



BRANCHE	SECTION(S)	ÉPREUVE ÉCRITE
ANGLAIS	CG/CC	<i>Durée de l'épreuve</i> 180'
		<i>Date de l'épreuve</i> 02 JUIN 2017
		<i>Numéro du candidat</i>

PART I

- DICTIONARIES ARE NOT ALLOWED FOR THIS PART -

A. ESSENTIAL ARTICLES

'Poverty or poison: The stark choice facing developing nations'

- a) Why do so many industrialised nations export their e-waste to developing countries?
(7m)

'Leveson enquiry: a paparazzo speaks'

- b) According to Kevin Rush, who and what is to blame for the way paparazzi currently behave and operate? Name and explain at least 4 points! (8m)

B. SHORT STORIES

'Edna, Back from America'

- a) When contemplating suicide, June states that 'Everything's different except me'.
Explain what she means. (8m)

'Ricochet'

- b) Why does Owen Parry resent his brother so much? Give at least three reasons! (7m)

PART II

- DICTIONARIES ALLOWED FOR THIS PART -

'Luxury water' for £80 a bottle? It's ignorant, insensitive and irresponsible

Limited edition water harvested from melting polar icebergs, is now on sale at Harrods¹. It's just another ugly indicator of our world's many inequalities.

by Katherine Purvis

We've reached peak bottled water. From today, for a sweet £80, Harrods will sell 'luxury water' harvested from icebergs off the coast of Norway.

Svalbarði is the brainchild² of Jamal Qureshi, a Norwegian-American Wall Street businessman who visited the group of islands in 2013, and returned with melted iceberg water as a gift for his wife. He then, it seems, decided to bring this water to more people.

Surprisingly, the authorities have approved Qureshi's venture. One-tonne pieces of ice are carved from the floating bergs at a time. The ice is melted down into bottles of "polar iceberg water" which has "the taste of snow in air". On each expedition, Qureshi plans to harvest 15 tonnes of ice to produce 13,000 bottles.

The environmental sustainability of the venture is the first concern of many people, Qureshi told the Guardian. "But we're carbon neutral certified, and we're supporting renewable energy projects in East Africa and China," he said. "We also only take icebergs that are already floating in the water and would usually melt in a few weeks, and that can't be used for hunting [by polar bears]."

Some may argue that if you can afford to drink melted ice caps, who should stop you? Your money, your choice. Depleting 30 tonnes of iceberg a year is, arguably, not that much in the grand scheme of things.

First, However, sea ice is already melting. The extent of Arctic sea ice shrank to its second lowest record last year. Icebergs don't need yet more human interference – no matter how small the scale – to speed up the melting process.

Second, the bottled water industry is already giving us enough of a headache. It is estimated that 3 liters of water are needed to produce just one 1-liter plastic bottle of water, which is more likely to be discarded and end up in landfill than recycled. Beside the fact that our planet is slowly silting up with plastic, it also takes huge amounts of fossil fuels to make water bottles – plastic or glass – and transport them around the world. In the US, for example, 1.5 million barrels of oil are needed per year to meet the demand of the country's water bottle manufacturing.

But surely the most problematic aspect of this product is the sheer insensitivity of exploiting one of the world's last wildernesses, and charging such a high price for its product. This, while 663 million people currently live without safe water. Consider the extremes: one person pays £80 to drink water, while another – one of 159 million – depends on surface water, vulnerable to contamination. The emergence of luxury water is just another ugly indicator of our world's many inequalities.

We already live beyond our means. Our lifestyle choices see us using the equivalent of 1.6 Earths to provide the resources we consume, and absorb what we throw away. At such a time, *Svalbarði* seems insensitive, ignorant and irresponsible. It's time to live sustainably

¹ *Harrods* is a famous luxury department store located in Knightsbridge, London.

² *brainchild* : an idea or invention which is considered to be a particular person's creation.

and consume responsibly, not promote mindless habits just because some people can afford it.

For some time, water has been thought of as a commodity, and even the former UN special rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation believes it doesn't have to be free. But something so precious, so essential to all life – human, animal and mineral – should never be marketed as a luxury.

(559 words)

The Guardian, 15 February 2017 (adapted)

A. Questions

Answer the following questions with close reference to the article. Use your own words as far as possible. Structure your answers accordingly.

- a) Explain the business model that Jamal Qureshi came up with. (3m)
- b) How does Jamal justify the sustainability of his business endeavor? (4m)
- c) Why, according to the text is selling water for £80 a bottle ignorant, insensitive and irresponsible? (8m)

B. ESSAY

Use your own words; do not restate ideas from the text. Limit: 250 words +/- 10%; indicate the number of words.

'Out with the old and in with the new'. Is excessive consumerism the biggest challenge the world faces today?