

# OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

## AS Level English Language H070/01 Exploring language Sample Resource Booklet

**Date – Morning/Afternoon**    Version 1.2

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



**You must have:**

- The Question Paper
- The OCR 12-page Answer Booklet



### INSTRUCTIONS

- The materials in this **Resource Booklet** are for use with the questions in **Section A** and **Section B** of the Question Paper.

### INFORMATION

- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

The material in this **Resource Booklet** relates to the questions in the Question Paper.

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**Section A – Understanding language features in context****Text A**

**Text A** is a letter of apology that was sent to a number of homes in November 2007, after the personal data belonging to parents who were receiving Child Benefit was lost.



Helpline 08:00 to 20:00 **0845 3021444**  
Minicom / Textphone **0845 302 1474**

Child Benefit Office  
PO Box 1  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE881AA

[www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

**Child Benefit Number** XXXXXXXXXX  
**National Insurance Number** XXXXX  
**Date** 27 November 2007

Mrs J Smith  
Address

Dear Mrs Smith

I am writing to make a personal apology. A copy of some HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) data about families, including yours, who have received Child Benefit has been lost. The copy of the data is likely to still be on Government property. The police are now conducting a search, and there is no evidence that it is in the possession of anyone else. This will not affect your Child Benefit payments.

This data includes your and your children's names and dates of birth, your address, your National Insurance number and, where relevant, the details of the bank or building society account into which your Child Benefit is or was paid.

If you are paid through a bank or building society, they are aware of this matter. They are acting on this information, and assure us that they have appropriate safeguards in place to protect you.

As is usual in these circumstances, if you are the innocent victim of banking fraud you will not have to pay, but you may want to take some precautionary steps to protect yourself. If you receive bills, invoices or receipts or see entries in your statements for goods or services which you have not ordered you should contact your bank or building society immediately. In addition, do not give out personal or account details if anyone contacts you unexpectedly. Instead take a note of their name and number, and if you are at all suspicious contact your bank or building society. If your password uses any of your personal data, for example your child's name or date of birth, you may also wish to consider changing any passwords you use.

The advice of banks is there is no need for customers to ask for a new account or to contact their bank or building society. Your Child Benefit payments will continue to be paid as before and you do not need to contact HMRC. However if you experience any problems, in the receipt of your Child Benefit payments, please contact HMRC on 0845 302 1444 between 8am and 8pm on any day of the week (closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

I would like to offer my personal apologies for any worry or concern this data loss may cause you. And I can assure you that all efforts are being made to ensure that such a loss can never happen again.

**Dave Hartnett**  
**Acting Chairman**

**Section B – Comparing and contrasting texts****Text B**

**Text B** is a transcription taken from The Infinite Monkey Cage, a popular science programme on BBC Radio Four. Professor Brian Cox, and comedian Robin Ince, explore the subject of space exploration with space science expert, Professor Monica Grady, and Sir Patrick Stewart (who played the Captain in the sci-fi TV series Star Trek).

Transcribed from 'The Infinite Monkey Cage, Space Exploration, Series 7'. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

The podcast is available to download: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01nxh2n>

The extract is taken from 22.02 – 24.56 from 'Cox: Curiosity's on the surface of Mars now Monica' to 'Stewart: doing the deed with a green lady er no'


For other examples of this type of question, please see our past papers, available through our website and Interchange. Alternatively, see our ExamBuilder platform for the full list of relevant mock questions.

**Text C**


**Text C** is an extract from *Space Stars and Slimy Aliens* by Nick Arnold and Tony de Saulles, from the series of books entitled 'Horrible Science', aimed at younger readers.

**So Mars isn't too nice right now – but is there any chance of life?**

Surprisingly the answer isn't "NO", it's "hmm..." Well, that's what I think. But maybe you should judge for yourself? Yes, all you need to do is put on a judge's robe (a dressing gown will do fine). Take a chair in your very own courtroom (or even your bedroom) and listen to the arguments from our two top scientist-lawyers...



Putting the case for LIFE ON MARS is Izzie Stars.



And putting the case against LIFE ON MARS is Luke Upwards.



Over to you, Luke!

**Luke:** Life on Mars? No way! I mean, there's no water and it's too cold. When the Viking spacecraft did robot tests on the soil, they couldn't prove that there was life.

**Izzie:** Objection, your honour! The tests showed chemical changes that might have been caused by microbes.

**Luke:** It was just a chemical reaction!

*Time out to think it over: WHAT DO YOU THINK?*

OK – now it's time for the case for life on Mars...


**Izzie:** So Mars is pretty dry now – but it once had lakes and rivers and where there's water, there's life. Maybe there's ice or even water deep underground. And maybe there are microbes hiding there. Microbes on Earth aren't too fussy – they're at home in ice and deep underground.



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**Luke:** Objection, your honour – she keeps saying "maybe"!

*Time out: WHAT DO YOU THINK?*



**Izzie:** In 1996, some scientists found fossil microbes in a rock from Mars. Here's exhibit A.

**Luke:** Objection! That's just a grotty old lump of rock. These so-called fossil microbes are too small to have been real microbes.

**Izzie:** But they could be hairs that the microbes used to swim about. Chemical changes in the rock could have been caused by microbes!

*Time out: WHAT DO YOU THINK?*

**Luke:** OK – you asked for this! In 1932 a scientist said he'd found microbes in a rock from Mars. They were found to be microbes from human snot. Here's Exhibit B.



**Izzie:** That's gross!

**TIME FOR OUR LAWYERS TO SUM UP...**

**Luke:** There's no way that there's life on Mars. Even if there were once life (and there's no proof), it doesn't mean there's life now!

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*Izzie:* It's possible that rocks with microbes in them could have been blasted from Mars and landed on Earth and brought life to Earth. We might have started off as aliens from Mars!

*Luke:* Are you calling me an alien from Mars?

*Izzie:* Well, you're slimy enough!



Hey, break it up, guys! It's only science and there's nothing at stake except our whole understanding of life and the way we see our place in the universe. Er – OK, that sounds rather a lot. OOOH DEAR! I bet that hurt, Luke!



## Summary of updates

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Date	Version	Change
September 2020	1.2	Updated copyright acknowledgements in Resource Booklet.  Text B, The Infinite Monkey Cage redacted due to copyright permissions.

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### Copyright Information:

Letter from HMRC to a client. Reproduced under the terms of the Open-Government Licence (OGL), 2014.

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