



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 20 May 2024 – Morning

AS Level English Language

H070/02 Exploring contexts

Resource Booklet

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS

- Each question tells you which part of the Resource Booklet to use.
- Do **not** send this Resource Booklet for marking. Keep it in the centre or recycle it.

INFORMATION

- This document has **8** pages.

Section B

Exploring language in context

Text A

Text A is an article about powerful people from *The Gentleman's Journal*, an online magazine. It was published in May 2014.

The most powerful people you've never heard of.

We live in the era of the demagogue¹, from Gates and Getty to Buffett and Bloomberg, nation states no longer rule the game. Now, above the bravura² of mainstream politics, a new generation of global giants are emerging – but you've probably never heard of them.

We've trawled through the corridors of power and factories of industry to come up with our definitive list of 4 unknown gods among men who really rule the world.

Ali Al-Naimi



Did you fill up your car this morning? Chances are, somewhere along the chain, His Excellency Ali Al-Naimi was involved. The Saudi Petroleum Minister and former Chair of Aramco has been the key figure in the global oil industry for the past twenty years. He was instrumental in maintaining Saudi oil production amidst regional instability in the early 2000's and with the dependence on Saudi production set to deepen as regional instability grows, His Excellency will become more important than ever.

Alexy Miller



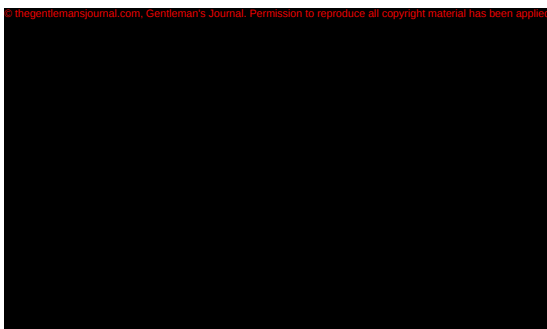
Europe has nothing left in the tank. With coal and oil reserves at an all time low, our dependence on energy imports looks set to increase as renewable energy technologies gain pace. Alexy Miller, Vice-Chair of the world's largest natural gas extract, Gazprom, looks like he's going to become a whole lot more important. With direct control over exploitation rates and piping, Mr Miller has, as was shown most recently in Ukraine, the power to quite literally turn our lights off.

Kaushik Basu



It may be a cliché, but as Francis Bacon remarked, “knowledge is power”. As Chief Economist of the World Bank and a former Director for Analytic Economics at Cornell University, Mr Basu certainly has no end of both. Although he spent the majority of his career as an academic, Mr Basu’s analysis and interpretations of market data are now a touch-stone for most of the world’s financial ministries and heavily influence national economic policies. A fun fact: Mr Basu is such a highly skilled Sudoku³ player that he’s even invented a two player form of the game, Dui-Doku.

Dilma Rousseff



Amid the lager and disappointment of England's world cup flop, you probably failed to notice an ever present figure sat in the stands. Dilma Rousseff, President of Brazil has used the tournament not only as a vehicle to showcase her country to the rest of the world, but also to show just how important it has now become. With the decrease in global energy reserves, Brazil has become an economic goldmine. With around 13.2bn barrels of oil in reserve and a further 364.2bn cubic metres of natural gas in reserve, Brazil will see a meteoric rise in diplomatic influence and Mrs. Rousseff will rise with her.

¹**Demagogue** — a leader who wins support by rousing the emotions and prejudices of the people

²**Bravura** — a dazzling display of skill

³**Sudoku** — a logic-based number puzzle

Text B

Text B is an interview from an American website, *Blank on Blank*, which provides links to recordings of historical interest. This interview was originally recorded in 1983.

“The worst question that I’ve gotten was whether I cried when we got malfunctions.”

In 1977, Sally Ride was wrapping up her PhD in physics at Stanford when a job notice in the newspaper caught her eye. The ad said NASA was looking for astronaut candidates. It was the first time NASA had looked outside the military for trainee candidates. Astronauts had typically been military pilots, making space exploration, by default, an all-male endeavour. Of the 8,000 people who applied, 35 – including Sally and five other women – made the cut. Sally became an astronaut candidate in January 1978.

This conversation, with Gloria Steinem, was recorded just months after Sally Ride became the first American woman to fly in space aboard the space shuttle Challenger on June 18, 1983.

Sally Ride: I wish that there had been another woman on my flight. I wish that two of us had gone up together.

Gloria Steinem: It’s tough being the first but you’ve done it with incredible grace. You also have the only job in the world that everybody understands.

Sally Ride: My father was so grateful when I became an astronaut because he did not understand astrophysics. He couldn’t relate to that at all, but astronaut was something he felt he understood.

Gloria Steinem: But you could see people all over the world connecting with what you were doing.

Sally Ride: Roughly half the people in the world would love to be astronauts, would give anything to trade places with you, and the other half just can’t understand why in the world you would do something that stupid. I didn’t have any dreams about being an astronaut at all and I don’t understand that because as soon as the opportunity was open to me, I jumped at it. I instantly realized that that was what I really wanted to do. I took all the science classes I could all the way through junior high school and into high school.

Gloria Steinem: I’m curious about the reception that you got inside NASA. What kind of thing happened to you?

Sally Ride: Really the only bad moments in our training involved the press. The press was an added pressure on the flight for me and whereas NASA appeared to be very enlightened about flying women astronauts, the press didn’t appear to be. The things that they were concerned with were not the same things that I was concerned with.

Gloria Steinem: For instance the bathroom facilities.

Sally Ride: Just about every interview I got asked that. Everybody wanted to know about what kind of makeup I was taking up. They didn’t care about how well-prepared I was to operate the arm or deploy communications satellites.

Gloria Steinem: What do you suppose are the dumbest kinds of questions you've been asked to date?

Sally Ride: I think the worst question that I've gotten was whether I cried when we got malfunctions in the simulator. (laughter) No.

Gloria Steinem: What about your feelings during the launch...was there any time that the enormity of what was going on came over you?

Sally Ride: The moment of the launch, when the engines actually ignited and the solid rockets lit everyone on the crew was for a few seconds just overcome with what was about to happen to us. You hear the sounds and you feel the vibrations. They prepare you very well and it worked. We were able to overcome being overcome and do the things that we were supposed to do.

Gloria Steinem: Just watching there at the launch outdoors...there were people with tears streaming down their faces, I guess, the human audacity of it.

Sally Ride: I think that to imagine, when you see the long trail of flame, and then to imagine that there are really people inside that — that's really something. Inside, of course, you don't see the long trail of flame and what you're feeling is really more of an exhilaration.

Gloria Steinem: Well, there are lots of people looking up there feeling proud not only of you up there but also on the ground. Thank you.

Sally Ride: Thank you.



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