Reading: The Exam Mark Scheme

Level 2 Functional Skills English: Reading
Mark Scheme

Question Number	Response	Marks	Scope of Study (SoS) Reference
Source A			
Q1	Identify one fact and one opinion from Source A. Candidate correctly identifies one fact from the source ● Conifers are commercially logged in the UK ● The government has pledged to increase logging to 1.5 million trees per month ● Noise levels in a neighbourhood 3 miles away from a logging site have increased over time ● There have been over 25 protests in the last 5 years about responsible logging Candidate correctly identifies one opinion from the source ● Logging encourages biodiversity and protects the environment ● Not many people want to admit the benefits of logging ● Logging machines are too loud	1 1 1 1 **(max 1)** 1 1 1 **(max 1)**	18b
Q2	Identify the purpose of Source A. Explain how you know this.		13

	Candidate identifies the purpose of the text	1 **(max 1)**	
	● To inform		
	Candidate identifies reasons from the text to explain how they know this	1	
	● Facts and figures are used ● Organisational features, for example a graph, are used ● Balanced opinions are presented	1 1 **(max 1)**	
	Accept any other explanation of selected features.		

Source B			
Q3	Identify two organisational features from Source B. Explain why they are used.		16
	Candidate identifies **two** organisational features e.g. ● Bullet point lists ● Paragraphs ● Subheadings ● Boxed text (social media information) ● Graph	1 1 1 1 **(max 2)**	
	Student identifies **two** reasons that the organisational features would be used e.g.		
	● To give the reader information about the types of trees logged ● To show the reader information about the noise levels over time ● To give an overview of what the paragraphs will be about	1 1 1 **(max 2)**	
Q4	The author of Source B has used quotes.		14
	Explain why they have done this, and the effect it has on the reader.		
	● Candidate has identified the main reason they have	1	

	used quotes e.g. to persuade the reader of their point, or to make the author sound more credible. ● Candidate has explained the effect this has on the reader (e.g. the reader is more convinced that they are serious, or the reader wants to apply for a job at one of their logging sites). Accept any other valid main point found in Source B.	1 (max 2)	

Source C

Q5	Identify two reasons that the contributors in Source C are against responsible logging sites. Candidate identifies two reasons that the contributors in Source C are against logging sites e.g. ● Increase in noise pollution ● Dust causing pet breathing problems ● Environmental issues - carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, landslides locally when it rains Accept any other valid reasoning based on the text.	1 1 1 (max 2)	18a
Q6	Identify the purpose of Source C. Explain how you know this. The student identifies the purpose of Source C e.g. ● To persuade that logging is a bad thing ● To discuss the impact of logging Accept any other reasonable identification of purpose in the text. Candidate also offers an explanation for their conclusion e.g. ● Emotive language creates a very strong impression of logging and does not consider any other opinions ● The use of rhetorical questions ● Short, abrupt sentences ● Excessive punctuation makes the text feel as	1 1 (max 1)	13

		though it is looking down on logging		
		● **Brief explanation with only one reason considered.** ● **Thorough explanation of one reason, or brief explanation of more than one reason.**	1 2 **(max 2)**	

Sources A, B and C

Q7	Which of these texts is the least biased? Give examples from each text to support your decision.			17
	Candidate has selected Source A.	1 **(max 1)**	
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the least biased, using information only from that text.	1	
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the least biased by reference to Source A and one other text.	2	
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the least biased by reference to all three texts. <u>Indicative content</u> Reasons might include: Source A is impartial / written by a journalist who has no specific opinion towards logging / puts forward all sides of the argument Source B only shows one side of the argument / is trying to get people to apply for a job with South Logging / includes quotes that are pro-logging Source C is a forum discussion which only shows negative opinions of logging / uses emotive language to describe the negative impacts of logging Accept any other valid explanation.	3 **(max 3)**	
Q8	Compare the views of SOPHIE GREEN in Source C to the views conveyed in Source B.			12

	Is there a difference in the way these views are conveyed? Views ● Limited comparison of views from both texts. Comparison may be implicit e.g. through juxtaposition of related ideas. In Source B the company is describing how responsible they are at logging, whereas in Source C SOPHIE GREEN is describing how irresponsible logging companies are.	1	
	● Clear and explicit comparison of views from both texts e.g. Source B indicates that the new logging sites will add value to the town in the form of employment, as well as being responsible enough to plant enough new trees as they cut them down. Source B uses quotes from locals to reinforce their point regarding how beneficial they will be to the town. By contrast, SOPHIE GREEN's contribution in Source C details that the companies might not be so responsible, describing working for them as joining the 'dark side'. Furthermore, she argues that irresponsibility from logging companies is damaging the ground and thus making it dangerous for locals. This presents no positives at all, in contrast to Source B which presents only positives.	2	
	How views are conveyed ● Some indication of how views have been conveyed in both documents but no comparison e.g. The writer of Source B uses images and devices such as quotes in order to make it more believable. SOPHIE GREEN's contribution uses negative language to show the reader that logging is dangerous for locals and the environment.	1	
	● Clear and explicit comparison of how views are conveyed in both documents e.g. The writer of Source B uses persuasive, positive language such as 'incredible employment opportunity' in order to	2	

		convey the positives of the company's logging in the area. In addition, they also use quotes to add respectability to their argument, thus making people more inclined to believe what they are saying. In contrast, SOPHIE GREEN's contribution in Source C uses negative emotive language such as 'dark side' and 'abysmal' to show the negative effects of the logging companies on the locals and the environment. She also uses the phrase 'first hand' which adds credibility to her argument, and makes the reader more inclined to take what she is saying seriously. Accept any other valid response based on the text.	**(max 2)**	

Q9	Identify the styles of writing of Source A and Source C.
	
	Provide an example from each text to support your answers.
	
	Candidate identifies the style of writing of Sources A and C e.g.
	● Source A's style is
	   - Formal
	   - Professional
	
	● Source C's style is
	   - Informal
	   - Angry
	   - Unprofessional
	
	Accept any other valid identification of styles of writing.
	
	Candidate provides an example of the style of writing they have selected e.g.
	
	Source A - formal
	● 'The government has recently pledged'
	● 'There have been over 25 protests in the last 5
		1
		1
		(max 1)
		
		1
		1
		1
		(max 1)
		
		1
		1
			19

	years'			
	Source A - professional ● 'Claudia Chesnut, Financial Officer for South Logging talks about the environmental benefits…' ● Use of graphs ● Presentational features e.g headline, subheadings	1 1 1 **(max 1)**		
	Source C - informal ● 'Responsible' is frankly an insulting term ● '…let me tell you, it's living hell!' ● 'For every field or so of trees cut down'	1 1 1		
	Source C - angry ● 'The dark side' ● 'it's abysmal'	1 1 **(max 1)**		
	Accept any other valid example of the style of writing the candidate has selected.			
Q10	Which of these texts is the most formal? Give reasons from each text to explain your answer. Candidate has selected Source A.	1 **(max 1)**	17	
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the most formal, using information only from that text.	1		
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the most formal by reference to Source A and one other text.	2		
	Candidate has justified their selection of Source A as the most formal by reference to all three texts.	3		
	<u>Indicative content</u> Reasons might include: Source A is objective and aims to inform the audience / does not have any colloquialisms / shows both sides of			

	the argument using professional and formal language / uses formal presentational features such as a graph Source B is a mixture of formal and informal / uses some colloquialisms / uses more informal presentational features such as numbered bullet points / uses informal punctuation such as exclamation marks Source C uses a lot of colloquial and informal language / is on the informal platform of a chatroom and this is reflected in the language / uses informal and chatty language and punctuation such as exclamation marks and rhetorical questions Accept any other valid explanation.	**(max 3)**	