

**Controlled Written exam:
Example marked candidate response 3**

Integrated Skills in English – ISE IV

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

Integrated Skills in English IV

Time allowed: 3 hours

This exam paper has three tasks. You must complete all tasks.

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

Read the information below and then, **in your own words**, write an article for a local newspaper:

- i) assessing the value of the development of a new forest in your area (using Woodland Forest as a model)
- ii) analysing what approach the organisation that manages this project should take to ensure the new forest's success **and**
- iii) discussing how the people in your area might react to such a project.

(Write about 350 words)

Use your own words as far as possible. No marks for answers copied from the reading text. You must make reference to both the text and the graphic information in your answer.

Woodland Forest – real growth!

Over the past 25 years, an area that was once full of abandoned industrial buildings has been transformed into the stunningly beautiful Woodland Forest.

We all know that trees help clean up the environment, but the development of Woodland Forest has had many other positive spin-offs. Wildlife's certainly thriving, with animals and birds coming back to the area.

Children adore playing there, adults are eager to walk there, tourists now flock to the area – what's not to like? Well, some people whinge about the 'hordes' of tourists 'blocking the roads' with their cars. I can't say I noticed.


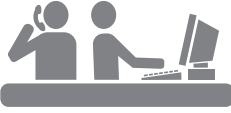



And, at first, there were some raised voices. To quote one: 'Planting all those trees is nonsense! Give us houses, not a forest!' Another moaned 'Work is the key, and a forest won't give us jobs.' But the Woodland Forest Company persisted. Ironically, the forest has led to more house-building as people move to the area, and to more jobs. There is an unexpected number of jobs in forested areas: from manufacturing paper products using sustainable sources to re-planting trees.

Not to mention tourism, which is doing very well indeed. The economy of the area is booming! And the cherry on the cake? Local people are very much happier.

But of course, the Woodland Forest Company didn't just plant the trees anywhere. This wouldn't have worked nearly so well as planned planting. They planted trees both on open land and around areas of housing. The great thing is that it's so easy for people to use the forest. The company also produced a tourism marketing plan. This looked at who might visit the forest, what kind of activities they'd like and where they'd prefer to stay. The company works closely with schools too – so important!

With such amazing results, the project has proved itself, despite some opposition. May it inspire others to develop forest areas!

WOODLAND FOREST FACTS – 1992-2017

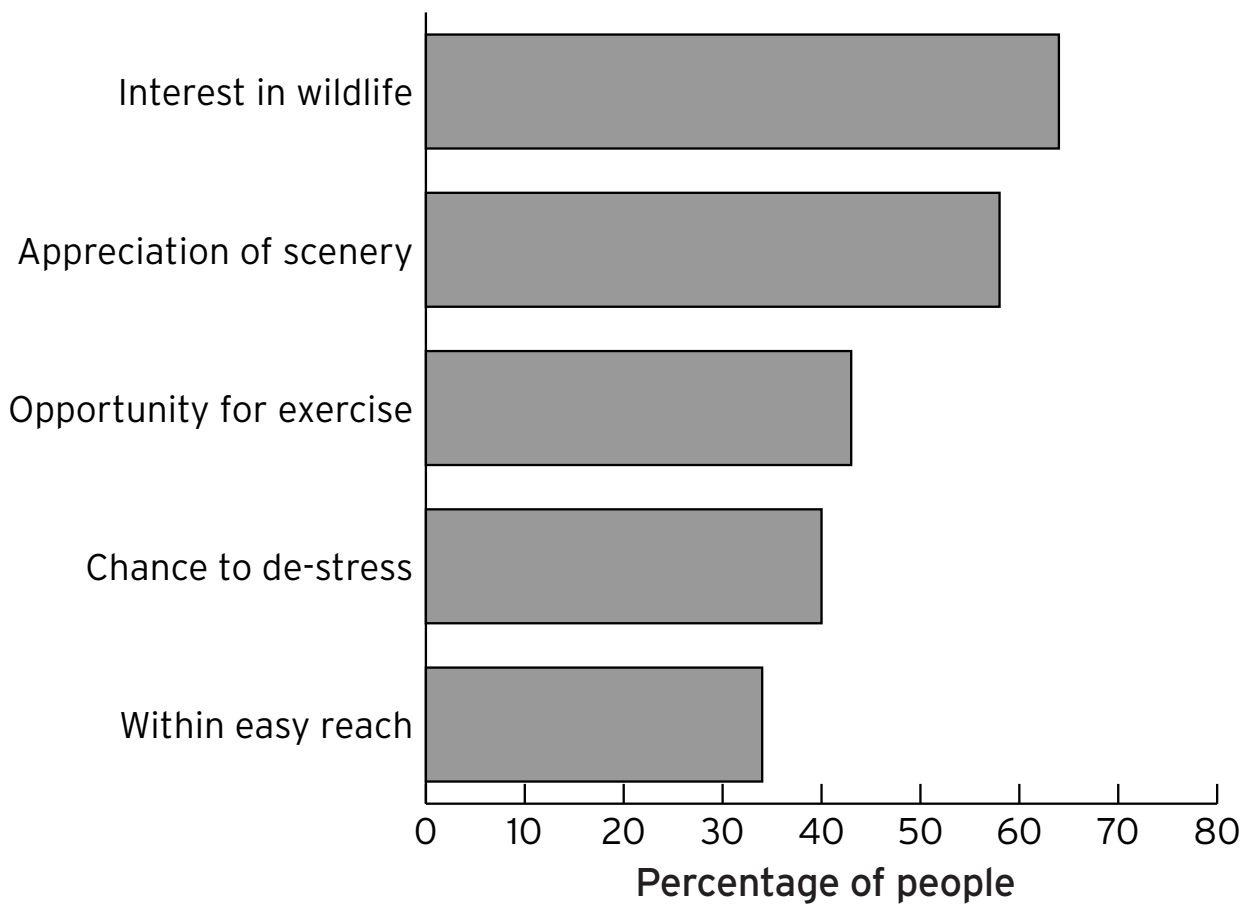
No. of trees planted		8 million
New jobs created to date		5,000
No. of visitors		7.8 million
Money brought into local economy		£376 million
Amount spent on creating the forest		£50 million (same as building 1km of motorway)

WOODLAND FOREST 10-YEAR PLAN: 2017-2027

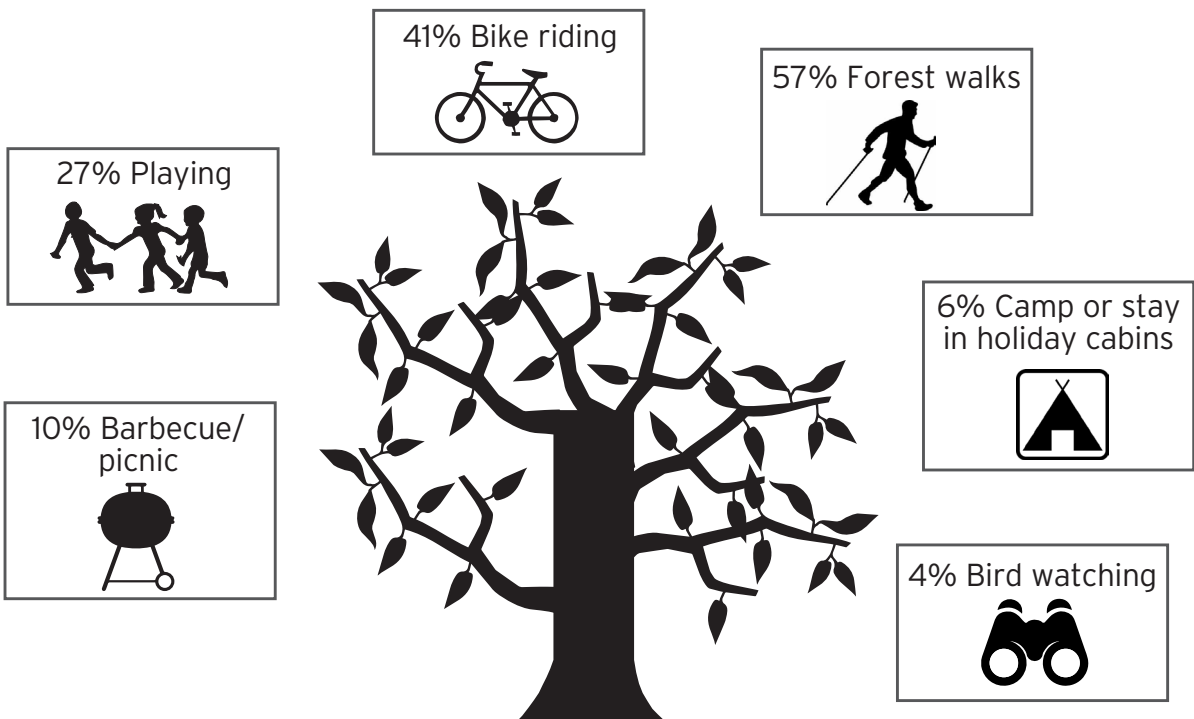
Planned increase in visitor spending		15%
New jobs planned		1,500

www.nationalforest.org

REASONS PEOPLE VISIT FORESTS



POPULAR FOREST ACTIVITIES



A new forest in town

Just five minutes away from the city centre, there used to be an industrial zone which was abandoned twenty years ago when those factories decided to leave. The government has decided to create a forest that will benefit the local residents.

It seems this will bring positive effects on the people there. There exist the case of Woodland Forest; they developed a forest with similar characteristics. Our authorities can take that as an example. Here are the figures and facts.

Although some people were against this project, the outcome was fantastic. The national forest, in its website (www.nationalforest.org), mentions the creation of 5000 jobs, 8 million trees planted, 7.8 million visitors; but most importantly the profit of £326 million. All in a 25 - year period (1992 - 2017).

This can give a clearer idea of the benefits that this project can give our community. The government must be aware of the necessity of developing a project like this one. They have to be wise enough to promote it with the corresponding companies.

How may those companies or organizations feel attracted to this plan? An obvious reason is that people have to use it. Facts show that people visit forests because they are interested in wildlife, they want to appreciate the scenery. Also, it is a good opportunity for exercise (e.g. hiking, camping, trekking, etc). other fun activities people enjoy doing them with family are picnics, playing, biking, bird watching and so on.

The organisations that are willing to invest and develop such project shouldn't worry whether this can succeed or not. It is evident the local authorities will help with it as well as the local people because what we want for our town is a mix of development, economy - growth and safety.

Nevertheless, we must take into account that there might be some people who won't be thrilled with the whole idea. I have lived my entire life in this community and I know people who are always negative. The more you explain it to them, the more they are neglected. We shouldn't worry about them. There are the most people who want what was mentioned lines above; prosperity. What more do we want besides wealth and health? Safety? We will have it. That is why most people in our town are looking forward to living this project with enthusiasm and support.

Word count: 393

Rationale

Task 1 – Reading into writing task – text synthesis

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
The candidate makes use of all source materials and provides a good summary of the data from the tables and graphics. However, more information from the first text could have been used in order to fully analyse, rather than merely mention, the approach the organisation that manages the project should take to ensure success. Adequate reference to the local area is made throughout. *Tip: Candidates must analyse the task in detail and ensure that all requirements of the task are satisfied. Failure to do so will have a detrimental effect on the grade awarded.
Text organisation
The task is well organised with appropriate paragraphs and there is an attempt at using cohesive devices. However, these are not always used effectively and some ideas do not always develop logically. For example, 'How may those companies or organisation feel attracted to this plan?' is an appropriate opener for a paragraph, but what follows does not offer any expansion.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The task asks for an article, and there is a title as well as occasional questions to draw the reader in. Overall, the appropriate format, style and register are realised.
Effect on the reader
The desired effect on the reader is mostly achieved.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: D
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
The language used is generally accurate and at times very effective, eg 'This can give a clearer idea...', 'We must take into account that there may be some people who won't be thrilled...', but overall it lacks the complexity expected of ISE IV. Some errors do occur, eg 'other fun activities people enjoy doing them with family are...', 'What was mentioned lines above', 'Look forward to living this project', but do not impede understanding. *Tip: Candidates must show a comprehensive mastery of a very wide range of language to formulate thoughts precisely and use differing linguistic forms to reformulate ideas to convey finer shades of meaning.
Spelling and punctuation
There are occasional spelling errors, eg 'the government', 'scenary' and occasional misuse of punctuation marks '...who want what was mentioned lines above; prosperity.'

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

Read the text below and then, **in your own words**, present the information given as an online forum with two or more contributors for a business website:

- i) analysing to what extent the exhibition exceeds expectations
- ii) evaluating the impact of any negative aspects of the exhibition **and**
- iii) outlining what other museums might learn from the exhibition.

(Write about 300 words)

Use your own words as far as possible. No marks for answers copied from the reading text.

From: kim@mail.com
To: joeyg@frooglemail.com
Subject: Exhibition

Hi Joey

So, you're off to the 'Past Sounds' exhibition at the History Museum! I can't get enough of it!

Before I went, I couldn't have imagined anything more boring than an exhibition of hundreds of sound recordings. But I was blown away by the variety of recordings – from political speeches to animal sounds.

And it isn't just the recordings that hit the spot. The photo collections and the old recording machines didn't disappoint either – surprisingly!

Another plus was the numerous listening posts with headphones. Without so many of these, the queues might have been unbearable. I've been dipping into some recordings during my lunch hours – very easy for locals to pop in and out!

I admit that, at first, I nearly gave up because of the sheer number of recordings to choose from, and, indeed, some others did. Not a great start, but eventually spotting a helpful timeline on the wall saved the day, with the recordings listed by date. Without this, I wouldn't have made such good choices. Head straight for the timeline – and take your glasses as the print's really small! I was pretty irritated by the lack of information generally. But I managed to get going, and it didn't spoil my enjoyment of the recordings, nor most other people's. Once you start listening, the impressive content of the recordings can't be ignored.

Not 100% perfect, I know, but others should note the success of this exhibition. Museums can't function on air, of course, but this proved that exhibitions can bring in money. With no set admission charge, just a donation box (which people were putting money into), everyone's a winner. The range of exhibits was impressive and what quality! And if I had to highlight one good thing, it would be not cramming too much into too little space. A welcome change!

Enjoy the exhibition!

Love
 Kim

A REVIEW ON 'PAST SOUNDS' EXHIBITION

MARY:

I've recently visited the 'Past Sounds' exhibition at the History Museum and I'm unexpectedly surprised! Some friends of mine recommended me the visit but honestly, I wouldn't listen to them, until my sister told me to go. Again, I'd doubts about the contents and was completely sure that it was going to be just dreadful listening to hundreds of sounds for a long time!

As I told you, I was really shocked to find myself enjoying the huge variety of sounds from politics to wildlife sounds, to all the likes!

And, don't worry about the queues because there're a lot of posts with headphones for everyone in the place, thank goodness! It'd be horrible otherwise! There's a timeline to get your guide on the listenings so as to make good choices, but, it's really annoying the size of the letters, they're so tiny and there's so many people getting close to that, that you may have to wrestle in order to pick a look.

The only negative thing that I can think of is the lack of information around the listenings. Still, it's not enough to consider it bad, on the contrary, it's really worth visiting!

Before I forget, it's free to everyone although it's good to give a donation to the museum because they need to raise funds and this is the proof that museums can attract money and visitors! Everyone paid what thought suitable and everyone's happy!

You must see it!

JOHN:

Completely agree with you, Mary! I wasn't really sure either about going but in the end I decided to go with my girlfriend, who is really fond of museums.

About the timeline, tell me about it! I'm poor-sighted and had some struggles reading it.

I also think that if there weren't enough listening posts many people would have seconds thoughts to visiting the exhibition because of long queues, in spite of the mind-blowing materials!

The fact that the materials are so good and it's free, is something that the rest of museums should learn from; they need to make their materials attractive to the public and in this way, earn much more money!

Word count: 357

Rationale

Task 2 – Reading into writing task – text transformation

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: B
Overall achievement of communicative aim
There is good execution of the task, both in terms of content and format, which requires an online forum with at least two contributors. The candidate makes good use of the source material, everything included is relevant and the main points are covered by both contributors in a natural way.
Text organisation
There is an effective logical structure which helps the reader recognise the main points. Even though some points may be referred to by both contributors (therefore causing repetition), they are expressed differently. Both contributions use paragraphs and some cohesive devices. However, the use of 'the only negative thing...' at the start of the fourth paragraph may cause the reader confusion as the previous sentence already expresses a negative aspect.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The format, style and register are appropriate to the task. Phrases such as 'Completely agree with you!', 'Tell me about it!' not only act as clear cohesive devices and show effective turn-taking, but they also add to the effective execution of an informal blog and are very natural in the exchange.
Effect on the reader
The effect on the reader is positive.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: C
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
There is satisfactory coverage of grammatical, lexical and functional language items used. The language used is accurate but range is somewhat restricted and sometimes lacks the complexity required at this level. Contractions, some of them incorrect (eg 'I'd doubts', 'there're'), are overused. However, any errors do not impede understanding. *Tip: Candidates must show a comprehensive mastery of a very wide range of language to formulate thoughts precisely and use differing linguistic forms to reformulate ideas to convey finer shades of meaning.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling and punctuation are generally good.

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

'It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to give consideration to a thought without accepting it.'
Aristotle, philosopher (384-322 BC)

Write an essay:

- i) discussing the meaning of the statement
- ii) analysing its importance in the educational sphere **and**
- iii) supporting your views with relevant examples.

(Write about 250 words)

As the Greek philosopher Aristotle states, it is highly appreciable to take into consideration a thought which may be foreign to our way of thinking and give it an opportunity of being processed even though you do not agree with it. It may not be easy and it implies an open-mindedness often found in educated people.

This attitude is of great importance, especially nowadays, with globalisation and the moving of people from one continent to another. They bring different cultures with them, different customs and attitudes and it is fundamental for a peaceful cohabitation to leave to give them consideration, which means we are not forced to accept them.

In the educational sphere it is of vital importance. If we analyse the composition of present day classes, in any order of education, we may not be surprised to realize that in each there are at least three or four different ethnic groups. As a consequence, teachers and educators have the task to teach pupils and students to take different customs and beliefs into serious consideration and try to respect them.

Nonetheless, this does not mean we are to accept infibulation, the lack of consideration and respect given to women by certain cultures or violence of any kind although they might be a routine in someone's life.

In conclusion, our attitude should be that of another famous philosopher, the French Voltaire which stated "I am neither religious nor do I believe in God, but I would give my life to enable you to be free to be a religious person!"

Word count: 259

Rationale

Task 3 – Critical and analytical writing task

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
All three sub-tasks are addressed. The candidate shows understanding of the quotation and uses relevant examples to illustrate its importance in the educational field. However, the response refers to accepting cultural differences rather than giving 'consideration to a thought', as per the statement, and therefore the reader would not be fully informed.
Text organisation
The response is well-organised into appropriate paragraphs, simple cohesive devices are used, eg 'as a consequence', 'nonetheless', and there is a logical development of ideas. However, a greater variety of more sophisticated connectors and cohesive devices at this level would have enhanced the writing.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
Appropriate format, style and register are generally used.
Effect on the reader
Desired effect on the reader is mostly achieved. The text satisfactorily informs and engages the reader.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: C
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
There is a satisfactory range of the language items of the level, although there is occasional awkwardness, eg 'an opportunity of being processed'. Minor errors, eg 'an open-mindedness often find in', 'Voltaire which stated', 'customs and believes', do not impede understanding.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling and punctuation are generally satisfactory.