

7A



GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR TEACHING FROM 2015

CPD AUTUMN 2019

COMPONENT 2 EXEMPLAR MATERIAL
(ANNOTATED)

Question 1.2

How does Jeffrey Brown try to show how hard it was for the trapped miners during their 'long ordeal underground'?

You should comment on:

- what he says
- his use of language, tone and structure
- other ways he tries to show how hard it was for the trapped miners

[10]

Example 1

Jeffrey Brown shows how hard it was for the trapped miners while underground by his use of language. Brown says the 33 trapped men “had to drink filthy water ” ✓ This shows difficulty because the miners had no clean water supply to drink from.

The writer also presents difficulty from what he says: “Conditions were so tough the men joked darkly about eating ✓ each other.” This shows that the men had nearly given up and decided that when there is no more of their “two spoonfuls of tuna, half a biscuit and half a glass of milk every two ✓ days”, they would eat each other.

The writer shows how hard it is to be trapped underground by talking about how the men “had difficulty breathing and lost up to four stone each.” This ✓ shows how hard it is for them because they were starving from their rations and the filthy air.

A little limited but some relevant selection / comment.

4 marks.

Example 2

Brown uses a number of methods to show how hard it was for the miners. He uses various statistics at the beginning of the article to show the reality of what the men went through when they were trapped, telling us that they were trapped “for more than two months.” It states that “No-one in history had been trapped underground for so long and survived.” ✓ This shows the severity of the situation and that the men were incredibly fortunate to survive.

Brown also uses the adjective “sweltering” to show the hot conditions the miners had to survive against, with temperatures as high as 120° F. Brown also uses the adjectives “dark” and “small” when describing the underground area the men had to survive in and compares it to “a one-room apartment”, showing how cramped it was for the 33 miners. ✓

Brown uses a list to show how the miners had to ration food in order to survive, only eating “two spoonfuls of tuna, half a biscuit and half a glass of milk.” ✓

Brown then uses emotive language telling us the men wrote “farewell letters” to show that the men had given up hope and that due to the conditions underground being so tough, they didn’t think they would survive. ✓

Finally, Brown shows how hard it was for the miners as “their helmet lights grew dim”, indicating how they were slowly descending into darkness. ✓

Some range of valid textual details and sensible comment / explanation.
Some grasp of 'how'.

6 marks.

Example 3

Structurally Brown uses the brief summary in the standfirst to suggest the suffering of the miners, using the phrase “long ordeal to suggest hardship and stating that “No one in history had been trapped underground for so long and survived”, suggesting the extended amount of time spent suffering and emphasising how unusual an event like this was and how their hardship was unique in its prolonged nature.

Brown suggests the hardship experienced by the miners when he describes how, on emerging from the mine, “some cried, others prayed and wrapped their arms round their wives and children”. These extreme reactions are indicative of the psychological trauma sustained by the miners, emphasising the hardships they experienced.

Brown also uses facts to suggest the hardships experienced by the miners, such as the “sweltering 120° F temperatures”, the adjective “sweltering” highlighting the effects that the temperatures may have on the miners and the specific information “120° F” emphasising the hard conditions.

Brown suggests the hardships experienced by the miners when he describes the extreme rationing they used: “two spoonfuls of tuna, half a biscuit and half a glass of milk every two days”, suggesting how malnourished the miners became.

He further shows the hardships of the miners when he describes how they had to drink “filthy water” the adjective “filthy” suggesting the poor conditions they had to endure. He goes on to tell us how the miners “feared rescuers had given up” and they “wrote farewell letters to loved ones”, highlighting the psychological hardship they experienced as they lost hope.

Brown also suggests the hardships the men had faced when he quotes President Pinera’s greeting to one of the miners: “Welcome to life” adding his own view that, “It seemed no overstatement.” This welcome likens the experiences underground to death, emphasising hardship, supported by the short statement.

Perceptive and detailed response with intelligent exploration of the writer's techniques / methods.

10 marks.

Question 1.4

“In the first three paragraphs of the account, the writer gives the impression that the accident was so serious that the trapped miners would not be found alive.”

How far do you agree with this statement?

You should comment on:

- what he says
- how he says it

[10]

Example 1

“Thousands were seen rushing to the spot.” This implies that the whole cave had collapsed and everyone rushed up there to see what happened but also implies that the miners were dead so people wanted to pay their respects. (?)

“It agreed that the only hope.” This implies that they only had one thing to do and if they don’t do it then they could die or have already died.

? “Whether the collapse had buried them alive.” There is little hope that the miners are alive.

Limited response - many opportunities missed
and the use of quotations is not secure.

(2/3) Just to 3?

Example 2

I agree with this statement to some extent. The first paragraph, in which the incident is described, does give the impression that the miners would not have survived the incident, as shown by “all hope of escape was lost and the men’s lights extinguished.” ✓ This shows how the miners would have no way of rescuing themselves and would have to rely on others to survive. It seems unlikely that they will be saved as the land that collapsed on the miners had been described as an “enormous weight”, making it extremely difficult to be removed. ✓

The idea of the men not being alive is shown by the portrayal of the attitude of the other people in the area. For example, “their dreadful cries adding to the misery of the scene.” This gives the impression that people are mourning for the miners and they would not be found alive. ✓

This is also shown in the third paragraph by "hope of saving the men diminished with every day that passed." This also shows how the rescuers were losing hope of finding the miners alive.

OK -
valid

However, there are some parts in the first three paragraphs which are ambiguous about the state of the miners. For example, in paragraph two we are told "The fate of the men buried in the mine was unknown." This gives the impression that there is a possibility that the miners are alive as perhaps they "could exist without food or fresh air until their rescue." Overall, I agree that there are elements that give the impression the miners will not be found alive. However, there are also parts that give the impression that the miners may be found alive, so the statement isn't completely accurate.

Evaluation is supported by appropriate textual detail.

Comments are relevant and sensible. (5/6)

6 marks.

Example 3

more?

At the start of the extract he describes the dramatic collapse, "the tunnels were instantly filled with the falling earth and rock." It seems unlikely that anyone will survive in such a dangerous, chaotic situation. He goes on to say the "violent blast of air" means even if they were still alive the men are now in darkness. The news spreads like "wildfire", suggesting how serious the situation is as everyone finds out and as "thousands were seen' rushing to the spot", this shows how many people have been affected. It goes on to say the "dreadful cries", these cries suggesting that people think the miners are all dead and are, mourning them already. It tells us that "all work was suspended", suggesting the devastation of the collapse has left the community at a standstill. The writer says the fate of the men is "unknown" but then wonders if they were "buried alive", as this is the first conclusion they come to and it seems they believe this to be the most likely.

They then go on to say even if they weren't buried alive could they "exist without food or fresh air"? The writer's tone suggests it is unlikely they are alive. They say the "only hope" is to dig another tunnel so there is some possible chance to save them, although when they begin, the work is "frantic" and "instantly commenced", which suggests even if they have not yet died, if the rescuers are not quick to reach them they will soon be dead. It describes the "increased desperation", suggesting some people are beginning to lose hope and think they are dead. The hope of saving them "diminished with every day that passed" suggests the more time passes the more people believe the miners have all died.

Sharply focused - key points are neatly made and there is good coverage.

Could be more exploration of specific word choice? Band 5.

9/10 marks.

Writing

Question 2.2

Your headteacher has decided that there should not be an end of year celebration such as a school prom or party. The headteacher believes it would just be an excuse for students to show off in an expensive way.

Write a letter to your headteacher giving your opinion on this. [20]

Example 1

shows some awareness of layout

Dear Mr _____,

I am writing to you as I do not feel your idea about banning our end of year prom should go ahead.

I understand that people do spend alot of money on prom, but they don't have to. For example, a girl called Joanne who went to last years prom, spent £30 on her dress and went in her moms car. She had just as much fun as the People who spend £500 on Prom. So instead of baning prom you could try to put a limit on how much people spend. No one is worried about how much others have spent everyone just want to have fun.

Another reason prom should go ahead is alot of Student see it as away of celebrating there achievments through out the year. They see it as a way to celebrate the end of there GCSE and all the hard work they have done. ✓
It closes a chapter of there life as we all move on to the next chapter, either work or education/college

It's a time where all freinds can come together and have fun. As alot of students won't have anywhere where they can all meet up for fun. Is that really that bad?

Finally I would like to say it's just a bit of fun. It doesn't harm anyone. It's a celelbration where they can all Sing, dance and forget about there worries. Just a bit of fun!

Thanks for reading my letter and I hope you take my opinion into concideration when making your final desicion.

Your Sincearly,

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Communication and Organisation 4

Vocabulary, spelling, sentence structure and punctuation 2

6 marks

Example 2

home address ✓

school address ✓

Dear Mr _____,

I am writing to you today to suggest you review your decision to stop our annual tradition of prom to finish year 11.

I know you believe that it allows students to show off in an expensive fashion. To a certain extent I agree with your idea however, without prom there would not be a way for the whole year to come together as one to celebrate these five years of their life that they have shared together. For many of these students it will be their best chance to say goodbye and enjoy their last day they will spend with their peers. This is one reason why I would like you to reconsider your decision to cancel prom as there is a lot more too it than arriving in a limosine wearing expensive suits. I hope you can take this into consideration.

Another reason I would like you to consider when making your decision about cancelling prom is the fact that this event has been a tradition at our school for a very long time. This makes me question why we would choose to end it as it has always been key for the year 11 to finish off their hard exam period and look forward too.

Another possible reason why it may be a good idea to change your decision and have prom is that it allows the parents to see their child all grown up and leaving school. This is a very emotional event for the parents and without this ceremony it would not allow these emotial occasions to happen. I believe this is a large event for the parents and without this ceremony they would not know and may posibllly miss out of this part of their child growing up.

These have been my reasons why I'm asking you to try and revoke your decision on cancelling prom. I hope that you will take my opinions into concdideration when making your decision.

✓ Yours sincerely,

Clear understanding of purpose.

Offer reasons of support of viewpoint with some development in places.

Expression is mostly clear/fluent but there are some basic errors too.

Communication and Organisation 6/7

Vocabulary, spelling, sentence structure and punctuation 4/5

Example 3

home address ✓

school address ✓

Dear Mr _____,

I am writing to express my opinions on your decision to not have a prom or end-of-year celebration this year. I think I speak on behalf of most of year eleven when I say that I strongly disagree with your decision. The hope of one last fun evening after our exams with everyone from our year has been the sole thing motivating us to push through the academic year; thus, I believe that we should have a prom.

Since we started at this school five years ago we have all worked so hard so that we could succeed in our exams and make you proud. Is it really too much to ask for one evening of fun to celebrate all of the work that we have put in over the years? Surely you must want to give us something for all of our work? We are trying our best in these exams because you have inspired us to be good, hard-working, considerate students. Just one last evening to make memories before we leave for college is all we are asking of you.

In response to your suggestion that prom is 'just an excuse to show off in an expensive way', I couldn't disagree more. I conducted a survey asking year eleven how much money they would be willing to spend on their outfit and the average was no more than fifty pounds. Students love getting dressed up for a celebration – there isn't any 'showing off' involved, just excitement for an evening spent celebrating their achievements from the past five years. | !

✓ Prom isn't just for the students – teachers enjoy it too! I've spoken to many of my teachers over the past few weeks and all of them agreed that they enjoyed attending their students' proms. Miss Francis (my English teacher) expressed, "It's lovely to see you all dressed up and smiling, taking pictures with us teachers so you can remember us when you leave." Students and teachers alike adore spending an evening together in such an electric environment to make our last memories of high school.

If we had been an awful, rebellious year group I could understand your decision but we have worked extremely hard and deserve a celebration. I, along with the rest of year eleven, am of the belief that we should be allowed to celebrate our time here at _____ school and create lasting memories of our teachers and classmates. ✓

Yours sincerely,

Confident, assured response - argues persuasively. It has a firm grasp of tone.
Very secure control (though 'Miss Francis ... expressed' is a little awkward).

Communication and Organisation 10/11
Vocabulary, spelling, sentence structure and punctuation 8