
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

9093/31

Paper 3 Text Analysis

October/November 2017

2 hours 15 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **two** questions.

You should spend about 15 minutes reading the passages and questions before you start writing your answers.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

The number of marks is given in [] at the end of each question or part question.

Both questions carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages and **1** Insert.

1 The following text is a review of the film *Bang Bang*.

- (a) Imagine that you have been asked to write the blurb (promotional text intended to attract a buyer's interest) to go on the back of a DVD version of this film. Write the blurb using 120–150 words. [10]
- (b) Compare the language and style of your blurb with the language and style of the original review. [15]

***Bang Bang* review: The film isn't unwatchable but certainly tests your patience**

Director: Siddharth Anand

Cast: Katrina Kaif, Hrithik Roshan

Bang Bang has two gorgeous leads, some eye-popping stunt scenes, a slew of beautiful locales, and pretty hummable music. It would take an especially awful script and a truly incompetent director to deliver an unwatchable film out of those ingredients. 5

Within the first ten minutes of the movie, the MI6¹ headquarters in London have been broken into, a most-wanted terrorist freed, and a brave law enforcer killed. If you've ever watched a James Bond-style spy thriller in your life, you'll know the place is swarming with Secret Service agents. Perhaps they were all out to lunch when this was happening. 10

Bang Bang is an official remake of the mediocre Tom Cruise-Cameron Diaz movie *Knight And Day*, and it's fashioned as a fast-paced actioner, which basically means the plot is going to be threadbare. Hrithik Roshan is Rajveer, a mysterious thief who's stolen the Kohinoor diamond, no less. As he dodges both the cops and the henchmen of a criminal mastermind who wants the rock, Rajveer meets Harleen (Katrina), who gets sucked into this globetrotting adventure with him. 15

The premise itself isn't so much of a problem as is the fact that Hrithik and Katrina have virtually no chemistry and produce fewer sparks than a box of soaked matchsticks. Both actors look a million dollars, but Katrina, sadly, is stuck playing a pathetic ditz²; the kind of insufferable character you wouldn't want to be sitting next to on a long-haul flight. 20

The film is weighed down by a teary back-story, and a twist that anyone who's watched even three masala³ potboilers⁴ can predict from a mile away. The blatant product placements are embarrassing, the dialogues so clunky they make you cringe. And yet if there's one reason to watch the film, it's Hrithik. He's charming and charismatic, and he appears to be having a good time. Here's a movie star who actually looks like he could pull off those action scenes for real. 25

The film then isn't unwatchable, but at 2 hours and 35 minutes, it certainly tests your patience. How many times have you ordered a dish that looks terrific photographed in a menu, but disappoints when it shows up on the table? *Bang Bang* is that kind of meal. I'm going with two out of five. 30

Rating: 2/5

¹MI6: a British secret intelligence service.

²ditz: an endearingly silly person.

³masala: mixed spices – used to refer to an Indian film that mixes genres.

⁴potboilers : low quality artistic works created quickly to earn money.

2 Texts A and B both relate to New Year's resolutions.

Text A is a transcription of an extract from a television programme where an interviewer questions Philip McKernan, a motivational speaker, about New Year's resolutions.

Text B is an extract from a newspaper article by Harriet Walker.

Compare the language and style of Text A and Text B.

[25]

Text A

TRANSCRIPTION KEY

(1) = pause in seconds (.) = micro-pause underlining = stressed sound/syllable(s)

Interviewer: i want to get you started on (.) on hearing your thoughts about this yearly exercise we go through (.) of making new years resolutions (.) what do you make of it

Philip: well you know (.) er i think the first thing that comes to mind is why yearly (.) why do we just wait til january for you know to look and reflect upon our lives and (1) and i think often the challenge with goals is it pulls us into the future (.) and makes it very challenging for human beings to be present in their daily lives (.) whether its around their children around their family around their work or even just around themselves

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Interviewer: interesting so i mean why do you think it is that apparently critics or research says seventy five percent of people who make resolutions break them (2) why do you think that is

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Philip: well i i think sometimes you could argue that the resolutions they make are insurmountable (1) theyre like climbing a mount everest (.) and if i put a bus load of people and i brought them down to a valley and i looked up and i said okay theres a small little hill (.) theres a larger hill (.) and theres a huge mountain (1) which one do you want to climb (.) they may not want to put the work in but they all want to be on top of that big mountain (.) but what happens is if you walk up the small hill (.) two things happen (1) number one is that if youre wise enough and clever enough you look back at the climb or the journey and you go (.) look what ive done (1) and two is that when youre on the top of that hill and you look at the big one (.) lets just say its the mount everest (.) it looks more attainable and i think you know the challenge is that people set these really lofty goals (1) the biggest challenge however is (.) they set what they think they want (.) they set what they think their parents want for them (.) they set what they think society wants for them (.) and what you have is people who attain goals and are still missing something in their lives (.) and people who basically give up on the thing because they realise its not what they want in the first place

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Text B

Some people have willpower. You can see it holding them up – all can-do and sinewy, it wraps around their bones and fortifies them. They plough through projects and wrestle workloads, all too often unaware that their ability to see something through to the end puts them in a tiny upper percentile of useful human people.

They do very well at this time of year, people like that, because they give up smoking or take up paragliding. And they don't just do it for a day – they manage it. New Year's resolutions aren't for everybody, you know, so consider which camp you're in before you start beating yourself over the head with whatever flimsy pretence of health you're trying to embark upon this January.

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I am not like those willpower people.

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Ever since I can remember, I have been utterly incapable of sticking to any resolution I have ever made. When I was little I once decided to tidy my room – to spring-clean it, if you like – by emptying every single cupboard and drawer on to the floor and putting everything back, only much more tidily. Halfway through, I got bored and simply pushed all the toys, clothes and books under my bed and hoped that my mum wouldn't notice. She did.

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My whole existence is still, in many ways, like that bedroom. My life is littered with the rusting hulks¹ and bare bones of things I couldn't be bothered to finish. I push them under the metaphorical bed but nothing hides the fact that I am a relentless self-improver of the very worst kind: the kind that never really improves herself at all.

After eight months of intensive physio on my broken leg this year, my therapist told me in August that our work was finally finished. "Am I all back to normal?" I asked, excited. "Could I run a marathon if I wanted?"

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"Well, Harriet, given that you couldn't be bothered to do most of the exercises I gave you, I hardly think you'll be training for a marathon any time soon, will you?" She looked long-suffering at me and my kind. But she had a point. Yet still, in my head, there is every chance that I might run a marathon one day.

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¹hulks: wrecked, abandoned ships.