

Writing
Higher Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at www.edexcel.com

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

Section B – Higher Tier – Question 9

*9 Write an article on personal safety for a website for young people.

(24)

Script 1

AO4 (i)&(ii) – Band 5 – 16 marks

AO4 (iii) – Band 3 – 8 marks

SAFE OR SORRY.
which will you ^{be} ~~choose~~?

An article on ^{our} ~~the~~ personal safety ~~of our generation~~ has to keep streetwise.
On what it is to be young. We are carefree children
chilling with friends, going to parties and supposedly safe and
sound. Or are we?

Only yesterday, a sixteen year old girl was found dead after
being ambushed on her return home from a late night out. I know
similarly, ~~on~~ the same day, a seventeen year old boy ~~was~~
collapsed at a ~~the~~ Inferno ~~club~~ nightclub after somebody spitefully
spiked his drink. I know ~~you~~ what you are thinking - this would never
be me, ^{but} how can you be so sure? ~~believe it or not~~

Prevention. One word but yet ~~so~~ ^{so} many ~~people~~. Prevention is
better than cure and in regards to keeping safe both online and
whilst out and about, it could be the ~~prudence~~ ^{prudence} that stops you from
getting hurt.

Youth of today: I am not saying lock yourselves away
~~and disconnect from~~ or deactivate your social networking ~~accounts~~. I

am ~~saying~~ not saying do not see friends or go to parties. My message is clear: be aware of what is going on around you.

There are ~~many~~ several steps that can be taken so to improve

(Section B continued)

your personal safety. ~~If you don't do these~~ ~~also~~ Particularly if you do not do these already, listen up! Here is some advice:

1. Walk in groups, ~~with~~ particularly at night, the saying is true, there ~~are~~ is strength in numbers.
 2. Do not flash your phone, money or ipod in the street, this leads to unwanted attention. Keep them safe and put money in different pockets.
 3. Finally, tell someone (anyone) where you are going and for how long.
- These three basic steps will keep you street wise. ~~Remember~~

We now move on to ^{the} wonders of iWorld and all the benefits that come with it. Who has Facebook up in another tab whilst reading this? I thought so... The advancement of technology and success of ~~the~~ ~~at~~ social networking sites has enabled people to keep ~~in contact~~ connected with family, friends and the like from across the globe. Twitter allows us to see the latest updates of our glamorous idols and follow those who we like. So it's all go in iWorld, but is there more to the story than what we ^{can} see?

As I ~~sk~~ skim through my homepage, clicking on updating ^{ing} pictures or ~~return~~ the odd poke, I ~~often~~ sometimes come across an unfamiliar name or receive a fairly odd friend request. Apparently, one in five profiles on Facebook are fake. So I ask you - do you really know who you are talking to?

Facebook allows you to make your settings private and enable your ^{who you do not know.} account ~~cannot~~ cannot be viewed by others. ~~First~~ Do me a favour, type your name into Google. Does your name come up? Does your Facebook profile come up? If it does, I urge you to change your settings so it

is only you and your friends who can see your information. ~~We~~

We've heard all the horrific horror stories of online stalkers, identity theft and fraud. We've ~~also~~ heard ~~what~~ the scare mongering facts and figures of young people who have come to harm both in the real world and the cyberworld. ~~The good thing is, now you have read this article, you are aware. Think smart. After reading this, ~~find~~ this~~ ^{last you, could} ~~be~~ ^{to be} still be you? Think smart, because and remember, it is better safe [^] than sorry.

Further information at www.personalsafety.org.

Examiner summary:

The candidate fulfils the writing task with a sharp focus on the purpose and audience. There is extensive vocabulary and mature control of sentence forms with convincing organisation and use of cohesive devices. Spelling is consistently accurate and a variety of punctuation is used.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

AO4 (i)& (ii)

5

13-16

- Achieves precision and clarity in presenting compelling and fully developed ideas. □□A strong, consistent fulfilment of the writing task sharply focused on the writer's purpose and audience.
- An extensive vocabulary and mature control in the construction of varied sentence forms.
- Organisation is convincing, with sophisticated control of text structure, skilfully sustained paragraphing and the effective application of cohesive devices.

AO4 (iii)

3

7-8

- Sentences are convincingly structured, with sophisticated control of expression and meaning. A convincing selection of sentence structures is used.
- Control of the full range of punctuation is precise, enabling intended emphasis and effects to be conveyed.
- Spelling is consistently accurate.

This response receives full marks.

Section B – Higher Tier – Question 10

*10 Your local newspaper has published an article with the title 'Mobile phones are essential for modern life'.

Write a letter to the newspaper giving your views on this topic.

(24)

Script 1

AO4 (i)&(ii) – Band 4 – 12 marks

AO4 (iii) – Band 2 – 6 marks

Dear editor,

I noticed your article about mobile phones & how they are 'essential' for modern life. When reading the article I had mixed emotions, so I thought I would voice my opinion.

Mobile phones are very distracting, especially when your phone is connected to chat groups - Facebook, BlackBerry messenger, WhatsApp etc. This causes your phone to constantly make noise throughout the day. Whether it's a 'ping' or an inbox it catches your attention. Yes, it's great to stay in touch with your friends and family but imagine if you're at work or school & your phone vibrates or makes a sound in your bag or pocket. Either way it's going to distract you. You automatically want to know who it is and what they are saying, which then distracts you from the task at hand. You could be doing

an assessment or filling out a very important document.

However, the phones that are being made recently have 'apps' you can download, there is a variety of different 'apps' available - food, clothes, money management and you can even locate others. These apps are there to make people's lives easier. But what about old people, surely they need a mobile phone too, just to make phone calls when they are out. ~~But~~ However, old people can't keep up with today's ~~technology~~ technology the world is just moving too fast for them. It's hardly fair that they can't purchase a better, more stylish phone just because they don't know how to use them.

From another point of view, mobile phones come in extremely handy for teenagers & people in education. I say this because smart phone - 'Blackberry', 'Iphone' have easy & cheap ways of connecting to one another. Blackberry offers 'Blackberry messenger' also.

known as 'BBM'. If you and your friend both have blackberrys it's free to ~~the~~ message each other, providing you have internet connection. But this causes another problem as if all your friends have 'Smart'phones and you perhaps can't afford it then you will stand out & this could lead to discrimination because of poverty. This could then effect someones learning & education.

The expensive phones tend to be better with more advanced software. This could then cause the crime rate to increase as the less fortunate members of the public may take it upon themselves to steal other peoples mobile phones. This crime has become quite common. However because of advanced technology you can block your phone if it is stolen but that doesn't ensure you will get it back. The people who steal your phones can easily sell them on to others therefore they have cash so either way they benefit from it.

We live in a ~~social~~ society today where new technology is introduced to us all the time. Me personally, I think advanced technology is a bad thing. Too many people are opportunists and won't hesitate to relieve you of your property.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]

Examiner summary:

The candidate appropriately addresses the letter to the editor, and mostly maintains a suitable style and register for such a letter, with some informality. There is a good range of fully developed ideas and vocabulary. The response is purposefully structured, with evidence of crafting.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

AO4 (i) & (ii)

		Paragraphs
4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assured presentation of fully developed ideas. A consistent fulfilment of the writing task and assured realisation of its intended audience. Aptly chosen, reasonably extensive vocabulary and assured control in the construction of varied sentence forms. Organisation is assured, with sophisticated control of text structure, skilfully sustained paragraphing and the effective application of cohesive devices.

AO4 (iii)

2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sentences are purposefully structured, with sustained control of expression and meaning. A wide and varied selection of sentence structures is used. Thorough control of the full range of punctuation, enabling intended emphasis and effects to be conveyed. Spelling is almost always accurate, with occasional slips.
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To achieve a higher mark:

AO4 (i) & (ii) this response needs to be more sharply focused on the audience and purpose and to make use of a more extensive vocabulary.

AO4 (iii) this response needs a more sophisticated control of expression and more ambitious spelling, sentence structure and punctuation.

Script 2

A04 (i)&(ii) – Band 5 – 16 marks

A04 (iii) – Band 3 – 8 marks

Dear Sirs,

I write to you today to express my views on your recent article 'Mobile phones are essential for modern life'. I would like to share my opinions with you and hope that you consider them to be valid as I am deeply interested by your article.

Firstly, I think that the point made with the uses of mobile phones was completely correct; mobile phones are ~~made~~ made essentially for calling people and sending "SMS"s. However, with the recent development of smartphones, ~~the~~ e-mail has become an integral aspect of phones as it ^{is} used by professionals of all types (lawyers ^{and} businessmen for example) to communicate quickly with their work associates, employees, managers and so on.

Another development that I think was only touched upon by your article, is the growth of instant messenger applications. These are another way in which mobile phones have become essential because services such as "Blackberry Messenger", "Whatsapp" and "Google Talk"

are either very cheap or free compared to "SMS"s. This means that because they are more convenient, it has given ~~mobile~~ ^{smart} phones a greater importance.

Furthermore, smartphones have a wide range of applications that are available for download, as well as ~~as~~ access to the internet, and regular news updates. All of these new features make smartphones an essential part of modern lives – more essential than ordinary mobile phones which do not have these ^{services} ~~aspects~~ available.

Although it was written in the article that an ^{economist} ~~scientist~~ predicted that mobile phones will continue to be essential for a long time, I would like to share with you my view on this matter because it is quite different. I believe that

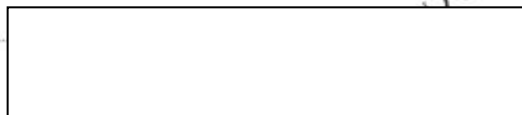
mobile phones will not be essential to peoples' lives in the ~~far~~ future because technology progresses too quickly to allow for new products to have a long life-span. I predict that a new, different device will become more essential than mobile phones are at the moment. We have witnessed the growth ~~in~~ⁱⁿ laptop sales as well as the new "iPad" and tablet gadgets that have recently become popular. These products, I believe, will dominate the technological industry after mobile phones.

Additionally, I noticed that the article did not give an explanation as to why mobile phones have become such an essential part of our lives. Again, I would like to offer my ^{most important} opinion and give the reasons which I think are ~~most~~. Mobile phones are the quickest way of communication and this ~~is~~^{has} huge advantages for every person in a society. It saves time and allows people to keep up with the ever-changing ~~pace~~^{pace} at which we live our lives.

Other reasons include the cheap manufacturing of certain types of phones which ~~at~~ enables people from a range of social classes to afford it. Mobile phones are also becoming somewhat of a social trend. For example, if a teenager ~~sees~~ sees that their friends ~~if~~^{and be accepted} all have mobile phones, they too will buy one to fit in. Lastly, I think that they have become essential because of all the huge businesses that rely on them to make profits. Companies such as "Nokia", "HTC" and "Samsung" are just a few of the big corporations that produce mobile phones. They all invest a huge sum of money into designing, developing, constructing and promoting new innovative mobile phones, which in turn will provide them with huge profits from worldwide sales.

To conclude, I would like to hope that you have considered my views and that you continue to produce articles ~~on~~^{on} topics such as technology and industry. I look forward to reading your newspaper in the future and hope that I offered you some good points.

Yours sincerely,



Examiner summary:

The candidate fulfils the writing task with a sharp focus on the purpose and audience. There is extensive vocabulary and mature control of sentence forms with convincing organisation and use of cohesive devices. Spelling is accurate and a variety of punctuation is used.

Band this response achieves in the mark scheme:

AO4 (i)& (ii)

5

13-16

- Achieves precision and clarity in presenting compelling and fully developed ideas. □□ A strong, consistent fulfilment of the writing task sharply focused on the writer's purpose and audience.
- An extensive vocabulary and mature control in the construction of varied sentence forms.
- Organisation is convincing, with sophisticated control of text structure, skilfully sustained paragraphing and the effective application of cohesive devices.

AO4 (iii)

3

7-8

- Sentences are convincingly structured, with sophisticated control of expression and meaning. A convincing selection of sentence structures is used.
- Control of the full range of punctuation is precise, enabling intended emphasis and effects to be conveyed.
- Spelling is consistently accurate.

This response receives full marks.