Functional Skills English
Reading Level 2
Sample Paper 1

Plastics
Provisional Mark Scheme
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document 1</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Subject content statement reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Which of the following would be the <strong>most</strong> suitable headline for this</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>article? (Tick <strong>one</strong>)&lt;br&gt;a) The dangers and struggles of wildlife in the</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ocean. b) If Costa Rica can ban single-use plastics, why can’t we? c)</td>
<td>1 mark</td>
<td>SCS11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-use plastics should be banned in UK says BBC presenter. d) Plastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>bag sales fall by 86% since levy introduced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Answer key: c</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. What is the <strong>main</strong> reason Liz Bonnin was being interviewed? (Tick</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>one</strong>)&lt;br&gt;A. To explain a range of environmental issues. B. To call for</td>
<td>1 mark</td>
<td>SCS13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>an increase in the cost of plastic bags. C. To support Costa Rica’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>policies on wildlife. D. To promote a TV documentary.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Answer key: d</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. This document was first published on the internet. A reader wants to</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>find out more about differences between the UK and Costa Rica. What</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>feature has been included on the webpage to help with this? &lt;br&gt;Answer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>makes reference to:&lt;br&gt; (Click on the Costa Rica) hyperlink/link</td>
<td>1 mark</td>
<td>SCS15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accept reference to Costa Rica being underlined.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not penalise spelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. What tone is used by the writer of the article? (Tick <strong>one</strong>)&lt;br&gt;a)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Informal. b) Neutral. c) Biased. d) Conversational.</td>
<td>1 mark</td>
<td>SCS19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer key: b</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
5. In her interview Liz asks lots of questions. What effects does Liz want this to have on readers? Give two effects.

Answer makes reference to two of:
- To get their interest/make them curious
- To encourage them to watch the documentary/to find out the answers
- To get them to think/question/find out/reflect

One mark for each (up to 2 possible marks).
Do not penalise spelling

| 2 marks | SCS14 |

6. In the interview, Liz Bonnin argues that we can live without plastic. Which two of the following are reasons she might she be biased in this view? Tick two.

Keys = a) and e)

| 2 marks | SCS17 |

7. Liz feels that urgent change is required. Give two phrases she uses to suggest this.

Answers (two of):
- Slower action (on plastic pollution) was not good enough
- (If Costa Rica can do it) why can’t we do it immediately?
- (There is) no more time to phase anything out

One mark for each (up to possible 2 marks)
Do not penalise spelling

| 2 marks | SCS13 |
8. Give **two** facts and **two** opinions from the article.

**Fact 1**

**Fact 2**

**Opinion 1**

**Opinion 2**

**Answers:**

Reference to **two** of the following facts:

- Liz Bonnin is a BBC television presenter / wildlife biologist
- Liz Bonnin has called for an immediate ban of single use plastics in Britain
- Sarah Knapton is the writer of the article
- New documentary is called Drowning in Plastic/airs next Tuesday
- New documentary comes a year after Blue Planet 2 / investigates effect plastic waste has on marine wildlife
- Plastic bag sales have fallen by 86% since the 5p levy in 2015
- Costa Rica will ban single-use plastics by 2021
- America is investing 180 billion dollars in new plastic factories
- 40% of plastic is single-use that we can live without

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)

Reference to **two** of the following opinions:

- I don't think it is going to be fixed just from consumers saying no to straws
- When it comes to single use plastics I just think if we can live without them, we should live without them
- I do feel the onus has been placed on the consumer

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)

Accept any other valid fact or opinion

Do not penalise spelling

4 marks
### Document 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9. Which of the following statements <strong>best</strong> summarises Plastic-free’s belief about how change can be achieved? (Tick one)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>a) We need to stop making things out of plastic.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b) You can’t blame businesses for selling plastic products – people buy them.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Collective action is needed to bring about change.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Individual consumers can make a difference.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Answer key: D</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10. In which section of the document would you find information on the effects of plastic on the foods humans eat? (Tick one)</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Supporting our work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Plastic production.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Oceans and marine life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>d) Time for change.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Answer key: C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11. Identify two main purposes of Document 2. (Tick two)</th>
<th>Answer keys:</th>
<th>Mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) To enquire</td>
<td>d) To inspire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) To entertain</td>
<td>e) To narrate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) To amuse</td>
<td>f) To persuade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer keys:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) To inspire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) To persuade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One mark for each</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Give two examples of where the writer has used emotive language. Give a different effect each one has on the reader.

Example:
Effect:

Example:
Effect:

Reference to two of the following examples. Answers should make reference to the following bolded words or phrases but the exact quote is not required:

- Help us save the sea, go plastic-free!
- We’re a small charity with a huge task ahead of us. We really want to make single-use plastic a thing of the past, but we need your help.
- We would kindly ask that you support our work by offering a small monthly donation.
- Plastic is all around us.
- The statistics say it all
- It is truly shocking.
- As individuals it is extremely important that we recognize that it is OUR responsibility to make changes
- will help our oceans for years to come
- harmful to marine birds and animals, which can end up being choked, poisoned and entangled
- as individuals we are the ones who hold the power to make the biggest change
- if we all keep on buying single use plastic products businesses will only keep on selling them.
- Every one of us needs to say NO to single-use plastic.
- Unless we all take action then the crisis we are facing is only going to get worse.

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)

Reference to two of the following effects given:

- to shock the reader
- to engage the reader
- to make the reader take the issue seriously
- to highlight frustration/anger at the issue
- to urge/encourage the reader to take action

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)

Do not award the second mark if for the same effect is given for each example.

Do not penalise spelling
13. Give **two** examples of single use plastic products.

- Straw
- Coffee cup
- Bottles
- Crisp packet
- Plastic bags
- Takes away dishes

Accept plastic packaging

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)  

14. Give **two** examples of factual evidence the writer uses to back up opinions.

Answers:
Reference to **two** pieces of factual evidence (eg research or statistics) for example:

- 300 million tonnes of plastic produced globally each year
- ½ million plastic straws are used every day
- 4 trillion plastic bags are used worldwide annually
- Half the plastic produced is for single-use products
- 8.5 billion plastic straws are thrown away each year in UK alone
- 8 million tonnes end up in the ocean
- Research in 2017 found that plastic micro-particles get into flesh of fish consumed by humans.

Accept quotes from the document

One mark for each (up to a possible 2 marks)  
Do not penalise spelling

Both documents

15. Liz Bonnin and Plastic-free offer different views on how the problem of plastic waste can be solved.

Use one piece of supporting evidence from **each** document to compare how these views differ.

2 marks  
Valid comparison supported by one piece of supporting evidence from Document 1 **and** one piece of supporting evidence from Document 2.

1 mark  
Valid comparison made but only one piece of supporting evidence from either Document 1 **or** Document 2.

Evidence from Document 1 may include:

- Government should ban single-use plastics
- Politicians are not doing enough to tackle pollution
- The obligation to change needs to be with governments
- Make up that plastic with less toxic chemicals
- Industry should stop making plastic bags
- America should stop investing 180 billion dollars in new plastic factories

Evidence from Document 2 may include:
- It is OUR responsibility to make changes
- If we all keep on buying single-use plastic products businesses will only keep on selling them
- Every one of us needs to say NO to single-use plastic

Do not accept 'stop using single-use plastics' without reference to government or individual responsibility for this.

Give one similarity or difference in the way language is used to convey the views in Documents 1 and 2. Support your answer with evidence from each document.

2 marks
Valid comparison of how language is used to convey views, supported by one piece of evidence from Document 1 and one piece of evidence from Document 2.

1 mark
Valid comparison made but only one piece of supporting evidence from either Document 1 or Document 2.

**Differences may include:**

Evidence from Document 1 only
- Quotations
  E.g. "I have to ask, why isn't the UK doing that?" she said.
- Rhetorical questions
  E.g. Why is America investing 180 billion dollars in new plastic factories?
- Question and answer
  E.g. So can we live without plastic bottles? Yes, we can.

Evidence from Document 2 only
- Command / imperative
  E.g. Go plastic-free!
- Rhyme
  E.g. Help us save the sea, go plastic-free!
- Slogan
  E.g. Help us save the sea, go plastic-free!
- Directly addressing the reader
  E.g. You have probably thrown away
- Capital letters for emphasis
  E.g. Every one of us needs to say NO
**Similarities may include:**

Evidence from both
- Biased statements
  - E.g. There is no kind of middle ground any more (Doc 1)
  - E.g. It is OUR responsibility to make changes (Doc 2)
- Using facts / statistics
  - E.g. 40% of the plastic that’s prevalent in our society is single-use (Doc 1)
  - E.g. Over 300 million tonnes of plastic are produced globally each year (Doc 2)
- Persuasive language
  - E.g. So can we live without plastic bottles? Yes, we can (Doc 1)
  - E.g. Unless we all take action then the crisis we are facing is only going to get worse (Doc 2)
- Emotive language
  - E.g. Struggles of wildlife (Doc 1)
  - E.g. It is truly shocking (Doc 2)
- Inclusive language
  - E.g. Why can’t we do it (Doc 1)
  - E.g. It is extremely important that we recognize that it is OUR responsibility (Doc 2)

Accept any other justifiable similarity or difference in the use of language to convey views. Accept any other justifiable supporting evidence from the text.

Do not penalise spelling.

| Total available marks for Reading assessment | 30 |