



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 8

English Home language P1

NOVEMBER 2025

MARKS: 60

EXAMINER: Ms M. Bourreau

TIME: 2 Hours

MODERATOR: Mrs N. Atkinson

N.B. This Paper Consists of 19 Pages

Name and surname: _____

Grade 8: _____

Tick/circle/highlight the name of your English teacher below:

Bastion	Bourreau	Boyce	Gordon	Hiscock	Piccione	Smith
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***For markers' use only**

A	Comprehension		20
B	Summary		10
C	Visual Literacy		10
D	Language		20

Grand Total: _____ / 60

Percentage: _____ %

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE ANSWERING THE
QUESTIONS**

1. Read and follow ALL instructions carefully.
 2. Use your time carefully. Suggested time management:
 - Section A: approximately 45 minutes
 - Section B: approximately 30 minutes
 - Section C: approximately 25 minutes
 - Section D: approximately 20 minutes
 3. This paper consists of four sections:

Section A: Comprehension	20 marks
Section B: Summary	10 marks
Section C: Visual literacy	10 marks
Section D: Language structures	20 marks
 4. You are required to answer all questions from all four sections.
 5. Answer all the questions from section A.
 6. Answer all the questions from section B.
 7. Answer all the questions from section C.
 8. Answer all the questions from section D.
 9. Write neatly and legibly.
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SECTION A: COMPREHENSION**QUESTION 1**

Read **Text A** and **Text B** and then answer the questions that follow.

TEXT A:

His Own Style

Darrius Peace wants clients to feel proud of their locks.



Darrius Peace is a hairstylist in Birmingham, Alabama. He's known for working with people of all hair types: straight, curly, coiled, and wavy.

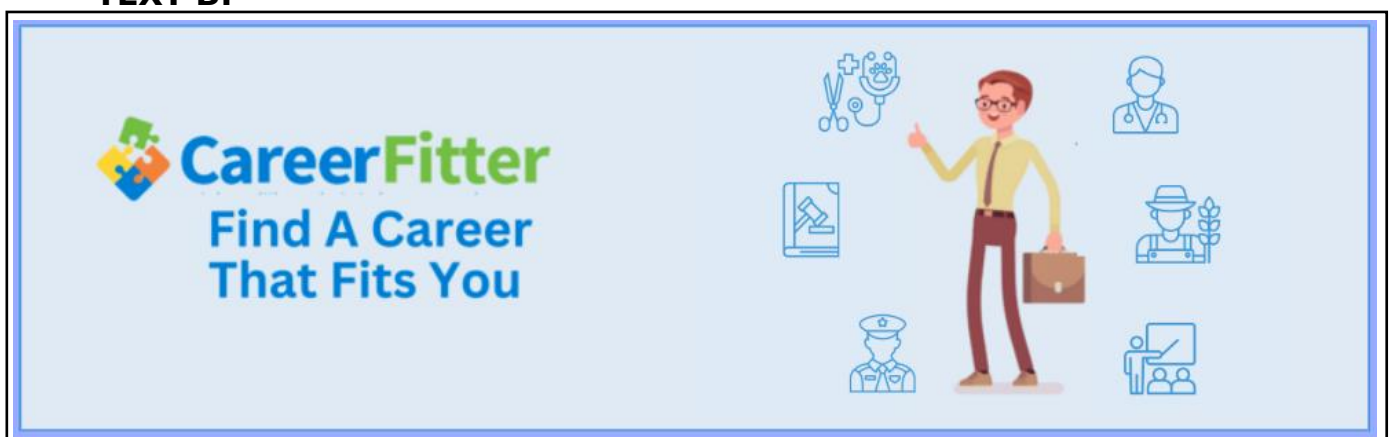
J&M PHOTOGRAPHY AND DESIGN

- 1 Darrius Peace didn't set out to become a hairstylist. More than 25 years ago, while studying to become a Spanish teacher at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, he ran into a problem: there was no one on campus who could braid his hair. Determined to find a solution, he decided to learn how to do it himself.
- 2 "This was in the '90s, so there was no YouTube," Peace explains. "There were no online tutorials or videos to guide me. I had to take matters into my own hands and spend months practicing, learning through trial and error." Eventually, his efforts paid off.
- 3 Once other students noticed his braided hair, they began asking who had done it. When he told them he did it himself, they started asking him to do their hair too. It wasn't long before Peace discovered there was a barber and styling school right across the street from his dorm. He enrolled—and his path shifted.
- 4 Today, Peace owns a successful salon in Birmingham called Hayah Beauty. Originally from Mobile, Alabama, he is widely recognized for his ability to work with all hair textures: straight, curly, wavy, and tightly coiled. However, he notes that his formal training didn't teach him how to style textured hair—that knowledge came from his own experimentation.

- 5 "I had no idea that I was creating a method or an approach to styling hair," Peace explains. "I was just creating a means to an end, which was, I wanted to be able to braid my hair. I wanted to be able to look good and feel confident wearing the hair that I was born with." "When I integrated that into what I formally learned in beauty school," he says—"how to straighten hair, how to cut hair, how to colour hair, how to chemically treat hair in different ways, I was able to really marry those techniques to create what I call the Darrius Peace method and approach to styling textured hair."
- 6 Outside of his salon, Peace has worked on film sets, where hairstyling presents different challenges. In film and television, stylists must be versatile and imaginative - creating looks for characters from any time period, whether it's the 1700s or the distant future. Continuity is also key. "You might be maintaining the same exact hairstyle for six months," Peace explains. "It has to look the same every single time."
- 7 From his early days braiding his own hair to building a successful career in both salons and film, Peace has continually taught himself new skills and overcome challenges—always finding new ways to turn heads.

Source: <https://www.timeforkids.com/your-hot-job/articles/his-own-style-hairstylist>

TEXT B:



Source: <https://www.careerfitter.com/career-advice/what-is-the-perfect-career-for-me-2>

Comprehension Questions:

Refer to paragraph 1 of Text A

1.1 For which career was Darius Peace studying at the University of Alabama? (1)

1.2 Carefully explain how Darius Peace’s career as a hairstylist began. (2)

Refer to paragraph 2 of Text A

1.3 Why would it be easier for us to learn how to style hair now than it was for Darius? (2)

1.4 In your own words, explain what it means to learn by “trial and error”. (2)

Refer to paragraph 3 of Text A

1.5 Explain what caused students to ask Darius to do their hair. (1)

1.6 In which type of institution did Darius Peace enrol and what made it easy for him to do so? (2)

Refer to paragraph 4 of Text A

1.7 Say whether the following statement is true or false and quote no more than one sentence to support your answer. *Darius Peace did not learn how to style textured hair during formal training.* (2)

Refer to paragraph 5 of Text A

1.8 List two specific things related to hair which Darius Peace learned to do at Beauty School. (1)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

1.9 What does Darius Peace actually mean when he says he wanted to “marry” techniques. (1)

Refer to paragraph 6 and 7 of Text A

1.10 Based on paragraph 6 and 7, do you think hairstyling could prove to be an interesting job for some people? Give good, well-explained reasons for your answer. (2)

SECTION B: SUMMARY**QUESTION 2**

Read the passage (**TEXT C**) below and list SEVEN points on **How to prepare for your future career**.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Your summary should include **7 points and NOT exceed 90 words**.
- Your summary should be in your **own words**.
- Your summary must be in **point form**.
- **Number each point** and write in **full sentences**.
- **Each point** should clearly **link** to the heading "How to prepare for your future career"
- You are NOT required to include a title for your summary.
- Indicate an accurate **word count** clearly at the end of your summary.

TEXT C:

Preparing for your future career may seem far away when you're in Grade 8, but the choices you make now can shape the opportunities you'll have later. One important step is to focus on doing your best at school, as good study habits and strong marks open more doors in high school and beyond. You should also start exploring different subjects and activities to discover what you enjoy and what you're good at. Talk to adults—teachers, parents, or family friends—about their jobs to learn what different careers involve. It's also important to develop a growth mindset, understanding that effort and perseverance are key to success.

Learn to manage your time well; being organised helps you balance schoolwork, hobbies, and rest. Begin building communication skills—both speaking and listening—because every career values teamwork and clear expression. Look for opportunities to volunteer or take part in community projects, which can build confidence and responsibility. Start learning about technology and how it's used in various jobs, as digital skills are increasingly important in nearly every field.

Set small, achievable goals that help you work towards your bigger dreams, such as improving in a favourite subject or trying something new. Finally, remember to stay curious and flexible; the world of work changes quickly, and being open to learning new things will help you adapt and thrive. Preparing for your career isn't about knowing exactly what you'll do—it's about building the habits, skills, and attitudes that will help you succeed wherever life leads.

[10 marks]

Source: <https://chatgpt.com/c/68eb8145-6b7c-8332-b198-58899e851313>

SECTION C: VISUAL LITERACY

QUESTION 3

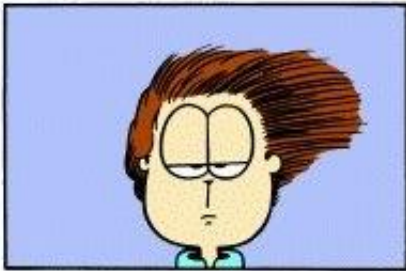
ANALYSING A CARTOON

TEXT D:

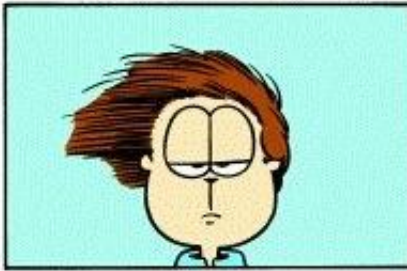
Frame 1



Frame 2



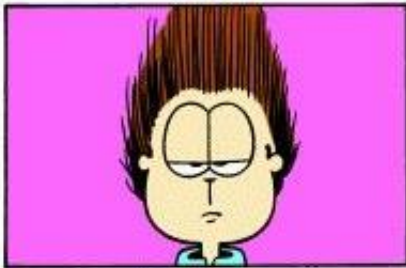
Frame 3



Frame 4



Frame 5



Frame 6



Frame 7



Source: <https://fr.pinterest.com/pin/21462535711004131/>

Refer to all the frames in Text D

3.1 Explain what Garfield (the cat) and Odi (the dog) are doing to Jon (the man). (2)

3.2 How does Jon's (the man's) facial expression show that he is not particularly enjoying the situation? (1)

3.3. **Refer to Frame 7 of Text D**

Explain how Jon's (the man's) words show that he is not particularly enjoying the situation. (1)

3.4. How has the cartoonist visually depicted that Odi (the dog) and Garfield (the cat) are smaller than the average human being? (1)

(5)

QUESTION 4

ANALYSING AN ADVERT

TEXT E:

MANSFIELD
JOBS AND CAREERS FAIR 2025

TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
10am-2pm

MANSFIELD LIBRARY, WEST GATE, MANSFIELD, NOTTS, NG18 1NH

Find out about:

- Job vacancies
- New career pathways
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Self-employment

A variety of support organisations will be attending, ready to provide advice and guidance to help you make the right choices for your future.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

BRING ALONG YOUR CV AND DRESS TO IMPRESS - YOU MAY WALK OUT WITH A JOB!

Department for Work & Pensions

Mansfield District Council

VISION West Nottinghamshire College

Department for Work & Pensions

Mansfield District Council

VISION West Nottinghamshire College

Source: <https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/events/event/1526/mansfield-jobs-and-career-fair>

Refer to Text E

4.1 What event is being advertised in Text E? (1)

4.2 Where and when does this event take place? (1)

4.3 Name one of the organisations which are represented by a logo on this advertisement (Text E). (1)

4.4 By referring to specific words on the advertisement (Text E), carefully explain how the words you refer to would cause someone to want to attend the event. (2)

(5)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 10 MARKS

SECTION D: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES**QUESTION 5**

Read the following paragraph (Text F), which may contain deliberate errors, and then answer the questions which follow.

TEXT F:

1 Hairstyling is a creative and practical career that involve cutting,
 2 styling, and caring for people’s hair. A hairstylist works with clients to
 3 help them look and feel their best. This job requires good
 4 communication skills, steady hands, and an eye for detail. Hairstylists
 5 often learn their trade through training or apprenticeships at places
 6 such as Beauty Academy International, where they study techniques
 7 such as colouring, washing, and using styling tools. They also need to
 8 understand different hair types and the best products to use. Working
 9 in a salon means meeting many different people each day, which makes
 10 the job social and rewarding. Hairstyling is not just about appearance—
 11 it’s about confidence, care, and helping people express their personal
 12 style.

Source: <https://chatgpt.com/c/68eb8145-6b7c-8332-b198->

- 5.1 Name and state the function of the underlined punctuation marks in the following extract from the passage above: “This job requires good communication skills, steady hands, and an eye for detail.” (2)

Name: _____

Function: _____

- 5.2 Name the punctuation mark in the words **it’s** in line 11 of TEXT F above and state its function. (2)

Name: _____

Function: _____

- 5.3 Quote a homophone for the word “I” from the TEXT F above. (1)

- 5.4 Read TEXT F above. Find an antonym for the word “rarely”. **The antonym is in TEXT F.** (1)

- 5.5 Name the part of speech for each of these words that come from the paragraph above. They have been underlined for you. (4)

is (line 1): _____

creative (line 1): _____

help (line 3): _____

an (line 4): _____

Beauty Academy International (line 6): _____

their (line 11): _____

- 5.6 Remember what you have learnt about Degrees of Comparison. Write down the comparative and the superlative form of the word "different" (line 8). (1)

Comparative:

Superlative:

- 5.7 Give a noun form for the word "different". (1)

- 5.8 Write the following sentence in indirect/reported speech. (2)

The hairstylist said, "I will cut Taylor Swift's hair here tomorrow."

- 5.9 Write the following sentence in direct speech. **The answer has been started for you.** (2)

The client said that she wanted long braids in her hair.

The client said, _____

- 5.10 Correct the error of Concord from line 1 in TEXT F above. Write down the incorrect word and the correction. (1)

Incorrect Word: _____

Correction: _____

- 5.11 Rewrite this sentence in the passive voice: *Hairstylists work with many clients.* (1)

- 5.12 Is the following sentence in italics a simple, compound or complex sentence? (1)
I only go to the hairstylist every 6 months because most hairstylists tend to charge high fees.

- 5.13 Are the words "their personal style" a phrase or a clause? (1)

TOTAL FOR SECTION D = 20 MARKS

GRAND TOTAL = 60 MARKS

Fun Activity to do **AFTER** you have checked your exam:

THIS IS NOT FOR MARKS!

Complete the following wordsearch based on **Careers**.

- Words can go in any direction (vertically, horizontally, and diagonally).
- Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

E	E	C	Z	I	Q	U	N	T	L	A	V	V	D	A
N	X	I	W	U	K	Y	S	D	C	A	P	B	C	X
G	G	I	S	I	R	I	V	C	E	R	W	S	T	X
I	P	N	K	N	T	A	O	S	I	K	Y	Y	C	U
N	Q	T	V	N	E	U	R	D	D	T	D	G	E	K
E	R	S	E	H	N	U	E	T	F	E	H	C	T	R
E	E	I	F	T	N	R	T	C	I	Q	K	M	I	E
R	C	T	A	J	H	O	S	O	H	S	K	U	H	W
S	R	N	N	W	T	T	M	Z	L	W	T	S	C	F
M	T	E	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	I	O	I	R	A
V	D	D	P	F	H	O	L	W	W	F	P	C	A	R
B	N	M	C	C	L	D	O	R	J	R	C	I	T	M
T	S	I	L	A	N	R	U	O	J	C	H	A	T	E
F	I	R	E	F	I	G	H	T	E	R	E	N	J	R
P	H	A	R	M	A	C	I	S	T	V	C	S	A	Y

Accountant

Chef

Engineer

Journalist

Nurse

Scientist

Architect

Dentist

Farmer

Lawyer

Pharmacist

Teacher

Artist

Doctor

Firefighter

Musician

Pilot