

Section A Appreciating Audience and Register – Faraway Places

Read the following passage. It is taken from a talk given by NASA astronaut, Commander Chris Hadfield as part of the *Ted Ed* online series. Complete the task that follows. The passage is written to reflect the way in which the talk was delivered to a live audience.



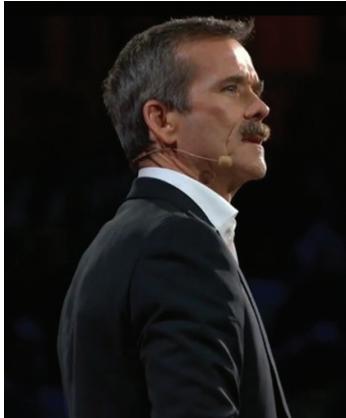
[Hadfield addresses audience] What's the scariest thing you've ever done? [Pause] Or, another way to say it is, what's the most dangerous thing that you've ever done? [Pause] And, why did you do it? I know what the most dangerous thing is that I've ever done because, eh, NASA does the math. You look back to the first five shuttle launches, the odds of a catastrophic event during the first five shuttle launches was one in nine. Even after seventy-four shuttle flights, the odds were still, now that we look back, about one in thirty-eight ... or so ... one thirty-five, one in forty. Not great odds!

... So it's a really interesting day when you wake up at the Kennedy Space Centre and you're going to go to space that day. 'Cos you realise by the end of the day you'll either be floating effortlessly, gloriously in space or you'll be dead. [Hadfield pauses]

Ah – You go into – at the Kennedy Space Centre ... into the suit-up room, the same room that ... that our childhood heroes got dressed in ... that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin got suited up in – to go ride the Apollo rocket to the moon and I got my pressure suit built around me. I rode down, outside, in the van heading out to the, eh, to the launch pad in the Astro-van, and as you come around the corner, at the Kennedy Space Centre – it's normally predawn – in the distance, lit up by the huge Zenon lights is – [slight pause] your space ship, the vehicle that is ... is going to take you off the planet, and the crew is ... is sitting in the Astro-van sort of hushed, almost holding hands, looking at the space ship as it gets bigger and bigger.

We ride the elevator up and we crawl in on our hands and knees into the space-ship, one at a time and you sort of worm your way up into your chair and plunk yourself down on your back ... and ... the hatch is closed ... and suddenly what has been a lifetime of both dreams and denial is real –





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something that I dreamed about, in fact, from the time that I was nine years old, is now suddenly within not too many minutes of actually happening. And, in the astronaut business – the shuttle is a very complicated vehicle ... the most complicated flying machine ever built – and in the astronaut business we have a saying which is, ‘there is no problem so bad that you can’t make it worse ...’ [Audience laughs]

... And so you are very conscious in the cockpit, you’re thinking about all of the things that you might have to do ... all of the switches and all the procedures that you have to go through, and as the time gets closer this excitement is building and about three and a half minutes before launch the huge nozzles on the back fire up, like the size of big church bells, swinging back and forth and the mass of them is such that it sways the whole vehicle like the vehicle is alive underneath you like ... like eh, an elephant getting up off its knees or

something and then about thirty seconds before launch, the vehicle is completely alive, it is ready to go – the APUs are running – the computers are all self-contained – it’s ready to leave the planet.

... And fifteen seconds before launch, this happens ...

[The audience is shown dramatic footage of the ten-second countdown that leads to the launch of the Space shuttle Discovery.]

Question 1

20 marks

In your view, what elements of the above talk would have made it engaging for the audience listening? Explain your answer by referring to both the style and the content of the talk.

Optional Rough Work





Question 2**10 marks**

The pictures below show the settings for three different stories. Choose **one** of the pictures and write a descriptive paragraph in which you create a picture of the place and give the reader a sense of the mood or atmosphere in that place.

(a) Exploring Mars**(b) Undiscovered****(c) Boundaries**

I choose to set my story in the place shown in the picture labelled: _____

Descriptive Paragraph:

Optional Rough Work



Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.



Section B Responding to Studied Texts – Places I Encountered in my Reading

In the boxes provided below give the titles and authors of two of the novels you have studied on your course. Marks are awarded for giving full titles and names with correct spelling.

First Novel	Second Novel
Title:	Title:
Author:	Author:

Question 3

25 marks

Compare the settings of your two chosen novels using the three following headings to guide your response: Physical Location; Mood or Atmosphere; Social Values.

Optional Rough Work





Choose one important character from each of the two novels you have selected above.

Name of character from first novel:

Name of character from second novel:

Question 4

25 marks

Which one of your chosen characters was more influenced by the world that he or she lived in?
Explain your answer giving examples. Refer to both of your chosen characters in your answer.

Optional Rough Work

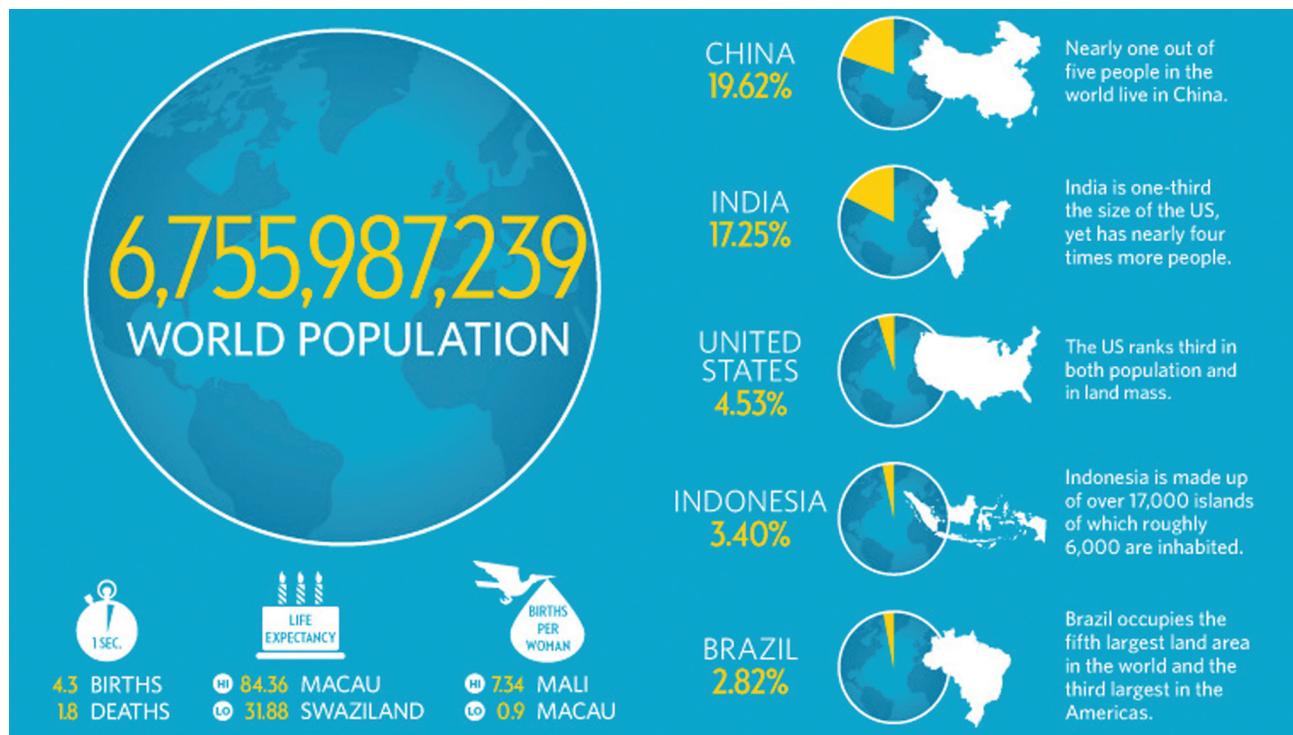




Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.



Section C Reading Comprehension Strategies – Our World



Question 5

5 marks

Study the above info-graphic on world population carefully then complete the following sentences using only the information provided.

- (a) The country with the greatest number of people living in it is: _____
- (b) The birth rate per woman in the Republic of Ireland is 2.01. A country on the info-graphic with a birth rate more than three times the rate in the Republic of Ireland is:

- (c) A country referred to in the info-graphic, with a low average life expectancy is:

- (d) The info-graphic suggests that overall the population of the world is decreasing.
Write either T for true or F for false in the box provided
- (e) India is more densely populated than the United States. Write either T for true or F for false in the box provided



Study the screen-shot from a White House blog below and answer the following questions.

The screenshot shows the official White House blog header with the text "the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA" and navigation links for "BRIEFING ROOM", "ISSUES", "THE ADMINISTRATION", "PARTICIPATE", and "1600 PENN". There is also a search bar and links for "Contact Us" and "Get Email Updates". Below the header, the page title is "Bringing Our Immigration System into the Digital Age" with a subtitle "JULY 15, 2015 AT 3:00 PM ET BY CECILIA MUÑOZ, MIKEY DICKERSON". There are social media sharing icons for Twitter, Facebook, and Email. The main content summary states: "Summary: Federal agencies are undertaking new actions to improve the visa experience for families, workers, employers, and people in need of humanitarian relief." The full text discusses President Obama's executive actions to fix the immigration system and the release of a report titled "Modernizing and Streamlining Our Legal Immigration System for the 21st Century".

Question 6

5 marks

- (a) Identify two digital elements used in the above blog.

Digital Element 1	Digital Element 2

- (b) How can the use of digital elements, like the ones you have identified above, lead to more effective communication of information? You may refer to the above blog and / or other sources in your answer.



Question 7

10 marks

The Department of Foreign Affairs is holding a competition inviting secondary school students to devise **two** guidelines that will help newly-arrived immigrants to adjust to living in Ireland.



It is intended that the guidelines will be printed on government publications like information leaflets and posters.

In the space provided below, clearly state each guideline, suggest an image that would be appropriate to accompany each guideline and give a reason for both your choice of guideline and its accompanying image.

Guideline (a):

Image:

Reason:



Guideline (b):

Image:

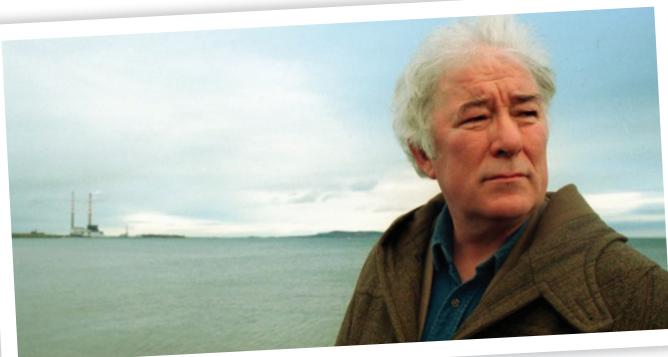
Reason:

Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.





Section D Appreciating Language – Poetry – Inspired by Place



Read the following poem by Seamus Heaney and answer the questions that follow:

Lovers on Aran

The timeless waves, bright, sifting, broken glass,
Came dazzling around, into the rocks,
Came glinting, sifting from the Americas

To possess Aran.
Or did Aran rush
to throw wide arms of rock around a tide
That yielded with an ebb, with a soft crash?

Did sea define the land or land the sea?
Each drew new meaning from the waves' collision.

Sea broke on land to full identity.



Question 8

20 marks

Identify a line or phrase in the poem where the poet uses each of the following poetic techniques and explain why you think the poet uses the technique:

Contrast:

Personification:



Tone:

Assonance:

Enjambment:

Question 9

10 marks

What do you think is the message in this poem? Explain your answer.



Question 10**10 marks**

Evaluate how one of the poetic techniques named in Question 8 of this section, helps to convey the message you have identified in the poem.

Optional Rough Work

Question 11**30 marks**

Choose any two poems you have studied that you feel give you a strong sense of the places they are set in.

Give the poets' names and the titles of their poems.

Marks are awarded for giving full titles and names with correct spelling.

Title Poem 1:	Title poem 2:
Poet's name:	Poet's name:



In your view, which one of the poets was more successful in conveying a sense of place in his / her poem? Support your analysis with detailed reference to both of your nominated poems.

Optional Rough Work

Optional Rough Work





Question 12

10 marks

- (a)** Imagine you are writing a poem. Outline the message you would like to convey in your poem. The poem could be about something personal, social, universal or a combination of all three.

- (b)** Suggest an image you would use in your poem as outlined above and explain why you feel that it would be an appropriate image to use.



Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

