

## Integrated Skills in English II

Time allowed: 2 hours

This exam paper has four tasks. Complete all tasks.

### Task 1 – Long reading

Read the following text about April Fools' Day and answer the 15 questions on page 3.

#### Paragraph 1

Of all the customs in the world, the celebration of playing tricks on other people must be one of the strangest. For centuries, people in many countries have been just a little bit more careful about who they trust and what they believe on 1 April, in case someone plays a trick on them and calls them an 'April Fool'. One of the most successful jokes ever was the BBC's report about a crisis in Switzerland. They reported that farmers were struggling to cope with a very large spaghetti crop. **Eight million viewers were shown spaghetti growing on trees. Farmers were seen harvesting the 'plant'. Then the reporter explained how, after being picked, the spaghetti was laid to dry** in the warm mountain air.

#### Paragraph 2

But are we really deceived by these jokes? Apparently, we are. On 1 April 2001, a fishing competition was organised at Lake Palestine in Texas. An animal rights group decided to have some fun. **They told people they were going to put sleeping pills into the lake, so the fish would all fall asleep and avoid the fishermen's hooks. Police officers were sent** to the lake to arrest anyone carrying large quantities of sleeping pills. Burger King, a well-known fast food restaurant, had fun too. On April Fools' Day in 1998, they announced their new left-handed burger, designed for the 32 million left-handed Americans. Thousands of people went to restaurants the following day to request the new burger, which of course didn't exist.

#### Paragraph 3

The jokes may be simple, like sticking a coin to a pavement and watching how many people attempt to pick it up, or sticking a rude sign to someone's back. But in 1974, Oliver Bicker created chaos by burning a hundred car tyres on the top of a volcano, Mount Edgcumbe, in Alaska. Residents saw black smoke and panicked. The authorities received hundreds of phone calls. People started to worry and prepared to leave the area. A helicopter flew over the volcano to investigate, and the pilot noticed words spray-painted in the snow at the top of the mountain that read: 'April Fool'.

#### Paragraph 4

There are several theories about the origin of this odd custom. The most widely accepted one is that it began in France in the 16th century. Pope Gregory XIII issued a new calendar for Christian Europe, the Gregorian Calendar, to replace the Julian Calendar. Among other changes, this new calendar brought New Year forward from 1 April to 1 January. But as news travelled slowly in those days, many people in rural France continued to celebrate New Year on 1 April. They became the target of jokes by those who'd celebrated it a few months earlier.

#### Paragraph 5

An April Fools' joke that was covered recently by the media was about Hayleigh McBay, a 17-year-old who posted on a social media website that she was splitting up with her boyfriend. He immediately replied on the same site, saying he was pleased as he wanted to finish with her anyway. She panicked and called him to explain that it was a joke. He then admitted that he wasn't being serious either as he had guessed she was playing an April Fools' joke on him. They are still dating now.

**Questions 1-5**

The text on page 2 has five paragraphs (1-5). Choose the best title for each paragraph from A-F below and write the letter (A-F) on the lines below. There is one title you don't need.

1. Paragraph 1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Paragraph 2 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Paragraph 3 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Paragraph 4 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Paragraph 5 \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A | A joke that nearly went very wrong          |
| B | The history of how April Fools' Day started |
| C | The changing nature of jokes                |
| D | A clever joke by the media                  |
| E | One person's joke affects lots of people    |
| F | April Fools' jokes as publicity             |

**Questions 6-10**

Choose the **five** statements from A-H below that are **TRUE** according to the information given in the text on page 2. Write the letters of the **TRUE** statements on the lines below (in any order).

6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A | The BBC reported that too much spaghetti was causing a problem.                |
| B | A group of people tried to make fish go to sleep in a lake.                    |
| C | Burger King made a left-handed burger for fun.                                 |
| D | People thought a volcano in Alaska had become active again.                    |
| E | People near the volcano left the area when they saw smoke.                     |
| F | We don't know for certain where the custom of April Fools' jokes comes from.   |
| G | Some French people played jokes on people in the countryside.                  |
| H | Hayleigh's boyfriend wasn't worried that she wanted to end their relationship. |

**Questions 11-15**

Complete sentences 11-15 with an exact number, word or phrase (maximum three words) from the text. Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.

11. People were told that the farmers put the spaghetti outside to \_\_\_\_\_.
12. It seems a lot of people are \_\_\_\_\_ by April Fools' tricks.
13. The volcano joke \_\_\_\_\_ for the local residents.
14. The information about the new calendar \_\_\_\_\_ around France.
15. Hayleigh and her boyfriend \_\_\_\_\_ to each other that they were only joking.

**Task 2 – Multi-text reading**

In this section there are four short texts for you to read and some questions for you to answer.

**Questions 16-20**

Read questions 16-20 first and then read texts A, B, C and D below the questions.

As you read each text, decide which text each question refers to. Choose one letter – A, B, C or D – and write it on the lines below. You can use any letter more than once.

Which text

- 16. makes a prediction about how citizen science will change? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. recommends a particular study that someone might like? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. explains how a large number of people were involved in a particular project? \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. analyses people's motivation for participating in a project? \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. offers a solution to a problem associated with citizen science? \_\_\_\_\_

**Text A**

**Citizen Science**

The term 'citizen science' refers to scientific work conducted by ordinary members of the public. The work is usually coordinated by professional scientists, with people like you and me contributing our time and effort for free. For example, the charity Butterfly Conservation runs the Big Butterfly

Count. Every year on a certain day, people count the number and types of butterflies they see in their garden in a 15-minute period. They send this data via a smartphone app to the organisers, who then use it to understand the effect of climate change on insect numbers. In 2014, 44,000 people took part

in the survey and counted over 56,000 butterflies across the UK. Getting people involved in projects like this helps scientists to collect data from a wide area quickly and inexpensively. It also generates interest in science and raises awareness of issues like climate change.

**Text B**

To: francesca1998@email.com

From: pav@email.com

Hi Francesca

I thought I'd let you know about a really interesting citizen science project you could get involved with. It's part of the Zooniverse project that's been going for years. They started out just doing astronomical projects, but now they've expanded into all sorts of other areas. They've got loads of people all over the world making observations and analysing data. You might be interested in a project called Planet Hunters, where people study images provided by the Kepler Space Telescope. The pictures are sent to you via the internet and you look for patterns in the images on your screen – you'll get more detailed instructions when you join. Why don't you have a look at their website? It's really good.

From Pavel

## Text C

**We spoke to biologist Professor Ian Stewart**

**Popular Science:** Professor Stewart, why is citizen science so important for your work?

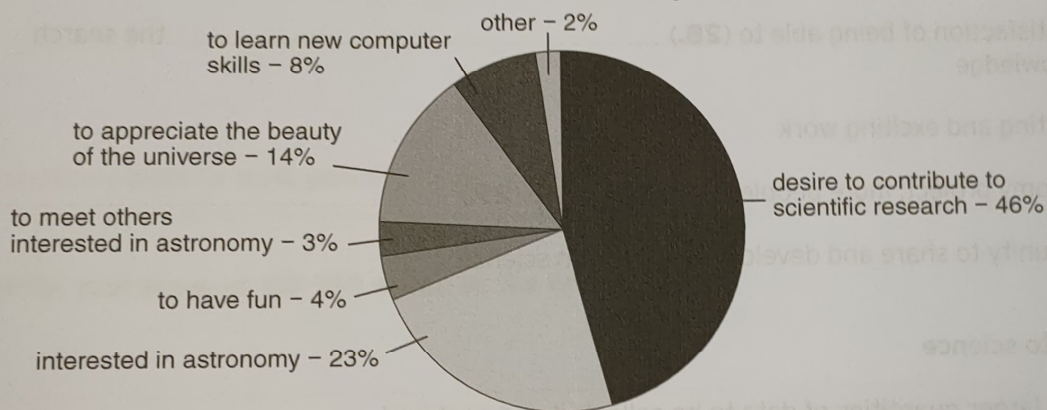
**Professor Stewart:** A lot of the work we do in biology involves collecting and analysing large amounts of data. We simply don't have the resources or the staff to do all this work ourselves, but if we get help from the public we can collect much more data from a wider area.

**Popular Science:** There's nothing new about citizen science, is there?

**Professor Stewart:** No. The Audubon Society, for example, has used data collected by amateur birdwatchers since 1900 to publish its annual report on bird populations. What is new, though, is the way the internet and smartphones allow so many more people to get involved. I think the future for citizen science is online gaming. Although it's easy to recruit people to science projects, a lot of them give up after a short time. We need something to keep people motivated over the entire length of a study. If you make data collection and analysis into a competitive game, people will play it and get enthusiastic in the same way they play other online games.

## Text D

**Reasons why people got involved in the Stargazers Online  
Citizen Science Astronomy Project**



## Questions 21-25

Choose the **five statements** from A-H below that are **TRUE** according to the information given in the texts above. Write the letters of the **TRUE** statements on the lines below (in any order).

21. \_\_\_\_\_  
 22. \_\_\_\_\_  
 23. \_\_\_\_\_  
 24. \_\_\_\_\_  
 25. \_\_\_\_\_

- A People who participate in citizen science projects usually receive a small payment.  
 B The Big Butterfly Count is an annual event in the UK.  
 C The Zooniverse project only does astronomical research.  
 D You need online access to participate in the Planet Hunters project.  
 E Citizen science began when the internet was invented.  
 F Many people get involved with a citizen science project when it begins but then leave before the project finishes.  
 G 3% of people who participated in 'Stargazers' hoped to make contact with others who share their hobby.  
 H The most common reason for participating in 'Stargazers' was wanting to help the advancement of science in general.

### Questions 26-30

The notes below contain information from the texts on pages 4 and 5. Find an exact number, word or phrase (maximum three words) from texts A-D to complete the missing information in gaps 26-30. Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.

#### Notes

##### What is citizen science?

- Ordinary people doing scientific work such as collecting and analysing data
- (26.) \_\_\_\_\_ normally organise this work
- Widespread ownership of (27.) \_\_\_\_\_ and computers enables huge numbers of people to participate in projects

##### Reasons to get involved

- The satisfaction of being able to (28.) \_\_\_\_\_ the search for knowledge
- Interesting and exciting work
- Astronomy project: more people wanted to add to (29.) \_\_\_\_\_
- Opportunity to share and develop an interest in science

##### Benefits to science

- Enables larger quantities of data to be collected and analysed
- Particularly useful in areas like astronomy and (30.) \_\_\_\_\_ which deal with large amounts of data
- Saves scientists time and money
- Promotes interest in science and raises awareness of environmental issues

**Task 3 – Reading into writing**

Use the information you read in texts A, B, C and D (pages 4 and 5) to write an essay (150-180 words) for your teacher explaining what citizen science is, saying why people get involved, and outlining the benefits for participants and for science in general.

Do not copy from the texts. Use your own words as far as possible.

You should plan your essay before you start writing. Think about what you are going to write and make some notes to help you in this box:

Planning notes

(No marks are given for these planning notes)

Now write your essay of 150-180 words on the lines below.

**Task 4 - Extended writing**

Write a letter (150-180 words) to your local newspaper about an environmental problem that affects the community in your local area. Explain the problem and say what you think people should do.

You should plan your letter before you start writing. Think about what you are going to write and make some notes to help you in this box:

Planning notes

(No marks are given for these planning notes)

Now write your letter of 150-180 words on the lines below.

Lined area for writing the letter.

Faint mirrored text at the bottom of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.