



Cambridge International AS Level

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/21

Paper 2 Comprehension

May/June 2022

INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.

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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Material for Section A

For the past few months Binde High School (BHS) Media Department has been running a competition for its final year students, asking them to create a podcast*.

Some details about the competition

Mr Grega, Head of Media, will select the best three podcasts entered to put before a panel of judges who will choose the winning podcast. The judges will be Mrs Dvorin, Principal of BHS; Ms Tillmann, Chairperson of BHS Board of Governors; and Mr Ortega, owner of Binde Xtra (the local radio station). The winning podcast will be posted on the school's website. Its creator will receive \$100 in prize money.

Mr Grega's three chosen podcasts

Creator	Franzi Porto
Title	An Interview with Dr Anaïs Duchamp (ex-student, and award-winning scientist and film music composer)
Format	One 30-minute interview, consisting of intro music specially created by Dr Duchamp for Franzi, a welcome from Franzi, a question-and-answer session about Dr Duchamp's experiences of school life at BHS and her successful career in two such diverse fields, then outro music also composed by Dr Duchamp

Creator	Ugo Kinzingern
Title	The Essential Guide to Binde High School for New Students
Format	A 30-minute programme to be posted at the start of each new term (beginning in January, April and September), consisting of a welcome from Ugo, followed by interviews with students, teachers, administrative staff and support workers – all explaining, giving advice about or commentating on what to expect in the term to come at BHS, then finishing with an uplifting message from Ugo

Creator	Zeenah Vázquez
Title	Binde High School Boys' Under-18 Basketball Team's Route to Glory
Format	Six 15-minute programmes, covering the first few rounds of the regional school basketball tournament and the quarter- and semi-finals, then one 75-minute programme on the team's winning performance in the final – all to be posted online in one go. The programmes consist of a mixture of interviews with players, coaches and fans, and match commentaries provided by Yurie, Zeenah's brother.

Extract from the panel's discussions

Mrs Dvorin: (*smiling too brightly*) Welcome, Mr Ortega, to our most wonderful school. It's so kind of you to agree to be a judge and to give up some of your precious time so willingly. We really do appreciate it.

Ms Tillmann: (*with a cunning look in her eyes*) Yes, Mr Ortega. Thank you so much. I'm sure that you agree with us that this competition represents an important learning opportunity for our media students. Mrs Dvorin is to be commended for her interest in promoting an understanding of the media in her students.

Mr Ortega: (*beaming*) Oh, thank you both for such a welcome. I'm so glad to have the chance to hear what the students of Binde have created. I'm sure that Binde Xtra will have given them some inspiration as to how to put together a broadcast as our station holds such an important place in the hearts of everyone in the local community. I'm really excited by the whole project.

Mrs Dvorin: (*abruptly*) Now let's get the discussion started. My thoughts on Ugo's podcast were that it seemed a little chaotic compared to the other two ...

Additional Information

1. Franzi has typed up a full transcript of her interview, and produced it as a blog post** as well as a podcast.
2. Zeenah's brother Yurie is a professional basketball player for a national league club. Currently, he is unable to play in matches due to a leg injury. He was very keen to help his sister in order to relieve his boredom.
3. Mrs Dvorin has been in charge of BHS for two years. It is her first post as a principal.
4. Franzi had to conduct a remote interview with Dr Duchamp as the latter now lives 1000km from Binde. There were a couple of problems with the quality of the audio recording.
5. Mr Grega has had a few arguments with Mrs Dvorin: he feels she does not value his department's work enough.
6. Binde Xtra is struggling to increase listener numbers, especially regarding the 16- to 35-year-old age group.
7. Mr Grega and Ms Tillmann have known each other since the time when they were university students.
8. Ugo's podcast contains a realistic picture of life at BHS.
9. Binde Xtra is finding it hard to fill all its air time since its star sports presenter walked out unexpectedly, quoting the station's lack of professionalism as one of the reasons.
10. BHS's examination results dipped last year, especially in physics. A few parents removed their children from the school.
11. During the discussions, Mr Ortega said he *might* be able to broadcast the winning podcast on Binde Xtra as an additional prize.
12. The governors are starting to be concerned about the decline in the school's academic reputation.
13. When looking at material online, some people prefer reading it to listening to it.
14. Before taking up his post at BHS, Mr Grega used to work at Binde Heights College.
15. Mrs Dvorin might have to make a music teacher redundant as not enough students are choosing to study music.

*a digital audio file made available on the internet for downloading to a computer or mobile device

** a piece of writing or other item of content published on a blog (a regularly updated website or web page)

Material for Section B

Extract from an article by Sean Newsom

Access all areas

Thanks to a number of intrepid pioneers, the world of accessible travel is changing fast.

Robbie Crow knows how transformative accessible travel can be. The charity worker was born with two rare medical conditions and has been registered as blind since birth. That didn't stop him from boarding a yacht aged 14, courtesy of Ocean Youth Trust Scotland, and learning how to sail. 5

'I'd been told from an early age that my life would be constrained – that I'd never drive and never go mountain biking,' he recalls. 'But on that boat I realised sailing is not so much about seeing. It's about feeling: what the wind is doing, how the ship is moving, the state of the waves. And I realised I could be as good at it – if not better, than a sighted person.' 10

Now, aged 28, he's a regular on board the purpose-built tall ships of the Jubilee Sailing Trust. The Trust's aim is to give teams of mixed-ability sailors the chance to discover their potential at sea – and one of Robbie's talents is helming. With the help of a talking compass and a spotter (who watches for other boats), he guides the three-masted ships across the open sea. When he's not at the helm, he's climbing the rigging. 'When the topsail comes loose in a gale, I'll be one of the madmen who goes up and brings it under control,' he says. 'Sailing feels like freedom.' 15

Robbie is part of a new wave of disabled travellers testing the limits of what's possible when it comes to exploring the world. Some people, including the tetraplegic* paraglider Jezz Williams, are daring themselves to try even more extraordinary experiences. The subject of a bittersweet and beautiful short film, *Limitless*, he is also the founder of a travel website aiming to make adventure travel in New Zealand accessible to everyone – whether it's tandem skydiving, white-water rafting or whale watching. 20

Others are busy mapping out the world according to their needs. In 2013, Euan MacDonald – who has motor neurone disease – founded an online guide with the aim of helping disabled people 'find great places to go'. It now hosts more than 7000 reviews of venues in the UK and beyond. Every entry is written by a disabled traveller (or carer) who has visited the venue, so readers get an honest picture of how accessible facilities work in practice. How easy is it to park nearby, for example? Crucially, each review is clear about its target audience, whether they're users of wheelchairs, powerchairs, walking aids or white canes. 25 30

With this sense of adventure comes a more assertive spirit. Travellers in wheelchairs are now calling out airlines if they are left stranded on a flight because their pre-booked assistance doesn't materialise. Meanwhile, schemes have been launched encouraging hotels, bars and restaurants to up their game when it comes to the design of accessible facilities. 35

There is, of course, a long way to go. Designers of many accessible toilets still don't seem to understand that their disabled users are not all challenged in the same way. For many, flying remains a stressful experience, especially if they face more complex disabilities. 40

Barrister Marcia Shekerdeman has been travelling for years with her son, Leo, who has cerebral palsy. For them, moving about inside a plane is difficult. ‘The aisle chairs are fine if you’ve got trunk support**,’ she says of the small wheelchairs designed to get disabled passengers up and down the cabin. ‘But my son doesn’t have trunk support – it takes three or four people to make sure he doesn’t fall out of the chair.’

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There is, however, no doubt that the opportunities and facilities are improving. Specialist tour operators are offering expert advice and itineraries tailored to a range of disabilities. More widely, there has been a change in attitudes – one that Marcia has noticed on one company’s flights. ‘Now nobody hesitates to help me lift Leo into his seat,’ she says. No wonder, given recent estimates that the disabled travellers’ ‘purple pound’ contributes \$15 billion to the tourist industry in the UK alone. For the travellers themselves, the rewards are considerable. ‘As a person with a disability, aeroplanes, trains and even taxis can be challenging,’ Leo says. ‘But going to places I’ve never been to gives me so much to look forward to.’

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Helmsman Robbie is equally enthused by what he has learnt. ‘Sailing has taught me to take life’s challenges as they come,’ he says. ‘When the wind turns into a gale, you have to think on your feet and solve immediate problems, rather than the ones you anticipated. It’s an invaluable lesson.’

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Two accessible destinations:

Tenerife

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Its volcanic landscapes may be raw and rugged, but the Canary Island has long been a pioneer of accessible travel. Plenty of beaches are barrier-free and equipped with amphibious wheelchairs, ramps, toilets and changing rooms. Accessible day trips include wine tastings and tours of the spectacular landscape in adapted coaches.

French Alps

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Not everyone takes to adaptive skiing as quickly as one former motorcyclist in the resort Val Thorens who, after just three days, was making turns down intermediate-level runs in his ski-bottomed chair. But even those who aren’t quite so adventurous will love the excitement of learning. Wheelchair users can also try one of the resort’s new green electric buggies.

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*someone who has lost, partially or completely, the use of all four limbs and their body

**the muscle control to hold your body upright

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