BERGVLIET HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9
ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE
Comprehension, Summary and Language
November 2023
Task 10

Marks: 70
Time: 1½ hours
Examiner: C.Ocktober
Moderators: English Department

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of **FOUR SECTIONS**:

SECTION A: Comprehension	25 marks
SECTION B: Summary	10 marks
SECTION C: Visual Text	25 marks
SECTION D: Language Editing	10 marks

2. Read ALL the instructions carefully.

3. Answer ALL the questions.

4. Start EACH section on a NEW page.

5. Number each answer exactly as the question is numbered.

6. Leave a line after EACH answer.

7. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction.

8. Use the following time frames as a guideline:

   SECTION A: 30 Minutes
   SECTION B: 20 Minutes
   SECTION C: 15 Minutes
   SECTION D: 25 Minutes

9. Write neatly and legibly.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1

CELEBRATIONS OF LIGHT

1. Fireworks have been around in some form or another for more than a millennium, and are still one of the most spectacular ways to celebrate a grand event. If you think your cooking is bad, don't worry. Picture the mess made by a Chinese cook 1400 years ago who mixed together saltpetre seasoning with charcoal and sulphur. The dish went "bang!", and probably singed his eyebrows, because these ingredients form a basic version of gunpowder.

2. Actually, *Popular Mechanics* magazine disputes the fable and argues that he was in fact an alchemist, but I prefer the idea of a cook and some vigorously exploding prawn crackers. The Chinese already knew that chunks of bamboo would explode with a bang if you roasted them, and were using bamboo bangers to ward off evil spirits. So they began stuffing this newly discovered chemical concoction called "huo yao" (fire chemical) into bamboo stalks and throwing them into the fire to produce loud blasts. And voilà, the first fireworks were born.

3. We have grown a lot more sophisticated since then, and the New Year's countdown in Sydney, Australia, is stirring stuff. Sydney Harbour Bridge razzles, dazzles and shimmers in an amazing display of sound and light so spectacular that you will want to plan a New Year's holiday Down Under. But back to the Chinese, who soon stuffed rocks and metal into their firecrackers and fired them into the air towards their enemies, creating the first rockets. By the 13th century, scientists and military leaders in Europe and Arabia were making gunpowder to create cannons and muskets. Away from the battlefields, gunpowder was used to create fireworks to mark military victories and liven up public celebrations.

4. By the time of the Renaissance, pyrotechnic schools were exploding across Europe (pardon the pun) and Italy, in particular, became famous for its elaborate fireworks displays. In the 1830s the Italians discovered that by adding metals or chemicals, they could create bright, multi-coloured sparks instead of just the bangs and orange flashes of earlier efforts. They turned fireworks into an art form by developing shells that sailed upwards and then exploded in a starburst of colour.

5. England's earliest recorded fireworks display took place at Henry VII's wedding in 1486. But by 1605, royalty had become the target, as Catholic rebels tried to blow up England's Houses of Parliament and assassinate King James I. One of their number, Guy Fawkes, had a decade of military experience and was put in charge of the explosives. But a whistle blower snitched and a search of the building revealed Fawkes guarding 36 barrels of gunpowder. The thwarting of the uprising has been celebrated ever since on 5 November, when an effigy of Guy Fawkes is thrown onto a bonfire and fireworks are let off across Britain (and many former colonies).

6. Americans have celebrated Independence Day on the fourth of July since the first firework-fuelled celebrations became so successful. Indians around the world celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights, with fireworks, often using quieter varieties to enjoy the flash, rather than the bang.

7. But the mother of all firework displays is the one in Sydney, with the New Year's eve midnight fireworks attracting more than 1,5 million spectators. It is also televised to an estimated billion viewers around the world. The harbour is illuminated by seven tons of fireworks shooting up from the bridge and from barges on the river. It is certainly the best way to welcome the New Year with a bang.

[Adapted from an article in *Indwe* magazine December 2013]

Glossary:

alchemist: a person who practices magic

Pyrotechnic: a firework display

Concoction: a mixture of various ingredients or elements

Illuminated: light up

Effigy: a sculpture or model of a person

1.1 **Refer to paragraph 1.**

1.1.1 How long is a millennium? (1)

Multiple Choice: Write down only the correct LETTER next to the corresponding question number.

A) 10 years

B) 100 years

C) 1000 years

D) 10000 years

1.2 **Refer to paragraph 2.**

1.2.1 Why is *Popular Mechanics* written in italics? (1)

1.2.2 What does the word "fable" tell you about the popular stories about the origin of fireworks? (2)

1.2.3 Why did the Chinese use "bamboo bangers"? (1)

1.2.4 Suggest a reason why the writer prefers the Chinese cook's version of how fireworks were first discovered? (2)

1.2.5 Why is "huo yao" written in inverted commas? (2)

1.3 **Refer to paragraph 3.**

1.3.1 Identify a colloquialism used to refer to Australia. (1)

1.4 **Refer to paragraph 4.**

1.4.1 "... pyrotechnic schools were exploding across Europe (pardon the pun) ..." (2)

Explain the pun in the above sentence.

1.5 **Refer to paragraph 5.**

1.5.1 Provide a synonym for the word 'snitched'. (1)

1.5.2 Suggest the reason Guy Fawkes was appointed in charge of explosives. (1)

1.5.3 Provide your understanding of the phrase "whistle blowers" (1)

1.6 **Refer to paragraph 6.**

1.6.1 Contrast the two different approaches to fireworks in this paragraph. (2)

1.7 **Refer to paragraph 7.**

1.7.1 What does the writer mean by "the mother of all firework displays"? (2)

1.8 "It is certainly the best way to welcome the New Year with a bang."

1.8.1 What does the phrase "with a bang" mean? (2)

1.8.2 Explain the effect of ending the passage with the word 'bang' (2)

1.9 Comment on the effectiveness of the title of the article. (2)

TOTAL SECTION A: 25

SECTION B: SUMMARY
QUESTION 2

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

Carefully read the text below. You are required to do the following:

- Summarise using your **own words** as far as possible
- Summary should be in a maximum of 90 words IN **PARAGRAPH FORM**
- Summary should be in full sentences.
- Indicate the number of words used at the end of the paragraph.
- Your paragraph must include **7 safety tips for Guy Fawkes**.

SAFETY TIPS FOR GUY FAWKES

1. Fireworks can be spectacular, but are also dangerous. Traditionally Guy Fawkes is celebrated with an array of fireworks and sparklers. Although beautiful and spectacular to watch, fireworks are not without their dangers. If not used correctly, they can cause serious injuries and start fires.

2. Make sure of the municipal regulations on fireworks – in many urban areas it is illegal to light fireworks. You might have a nasty run-in with the law if you do. Check where the designated areas are and stick to them.

3. Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of a malfunctioning firework. Be sure to set off the fireworks in an area clear of people.

4. Fireworks should only be lit away from homes and other buildings, trees and cars. Never light fireworks on grass, but always on a smooth, flat surface such as concrete or the pavement.

5. Pet owners need to take special precaution in keeping their pets safe. Many pets are so traumatised by fireworks displays, they run away from home. So keep them locked up and away from the action.

6. Sparklers can be just as dangerous. Always light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves. Put finished sparklers with the hot end down in a bucket of water as soon as they have burnt out.

7. In an emergency do the following: Cool the burn with cold water for at least 10 minutes. Cut around material sticking to the skin – don't pull it off. Don't touch the burn or burst any blisters. Cover the burn with clean, non-fluffy material – cling film is ideal – to prevent infection.

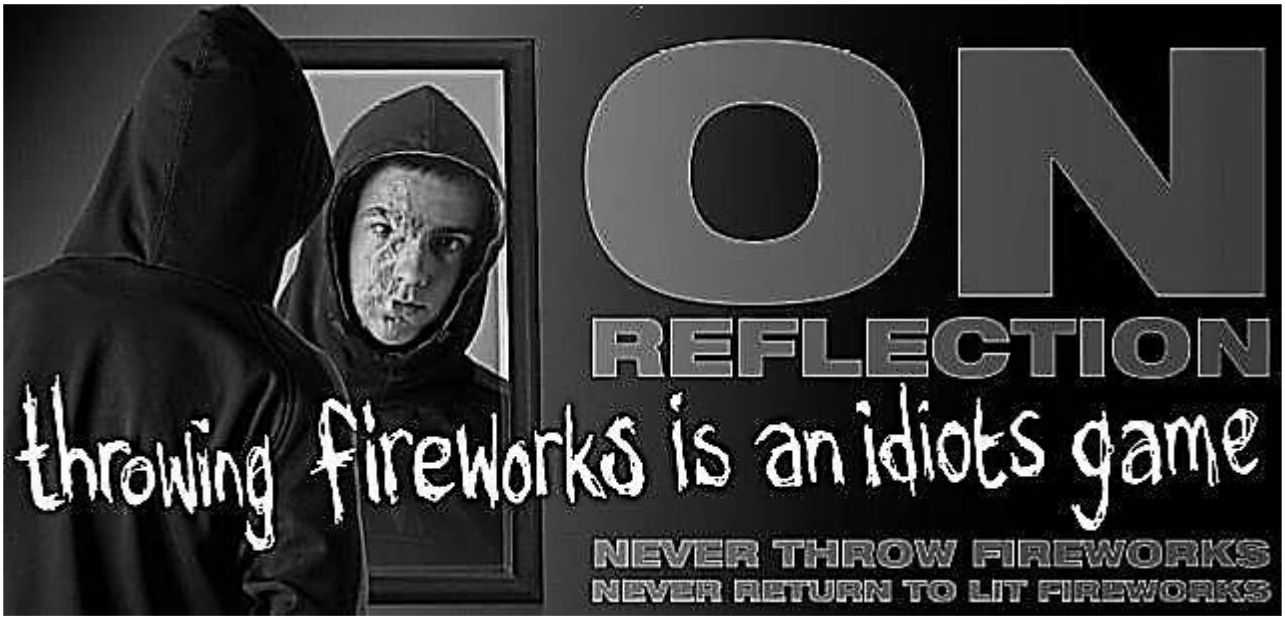
[Adapted from http://www.health24.com/Parenting/Child/Home/10-safety-tips-for-Guy-Fawkes]

TOTAL SECTION B: 10

SECTION C: ADVERTISEMENT

QUESTION 3

Study the advertisement below and answer the set questions.



Text:

NEVER THROW FIREWORKS

NEVER RETURN TO LIT FIREWORKS

3.1 "On reflection" can have two different meanings.
3.1.1 Explain the two different meanings. (3)
3.1.2 What is this figure of speech called? (1)

3.2 Why does the advertiser choose to show the severely scarred face of the boy? (2)

3.3 Provide **TWO** reasons why this is an effective advertisement. (2)

3.4.An apostrophe has been left out of the sentence:
"On reflection throwing fireworks is an idiots game".
Rewrite the sentence including the missing apostrophe. (1)

3.5 Provide a reason for the two pieces of advice which the advertisement gives regarding fireworks safety. (2)

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CARTOON ANALYSIS

QUESTION 4

Study the cartoon below and answer the set questions.



4.1 What visual clues indicate that fireworks are being sold cheaper (1)

4.2 How is the fireworks seller able to identify repeat customers? (2)

4.3 What is the message the cartoonist is making about fireworks? (2)

4.4 Rewrite the following sentence in indirect/reported speech.
The man said, "I can always spot the repeat customers".
Start your sentence as follows: The man said that ... (2)

4.5 **Refer to the speech bubble used in the cartoon**.
4.5.1 What is the name given to the three dots (...) used in the speech bubble? (1)
4.5.2 What is the purpose of this punctuation feature? (2)
4.5.3 Write the word 'Yup" into formal English. (1)
4.5.4 Write the following sentence in the Passive Voice: (3)
"I can always spot the repeat customer"

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TOTAL SECTION C: 25

SECTION D: LANGUAGE EDITING

QUESTION 5

Correct the passage by choosing the correct word from those in brackets **and** write the missing word or write the word in its correct form.

Write **only** the **question number** and the **answer**

Friday, 20 October
Dear Diary
I'm so upset about what happened at school today. We always
(5.1. **has/have**) (5.2 **plural: assembly**) on Mondays and Fridays. Well,
during this (5.3 choose correct answer: **mornings/morning's**) assembly, I
was called to the front to receive my certificate(5.4. **fill in the preposition**) Best Results
in the English Olympiad. Just before I could climb the steps onto the stage,
that nasty Lingile-girl stuck out (5.5 **fill in the pronoun**) foot and tripped me! I
(5.6 **past tense**: **fall**) flat on my face in front of the (5.7 **hole/whole**) school! It
was the most embarrassing moment in all my life. Of course (5.8 **some/other**) learners
laughed their heads (5.9 **off/of**)! I had to force (5.10 **fill in the pronoun**) to get up and go
on as if nothing happened.

TOTAL SECTION D: 10

Grand Total: 70