



ENGLISH A2 – STANDARD LEVEL – PAPER 1
ANGLAIS A2 – NIVEAU MOYEN – ÉPREUVE 1
INGLÉS A2 – NIVEL MEDIO – PRUEBA 1

Thursday 9 November 2000 (morning)
Jeudi 9 novembre 2000 (matin)
Jueves 9 de noviembre del 2000 (mañana)

2 hours / 2 heures / 2 horas

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A consists of two passages for comparative commentary.
- Section B consists of two passages for comparative commentary.
- Choose either Section A or Section B. Write one comparative commentary.

INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- Ne pas ouvrir cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé.
- La section A comporte deux passages à commenter.
- La section B comporte deux passages à commenter.
- Choisissez soit la section A soit la section B. Écrire un commentaire comparatif.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- En la Sección A hay dos fragmentos para comentar.
- En la Sección B hay dos fragmentos para comentar.
- Elija la Sección A o la Sección B. Escriba un comentario comparativo.

Choose either Section A or Section B.

SECTION A

Analyse and compare the following two texts.

Discuss the similarities and differences between the texts and their theme(s). Include comments on the ways the authors use elements such as structure, tone, images, and other stylistic devices to communicate their purposes.

Text 1 (a)

Outlook for bears is ‘bleak’

WWF says the loss of wild habitats threatens survival of the carnivores

PAUL BROWN

The outlook for wild bears is bleak - and even the survival of some species outside zoos is in doubt, according to *Bears in The Wild*, a report published last week by the World Wild Fund for Nature.

5 They were one of the world’s most numerous and successful big carnivores, with eight species adapted to survival in different climates from the far north to south of the equator. Gradually, they are being exterminated over large parts of the earth.

10 According to the report, the brown bear is likely to disappear in western Europe, having been reduced to just six tiny populations. The most vulnerable groups are in France, Spain, and Italy, where they are unlikely to recover unless augmented by bears from other populations to ensure breeding success.

The survival of the bear in Europe is dependent on human attitudes. They are disappearing because of the loss of wild places, particularly forests, and are in conflict with humans because of their attacks on livestock and beekeepers’ hives. Poaching¹ for body parts for Chinese medicine is also a problem.

15 In Britain bears were once numerous but were wiped out about 2,000 years ago. France had 300 bears at the end of the first world war but there are now only eight in the Pyrenees.

20 Despite its precarious² position in parts of Europe, the brown bear’s position is in some senses improving because of conservation efforts. But in other parts of the world where human population pressure is greater, the bear’s future is more precarious. The Mexican grizzly is believed to be extinct, and the panda, WWF’s logo, is struggling for survival in China despite attempts to protect it.

25 Four species, the sun bear (southern Asia), the Asiatic black bear, the sloth bear (Indian subcontinent) and the spectacled bear (central and South America) are poorly studied, but all are known to be on the retreat.

The polar bear is in trouble for different reasons - global warming is reducing the arctic icepack, which it needs for hunting, and pollution is a problem because chemicals are stored in the body fat, reducing the bears’ ability to breed.

from *The Guardian Weekly*, August 5, 1999 edition

¹ poaching: hunting illegally

² precarious: uncertain or insecure

Text 1 (b)

He had already inherited, then, without ever having seen it, the big old bear with the trap-ruined foot that in an area almost a hundred miles square had earned for himself a name, a definite designation, like a man:- the long legend of corncribs¹ broken down and rifled², of grown pigs and even calves carried bodily into the woods and devoured, and traps overthrown
5 and dogs mangled and slain, and shotgun and even rifle shots delivered at point-blank range yet with no more effect than so many peas blown through a tube by a child - a corridor of wreckage and destruction beginning back before the boy was born, through which sped, not fast but rather with the ruthless deliberation of a locomotive, the shaggy tremendous shape. It loomed and towered in his dreams before he even saw the unaxed woods where it left its
10 crooked print: shaggy, tremendous, red-eyed, not malevolent, but just big, too big for the dogs which tried to bay it, for the horses which tried to ride it down, for the men and the bullets they fired into it; too big for the very country which was its constricting scope³.

adapted from *The Bear*, by William Faulkner (1942)

¹ corncribs: small sheds used to store corn or grain

² rifled: broken into and stolen from

³ constricting scope: narrowing or tightening view or range

SECTION B

Analyse and compare the following two texts.

Discuss the similarities and differences between the texts and their theme(s). Include comments on the ways the authors use elements such as structure, tone, images, and other stylistic devices to communicate their purposes.

Text 2 (a)

The Sacred

After the teacher asked if anyone had
a sacred place
and the students fidgeted and shrank

in their chairs, the most serious of them all
5 said it was his car,
being in it alone, his tape deck playing

things he'd chosen, and others knew the truth
he had spoken
and began speaking about their rooms,

10 their hiding places, but the car kept coming up,
the car in motion,
music filling it, and sometimes one other person

who understood the bright altar of the dashboard
and how far away
15 a car could take him from the need

to speak, or to answer, the key is
in having a key
and putting it in, and going.

Stephen Dunn (1993)

Text 2 (b)

**Introducing the all-new Infiniti 130.
It's not just a new car.
It's all the best thinking.**

If you were designing a new luxury car, how would you make it stand apart from the crowd? Would you give it the most powerful V-6 engine in its class? Would you create the most spacious cabin in its class? Maybe you'd offer luxury touches and a level of ingenuity¹ that you couldn't find anywhere else. Surely, laying claim to any one of these achievements sets you apart from today's crowd of luxury automobiles. Imagine how special you'd be if you could claim all of them.

Introducing the all-new Infiniti 130. It's not just a new luxury sedan. It's all the best thinking in a \$30,000 luxury sedan.

**We thought of everything.
Even a quiet place to think.**

You open the driver's door and the Auto Entry / Exit seat automatically slides back to ease your entrance, then slides back to its pre-set position. You reach for the Seton leather-wrapped gear selector, and it ergonomically² falls into your hand. You drive away and road noise is astonishingly absent.

You spend just a few moments inside the cabin of the new 130, and you know an incredible amount of thought went into its design. From a stretched wheelbase that gives the 130 the most spacious cabin in its class, to safety technologies like front-seat Active Head Restraints that are uncommon in its class, to luxury touches like a custom-tune Bose audio system and power rear sunshade that would be a surprise in any class.

Where do the bright ideas stop? On the new 130, they don't.

130 INFINITI. Own one and you'll understand.

From an advertisement in *The New Yorker Magazine*, September 12, 1999 edition

¹ ingenuity: cleverness at inventing or organising

² ergonomically: especially designed for ease of use