In this extract, the writer attempts to ...... (do a certain thing)

Evaluate how successfully this is achieved.

Support your views with detailed reference to the text.



Your answer should be based on the whole text. You can use the acronym SPITE – setting, people, perspectives, ideas, tone, theme and events to help you. This question does not ask you to analyse techniques, but you can use them to help your evaluation.

You will be assessed on your depth of comment on the text, your critical judgement of the text and the writer's craft, and how well you choose references.

The exam gives you 4 sides to write on but aim to do a side and a half as a minimum.

6 In this extract, the writer attempts to show different opinions.

Evaluate how successfully this is achieved.

Support your views with detailed reference to the text.



# 7a – 6 marks 10 minutes

# Synthesis Question

- You will be asked to find similarities in the content of the two texts.
- You will have already read each text thoroughly to answer questions 3 and 6 so you will know them well.
- Find 3 similarities and reference each one. You will end up writing 3 short 3 sentence paragraphs.
- No analysis needed.
- An easy 6 marks!

(a) The two texts show opinions about places to stay.
What similarities do the places to stay share in these extracts?
Use evidence from **both** texts to support your answer.

Both places are described as dirty. In text 1 it says the guesthouse is "......"

And in text 2 it says the guesthouse is "....."

Both places are described as being small. In text 1 it says the guesthouse is "......" And in text 2 it says the guesthouse is ".......".

Both places have received complaints.

In text 1 a guest said it was "......"

And in text 2 someone complained that the guesthouse was ".....".

## 7b – 14 marks 15 minutes

## **Comparison Question**

You will be asked to compare how the writers of the two texts present their ideas and perspectives about a certain thing. This includes similarities and differences

Please make sure you highlight what certain thing they want you to focus on.

You are assessed on the range of comparisons you make. Aim to find 4 or 5. I find it is better to compare as I go along.

You can use some of your points in your answer to question 3 to help you with this answer. Also look at:

(b) Compare how the writers of Text 1 and Text 2 present ideas and perspectives about staying in a guesthouse/hotel.

You should write about:

- the ideas and perspectives
- how they are presented
- how they are similar/different.

Support your answer with detailed references to the texts.

(14)

Туре				
Writer's intention				
Perspective				
Style, tone and register				
Bias				
Language/Structural features				

Always use comparative phrases: more/less, on the other hand, in the same way, in contrast.

Avoid stating something about one text and then stating something about the other without making the comparison explicit.



# Question 8 or 9 Transactional writing task 40 marks – 45 minutes

Cont.

Please see all resources you have been given on this.

You might be asked to write a letter, article, review, report, speech or section of a guidebook/leaflet.

You will be given a choice of two tasks.

Aim to write a **minimum** of two sides.

Give yourself enough time to make a quick plan and to proofread at the end.

You will be assessed on content, organisation of ideas, writing for a specific audiece and technical skills like spelling, punctuation, sentence structure and vocabulary use.

\*8 Write a letter applying for a job at a local guesthouse/hotel.

In your letter, you could include:

- why you want a job in a guesthouse/hotel
- what relevant skills and knowledge you have
- what difference you can make to the experience of guests

as well as any other ideas you might have.

\*9 Write an article for a newspaper with the title 'Making the Best of a Bad Situation'.

In your article, you could include:

- what you think a bad situation might be
- · the possible causes of the situation
- suggestions to help people make the best of things

as well as any other ideas you might have.

\*Your response will be marked for the accurate and appropriate use of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

## Final notes

- The questions in this guide are taken from the June 2019 paper 2.
- This is just an overview of the paper. There are lots of resources, guidebooks, exercises for the longer questions: 3, 6, 7b and 8/9. You will also find grade boundaries from previous years.
- We use Edexcel/Pearson exam board. You can find a lot of other past papers here from June and November exam series. You will also find mark schemes and marked answers (examiner reports).
- It is important to practise the skills you need to use to answer the questions, first in a non-timed environment, and gradually building up to exam conditions.
- When working in timed conditions always move on from the longer questions (3, 6, 7b) you can come back to them at the end if you have time left.
- Some students like to read the texts through, then do the writing question and then do the reading. Being disciplined with your time is the most important thing you can do.
- If you are eligible for extra time that will usually mean 25% extra. If you or your teacher feels that your handwriting is too difficult to read, ask about using a word processor (specific check will be disabled).

# Timing overview

Question	Focus	How much to write	How much time
1 and 2	Comprehension	Short quotes	5 minutes
3	Language and Structure	One and a half sides minimum	15 minutes
4 and 5	Comprehension	Short quotes	3 minutes
6	Evaluation	One and a half sides minimum	15 minutes
7a	Synthesis	3 short paragraphs	10 minutes
7b	Comparison	4-5 comparative paragraphs	15 minutes
8 or 9	Transactional Writing	2 sides minimum	45 minutes