



ENGLISH B – HIGHER LEVEL – PAPER 1
ANGLAIS B – NIVEAU SUPÉRIEUR – ÉPREUVE 1
INGLÉS B – NIVEL SUPERIOR – PRUEBA 1

Friday 4 May 2007 (morning)
Vendredi 4 mai 2007 (matin)
Viernes 4 de mayo de 2007 (mañana)

1 h 30 m

TEXT BOOKLET – INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet contains all of the texts required for Paper 1.
- Answer the questions in the Question and Answer Booklet provided.

LIVRET DE TEXTES – INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret contient tous les textes nécessaires à l'épreuve 1.
- Répondez à toutes les questions dans le livret de questions et réponses fourni.

CUADERNO DE TEXTOS – INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra este cuaderno hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuaderno contiene todos los textos para la Prueba 1.
- Conteste todas las preguntas en el cuaderno de preguntas y respuestas.

Blank page
Page vierge
Página en blanco

TEXT A

IDENTITY THEFT



What is identity theft?

Identity theft occurs when someone steals your personal information to take over your credit accounts, open new ones, take out a loan, rent a flat, access bank accounts, or commit many other crimes in your name and at your expense.

- 5 When it strikes the effects can be devastating. What’s more, because it frequently involves no physical theft, identity theft may not be noticed by its victims until significant damage has already been done – often several months and thousands of pounds later.

It’s estimated that more than 100 000 people are affected by identity theft in the UK each year, costing the British economy over £1.3 billion annually.

How does it happen?

- 10 These are some of the ways in which crooks get hold of your personal information:

- **Fake emails**

- You may receive an email seemingly from, say, your bank requesting that you follow a link and key information into a website that looks very similar to your bank’s own site but is in fact a fake.

- **Pretext phone calls**

- 15 A crook posing as an official from, for example, your bank may phone up asking you to give personal or account details as a security check. Or you might receive a letter asking you to fax bank details.

- **Mugging and burglary**

- 20 If your bag has been snatched, your house broken into or any other crime committed where your documents, credit cards and so on have been stolen, there is a strong possibility that they may be used for identity fraud.

- **Bin raiding**

- 25 Crooks trawl through your rubbish looking for personal information. A recent survey found that almost three-quarters of bins contained the full name and address of at least one household member, one in five contained a whole credit or debit card number, one in five a whole bank account number and sort code, and one in six a utility bill. Any of these details could be enough to steal your identity.

- **Intercepting your post**

- If your mail is stolen before it arrives, your personal details may be used by crooks to have your post diverted to another address.

- **Bogus websites**

- 30 A website apparently selling some popular item may ask for your personal and card details and then state that your order cannot be processed at this time.

- **Dishonest people**

- 35 Sometimes sales assistants, unbeknownst to you, swipe your card through a machine which records its details. At the workplace, a fellow employee or another company you deal with can use your personal details fraudulently.

How can you protect yourself?

Be careful who you give your personal details to, and tear up documents like credit-card slips before you discard them. Don’t make this serious crime easy for crooks!

TEXT B

SAVING SNAKES IN DISTRESS

[– X –]

At an age when most young boys who have just crossed the teenage threshold, computer games and going to the movies might not be an unusual pastime, but what about a 21-year old youth whose passion is snakes. For Sohum Mukherjee, working as wildlife ranger in charge of the Animal Help Foundation (AHF), rescuing snakes is not only a hobby but also a passion. For him
 5 handling snakes is as easy as carrying a puppy is for someone else, no matter whether it is a cobra, krait or viper whose haemotoxic or neurotoxic venom could kill!

[– What he does for a living –]

“My job is to rescue snakes whenever they accidentally slither into people’s houses, gardens or other places where panic-stricken people might kill them”, he says.



[– 7 –]

10 Sohum’s paraphernalia consists of an adjustable metal stick with a hook, a particular type of bandage and a bag or a box to put the misunderstood creatures in. In fact, he does not just rescue snakes: he rehabilitates them, nurses them and then ensures that they are released in a place where they can happily slither around.

[– His busy work schedule –]

To date, Sohum has rescued more than 1 000 snakes. His snake rescue mission is busier during the
 15 March to November season when they come out of their resting place more often. “On average, I typically rescue between 100 to 200 snakes per season,” says Sohum, adding that during the winter snakes prefer not to come out as they hibernate.

[– 8 –]

Rehabilitating snakes often involves removing ticks or warts from their body, treating them for any external injury or viral fever and then releasing them in national parks or nature sanctuaries.
 20 The snakes are taken to veterinarian hospitals where they are properly attended to and nursed back to health. One day at the rescue mission, Sohum was bitten on the finger by a cobra. People all around him panicked, so he calmly told one of them to take him to the hospital. “I started to feel a little giddy there, but I didn’t want people to panic. So I told them that I wasn’t in any great danger because the amount of venom injected into my hand was small,” he said.
 25 Once he got to the hospital for treatment, he was fine.

[– 9 –]

An only son, Sohum’s interest in snakes started when he was studying in sixth standard. “A snake slithered into my house as I was playing. Instead of panicking, I just lifted it by its tail and released it in the garden. That was when I realized that handling snakes was not as big a deal as it seemed,” he added.

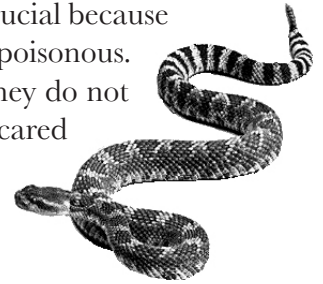
[– 10 –]

30 Asked whether his parents approve of his unusual passion, Sohum said, “Earlier they were very apprehensive and scared. But now they have got the confidence that I can handle it.”

[– 11 –]

An important part of his job is to conduct snake-awareness programs among the people about the behaviour of snakes and their importance to the ecosystem. This is crucial because his region of Gujarat is home to 58 species of snakes, most of them poisonous.

35 According to Sohum, people have got the wrong idea about snakes. “They do not realize that snakes rarely attack humans unless they are provoked or scared by them. All I’m trying to do is help people understand these lovely creatures better.”



TEXT C

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS

Uneasily Colin watched Mary set off slowly down the right-hand fork. "Wait a minute, Mary," he called after her. "Are you sure that's right?" She nodded without turning around. In the far distance, picked out momentarily by a streetlight, a figure was walking towards them. Somehow reassured by this, Colin caught up with her.

- 5 This too was a prosperous street, but its shops were huddled and exclusive, dedicated it seemed, to the sale of single items. The drinking fountain, unlike most in the city, actually worked. The dark stone of the surrounding step and the rim of its great bowl had been worn down and polished by centuries of use. Mary arranged her head under the tarnished brass faucet and drank. "The water here", she said between mouthfuls, "tastes of fish." Colin was staring ahead, waiting to see the approaching figure
- 10 reappear beneath another lamp post. But there was nothing, except perhaps a rapid movement by a distant doorway, and that may have been a cat.

They had eaten their last meal, a shared plate of fried whitebait, twelve hours previously. Colin reached for Mary's hand and asked "Can you remember if he sells anything apart from hot dogs?"

- 15 Their pace quickened and their footsteps resounded noisily on the cobbles, making the sound of only one pair of shoes. "One of the eating capitals of the world," Colin said, "and we're walking two miles for hot dogs."

"We're on holiday," Mary reminded him. "Don't forget that."

He clapped his free hand to his forehead. "Of course, I get too easily lost in details, like hunger and thirst. We are on holiday."

- 20 They dropped hands, and as they walked on Colin hummed to himself. The street was narrowing and the shops had given way on both sides to high, dark walls, broken at irregular intervals by deeply recessed doorways, and windows, small and square, set high up and criss-crossed with iron bars.

"This is the glass factory," Mary said with satisfaction. "We tried to come here on our first day." They slowed down, but did not stop.

- 25 Colin said, "We must have been round the other side then, because I've never been here before."

"We queued outside one of these doors while we were waiting."

- Colin wheeled round on her, incredulous, exasperated. "That wasn't our first day," he said loudly. "Now you're completely confused. It was seeing the queue that made us decide to go to the beach, and we didn't go there till the third day." Colin had stopped to say this, but Mary kept on walking. He caught up
- 30 with her in skipping steps.

"It might have been the third day," she was saying as though to herself, "but this is where we were." She pointed at a doorway several yards ahead and, as if summoned, a squat figure stepped out of the dark into the pool of streetlight and stood blocking their path.

TEXT D

STORM IN A TEACUP

It's the latest must-have fashion accessory and it fits rather nicely into designer handbags. But this "accessory" is not a pair of sunglasses or a new MP3 player. It is a dog so tiny that it has been nicknamed a Teacup dog, and it weighs less than 3 lbs.



These worryingly miniscule dogs are an increasingly familiar sight peeking out of people's handbags on the streets of New York. This trend was originally started by Paris Hilton's Chihuahua, Tinkerbelle. Since Tinkerbelle's appearance on the fashion scene, other celebrities now proudly sport tiny dogs as fashion statements.

According to animal cruelty activists, this strange trend has gone a shocking step further. Everyone wants to own a dog small enough to fit into their designer bag. This is a fashion statement gone too far as animal researchers have discovered. Teacup dogs are by definition small, but pressure from buyers is pushing breeders to downsize still further. Producing a Teacup dog is a disturbing process. Animal breeders take two runts (the smallest dogs in the litter) and breed them together to try to produce the smallest dog possible. This means that these darling dogs are often unhealthy creatures.

"Teacup dogs are very cute but they are usually frail and you will have to deal with endless medical bills," says Dr. Tayman, owner of the Columbia Animal Hospital. Many of them are prone to genetic diseases such as water on the brain, heart problems, knee problems and dental disease. This wide range of medical problems causes them to have a shorter life span. And to add to all that, because of their genetics, Teacup dogs are usually neurotic, disobedient and mean tempered.

It might seem oh-so-cute to carry your dog around in the latest designer handbag but the SPCA* warns that it is potentially damaging to your dog's health. A spokesman for the SPCA said that dogs should be walked and not carried around everywhere so their limbs will be strong and healthy. On the positive side though, proponents of Teacup dogs cite the numerous health advantages for their owners. Carrying a bag filled with as much as 3 lbs of dog is a good toning activity for young women.



Dr. Mugford, from the Animal Behavior Center in Surrey, calls Teacup dogs "monsters in the making." Once a dog is raised above waist height for a long period, it gets an over-inflated ego.

Even the most dedicated fashionistas will have to ask, "Is a handbag that bites back worth it?" For many celebrities the answer is "yes". Experts say people like Teacup dogs because they're easily transportable, fun to dress up and fill a void for adults who don't have a child or a relationship. Some Teacup dog owners view them as the perfect toy that you can take everywhere. Busy owners feel that smaller dogs are easier to take care of.

What does the future hold for these much-loved pets? They are judged by their size just like everyone else. When Paris Hilton's Tinkerbelle got too big, she was given to her mother because the poor thing had literally outgrown its welcome... and her designer bags.

* Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals