

Integrated Skills in English I

Time allowed: 2 hours

This examination paper has 4 tasks. Complete all tasks.

Task 1 – Long reading

Read the following text about history and answer the 15 questions opposite.

**Paragraph 1**

Chester Greenwood was born in the state of Maine, USA in 1858. The winters in Maine were especially difficult because they were so cold. As a young boy, Chester was used to the freezing temperatures but he didn't like them. The problem he had was that his ears were very big and they got cold very quickly.

Paragraph 2

One day when he was 15 years old he was trying out some new ice skates when he became very frustrated. Other children were wearing scarves to keep warm and protect their ears but when Chester tried to wrap the wool around his head, he found it uncomfortable.

Paragraph 3

At home Chester decided to make something that would protect his ears from the cold. He used some wire to make the shape of his ears and persuaded his grandmother to sew some soft material over it. When he tried the earmuffs outside, Chester felt they were better than a scarf but they still didn't work perfectly because they moved around a lot on his head. He went back to his design and improved it. He added a band that could be made bigger or smaller. The finished ear muffs fitted better and the new design also meant that they could go in a pocket.

Paragraph 4

Soon other children and adults wanted their own earmuffs. At the age of 18, Chester started selling his ear muffs locally and he called them Greenwood Champion Ear Protectors. Over the years the ear muffs became very popular and in 1936 his factory produced 400,000 earmuffs. The business provided lots of jobs for people in the local area for nearly 60 years.

Paragraph 5

During his life, Chester made several other inventions including a tea kettle to boil water. He also owned a bicycle business and he was involved in the introduction of the first telephone systems in his area. By the time he died in 1937 Chester was a true celebrity in his own state. In the town of Farmington, where Chester was born, December 21 is now known as Chester Greenwood Day. It's an annual celebration where people of all ages can join in the fun, in their earmuffs!