



GCSE

4171/02

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE – Wales candidates only
HIGHER TIER
UNIT 1 (READING)**



A.M. TUESDAY, 4 June 2013

1 hour

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Resource Material.

An 8 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark available for this unit is 40.

The number of marks in brackets will give you an indication of the time you should spend on each question or part-question.

Answer **all** the following questions.

The essay on the opposite page, 'Let's hope our offensive, overpaid footballers have been watching the Games', is by James Lawton.

The **separate Resource Material** is a newspaper article, 'The Craig Bellamy Enigma' by Louise Taylor.

Read the first page of the newspaper article in the Resource Material: 'The Craig Bellamy Enigma' by Louise Taylor.

1. According to this newspaper article, what has Craig Bellamy done to help young people in Sierra Leone? [10]

Now read the second page of the article.

2. What does Louise Taylor think and feel about Craig Bellamy in this part of the text? [10]

Now read the essay on the opposite page written by James Lawton.

3. James Lawton clearly admires the Olympic Games and the competitors. How does he show his admiration? [10]

To answer the next question you will need to refer to both texts.

4. What impressions do these two texts give of footballers?

Organise your answer under the following headings:

- the impressions given by James Lawton;
- the impressions given by Louise Taylor. [10]

You must make it clear in your answer which text you are taking your information from.

James Lawton: Let's hope our offensive, overpaid footballers have been watching the Games

As the football season kicks off, it provokes in many a weary resignation, if not a degree of loathing for the troublesome players.

When they snuff out the Olympic flame tomorrow night, a brief but solemn prayer will surely be appropriate. Ideally, it will express the hope that all the joy and excitement that have touched so many people here and across the world these past two weeks will not disappear along with the flame.

The Games have been a sharp contrast to one of our favourite seasonal sports; football. Tomorrow will see the opening of a new football season with a match between the two richest clubs in the land, champions Manchester City and Chelsea. While the Olympics may have been a breath of sporting fresh air, few need reminding of what the money-drenched national game has come to represent.

On cycle tracks, the rowing lake and in the swimming pool we have seen the most thrilling competition and so many moments of unforgettable grace. Britain's Olympians dominated many events and brought home a mountain of medals. These Olympians are truly inspirational. They make tremendous personal sacrifices; training relentlessly in all conditions for an event that only takes place once every four years. By shocking comparison, with footballers we expect greed and cheating coupled with destructive attitudes in an unending flow. During matches we witness their racism and foul-mouthed exchanges. Off the pitch there are Twitter rows and an overwhelming sense that if football has a dominant motivation, it is the pursuit of wealth. Yes, there are football stars like the incredibly charitable Didier Drogba and Craig Bellamy but there are far more tales of trouble and lawlessness, fighting on the pitch, drunken nightclub brawls and bad language. Did we hear of the Olympians fighting after their events? Did we see them being arrested for bad behaviour? Certainly not.

The Olympians brought fierce competition and brilliant individual and team performances but they were irresistible in the way they so powerfully reminded us of what sport can be when it is played in the right spirit. By contrast, often mediocre footballers live in luxury in multi-million pound homes with extravagant lifestyles, and do not set a good example to their many young followers. There are continual stories of affairs and wrongdoings. Many footballers' monthly wages could support several Olympians for an entire year.

There was an extraordinary buzz during the Olympics, but there is now a question: will we feel like this when the football season starts? The greatest glory of these Olympics is that they have so strongly reasserted the power of sport to touch the lives of so many. Football, of course, exerts similar influence week by week. But its failure to ignite the kind of flame that has burned so brightly during the Olympics has never before been so harshly illuminated.

James Lawton

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Resource Material

The Craig Bellamy Enigma

The famous forward is often regarded as one of football's bad boys, but off the pitch there is a very different side to him.



Many people know that Craig Bellamy has had a series of run-ins with players, managers and fans, that he threw a chair at a coach and threatened a player with a golf club. He has been described as “another aggressive footballing idiot”, a view held by many fans when Bellamy is playing against their team.

However, not many people know that Bellamy is a regular visitor to Sierra Leone, one of the world's most unstable countries. Two of Bellamy's friends worked in Sierra Leone, a country that enchanted and shocked them in equal measure. They told the striker of their

experiences and, curious to see for himself, he booked a flight. Bellamy spent his time there playing street football with any children he happened to bump into and fell in love with the place. He has spent time learning about the country's history, politics and problems. As a result, he then set up a charity and has donated hundreds of thousands of pounds of his own money to help young people in this troubled country.

When he was at Liverpool, Bellamy ignored the warnings of his manager and travelled to Freetown, the dangerous capital of Sierra Leone, to start his charity. This year 1,600 boys aged between 11 and 14 play or train on a daily basis in a league supported by Bellamy's charity. This is not about producing footballers for European clubs. It aims, instead, to ensure that children brought up in a country ravaged by war receive a proper education, become involved in their communities and are made aware of the scale and danger of HIV/Aids. Under Bellamy's leadership, school truancy rates have plummeted. While boys are barred from matches if they skip school, they are also not permitted on the pitch unless they have helped in community projects such as repairing wells and clearing vegetation likely to attract mosquitos. Leagues for girls and amputees are also being established through Craig Bellamy's generous funding and constant support.

He could have got involved with something a lot easier but he stuck with it. So far, Bellamy has invested £450,000 of his own cash and pledged a further £800,000, making it clear he is in it, as he says, “until I'm a very old man”. The steelworker's son from a Cardiff council estate is totally committed to making a difference.

Not only has he supported football training sessions and made key decisions about the management of his charity but he has made visits to individual families with problem children.

Since his first visit he has worked tirelessly to make a difference. Bellamy is passionate and committed to anything he engages in, which explains why his career has been punctuated by so many touchline spats, not just with fiery opponents, but with fellow players and managers.



On the pitch people make assumptions about Craig and, often, they're wrong. He's matured a lot and he's a top, top professional who wants to be the best and demands the best from his coaches and team-mates. He's a winner who cares passionately. Perhaps too passionately. According to a team-mate, “There are times in a game when you have to pull him aside and have a word because he's losing his temper, but as long as you keep communicating with him properly and explain why you're doing things he's a joy to work with.”

While Bellamy can be high maintenance he is also an exceptional attacking talent whose pace is complemented by high-calibre finishing ability. Unlike many other football players, he is also surprisingly selfless. Sir Bobby Robson, former manager of England and Newcastle, claims, “Craig always plays for the team rather than himself – unlike so many other players.” Bellamy's career has been interrupted by serious injuries but he has bravely battled back and continues to play at a top level.

A father of three, he makes easy connections with children. A few years ago a woman nursing her seriously ill toddler in a Tyneside hospital was struck by his warmth and perceptiveness as they chatted during a Christmas tour of the wards by Newcastle players. While other players were totally uninterested, standing back and rudely chatting amongst themselves, Bellamy's sincerity shone through. David Bishop, the former Welsh rugby player says, “He's a very down to earth, kind and generous person who does a lot of charity work which just goes under the radar.” Craig has spent a lot of evenings down at his local pub in Cardiff just talking to people. He's completely himself. Like many footballers, he might get drunk once in a blue moon and do something reckless or stupid but he's matured a lot in recent years.

Louise Taylor