
Open Awards Online Functional Skills English Level 2 Reading Exam 3

Sample Answers

Text 1

Q1- Raheem and Jemma, in Text 1, explain what they think about mobile phones. Give one fact and one opinion either of them uses to support their point of view.

Raheem thinks that mobile phones make 'communicating with others really easy', which is an opinion. Jemma states that 'no one was talking to a real person', which is a fact.

(2 marks)

Q2- What does Raheem imply when he uses the words 'You can also check up on them to see where they are'?

Raheem is implying that you can see where people are as you might be worried about them.

(1 mark)

Q3- Identify the main reason why Jemma is against mobile phones. Explain why you think this.

The main reason Jemma is against mobile phones is because they are stopping people from having in-person interactions. I know this because Jemma gives several examples of this happening and expresses annoyance towards it, for example when she was on a train, no one was talking to one another.

(2 marks)

Text 2

Q4- Identify two organisational features used by the author of Text 2. Give two examples of information which the features you have identified help you to find.



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One organisational feature used by the author of Text 2 is a heading. Another is the subheadings. The heading helps us to find out a summary of what the text is going to be about, and the subheadings give us information on what the key problems are, for example sleep, isolation and health.

(4 marks)

Q5- Give a definition of technology as stated in Text 2 and explain two ways in which people can become isolated.

Technology means a computer, tablet or phone. One way in which people can become isolated is by spending time in their own worlds. Another is by using music streaming devices.

(3 marks)

Text 3

Q6- Identify one example of a rhetorical question in Text 3 and explain its impact on the reader.

One example of a rhetorical question from the text is 'Did you know that 80% of all 16 -75 year olds own a mobile phone?'. The impact of this upon the reader is that it makes them think more deeply about their own mobile phone use.

(2 marks)

Q7- What is the purpose of Text 3? Explain how you know this.

The purpose of Text 3 is to persuade the reader to give up using their mobile phone for a week. I know this because the heading, 'time to switch off your phones for charity' tells us that the aim is to do this to raise money for charity.

(2 marks)

Texts 1, 2 & 3

Q8- Texts 2 and 3 contain statistics about technology use, but Text 1 does not. Why do you think this is the case?



In Text 2 and 3, they are giving general information about how technology has affected many people, so the statistics are useful. However, Text 1 is based on personal experiences so statistics are not relevant or needed. In addition, both Texts 2 and 3 are trying to persuade the reader to give up technology, so the negative statistics about technology are useful to support their arguments.

(2 marks)

Q9- Identify the styles of writing used in Texts 2 and 3. Give one example from each text which suggests that style of writing.

Text 2's style is formal. An example which shows this is 'Thumb, neck and back pain can come from excessive use of technological devices'. Text 3's style is persuasive, shown in 'you'll have loads of benefits'.

(4 marks)

Q10- Compare the views expressed in Text 1 and Text 3 on the subject of technology, and how these views are conveyed.

In Text 1, Jemma states that real interaction is ruined by using mobile phones. This is supported in Text 3, as it says that a lot of us use our phone as soon as we wake up in the morning - 'A third of users look at their phone within 5 minutes of waking up'. However, T1 contains contrasting views itself from the two different contributors. Jemma generally agrees with the views in Text 3, however Raheem does not.

In Text 1 and Text 3, the writers use friendly and informal language. However, a difference between the two is that Text 2's contributors use personal experience to support their points, whereas Text 3 uses more facts and statistics to back up their argument that mobile phones are used too much.

(4 marks)

Q11- Which text do you consider to be the least biased? Using all three texts, explain your selection.

Text 1 is the least biased text. This is because Text 1 contains opposing views about mobile phones from Raheem and Jemma, meaning that the text puts forward a balance of opinions overall. Despite the fact that Text 2 uses lots of facts and statistics, it is very biased. This is because the text puts forward only the negative aspects of technology, using one-sided statistics to do so. Finally, Text 3 is also very biased, as similarly to Text 2, it also only puts



forward negative aspects of mobile phones. In addition to this, the text is designed to persuade the reader to give up their phone for charity, therefore making it biased.

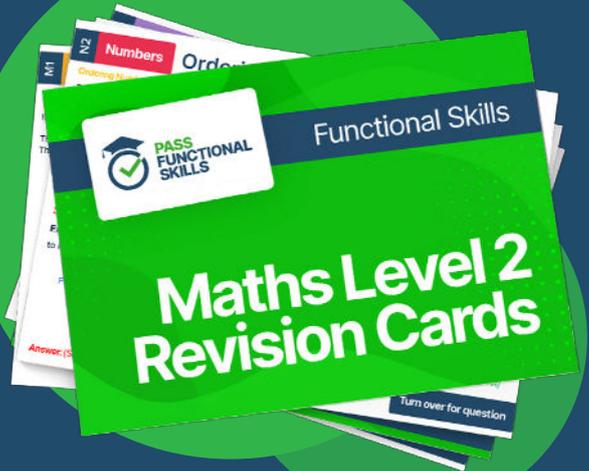
(4 marks)



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