



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

ENGLISH SECOND ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE P1

NOVEMBER 2025

MARKS: 80

TIME: 2 hours

This question paper consists of 14 pages.

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of THREE sections:

SECTION A: Comprehension (30)
SECTION B: Summary (10)
SECTION C: Language (40)
2. Answer ALL the questions.
3. Start EACH section on a NEW page.
4. Rule off after each section.
5. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
6. Leave a line after each answer.
7. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction.
8. Suggested time allocation:

SECTION A: 45 minutes
SECTION B: 20 minutes
SECTION C: 55 minutes
9. Write neatly and legibly.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION**QUESTION 1**

Read BOTH TEXT A and TEXT B and answer the questions.

TEXT A**SCROLL YOUR LIFE AWAY**

- 1 If you lose days by endlessly scrolling on your smartphone, you are not alone. According to Ofcom, the communications regulator in the United Kingdom, the average person checks their phone every 12 minutes. For many people, it is the first thing they do in the morning and the last thing they do at night. This troublesome, continuous pressure is driven by molecules in the brain. 5
- 2 One molecule¹ in particular, called dopamine, is usually blamed for this kind of behaviour. Dopamine has been nicknamed the 'feel-good' molecule due to its role in the brain's reward system. However, it is not just about pleasure, but also the anticipation of something pleasurable. That is what keeps most cellphone users checking their phones. 10
- 3 Some researchers believe that digital media activates the same part of the brain as drugs and alcohol do, releasing dopamine. Mobile games and social media applications (apps) are designed to maintain addiction in the same way. Other researchers believe that social media addiction is not the same as substance abuse. While using digital media increases the release of dopamine, it does so by far lower amounts than any drug substance. However, the 2023 research from Brown University in the United States of America found that half of adolescent girls were addicted to *TikTok*². 15
- 4 Addicted or not, people spend an average of four hours a day on their cellphones. Most of them would probably like to recover some of that time. So, the burning question is, can people use their knowledge of the brain's reward system to loosen the smartphone's grip on them? A possible solution which one can find on *Instagram*³ or *TikTok* is ironically dopamine fasting. This fasting is a form of meditation or therapy which tries to limit uncontrollable desires. The purpose is to change one's behaviour by cutting oneself off social media for a short period. 20 25
- 5 Participants of this dopamine fasting claim that a brief period of fasting works the magic. It allows them to engage better with their favourite activities while developing a healthier relationship with technology. Even so, researchers whose work looks at excessive social media use often agree that some kind of digital detox may be a good thing. 'I am a strong advocate of social media fasting,' says Daria Kuss, a professor of psychology at Nottingham Trent University in the United Kingdom. She claims that a weekend of fasting may help to break the habit of using social media excessively. 30

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 6 | Her research shows that spending time with friends and family outside of social media strengthens personal bonds. Therefore, meeting a friend for coffee may be a more positive experience than chatting with them online. This will guarantee better personal relationships. | 35 |
|---|---|----|

[Adapted from *Skyways*, April 2024]

Glossary

¹molecule: the smallest unit of a substance

²*TikTok*: a popular social media application

³*Instagram*: a social media service where users share photos and videos

1.1 Refer to paragraph 1.

1.1.1 State the function of Ofcom. (1)

1.1.2 Refer to the words, '... the average person checks their phone every 12 minutes' (line 3).

What do these words suggest about the behaviour of cellphone users?

State TWO points. (2)

1.1.3 Why does the writer describe the desire to use a cellphone as 'troublesome'? (2)

1.2 Refer to paragraph 2.

What does the writer mean by 'the brain's reward system'? (2)

1.3 Refer to paragraph 3.

1.3.1 Explain why researchers compare social media addiction to drug addiction. (2)

1.3.2 What does the 2023 research reveal about young girls? (2)

1.3.3 Why is *TikTok* written in italics? (1)

1.4 Refer to paragraph 4.

1.4.1 When the writer says, 'to loosen the smartphone's grip on them', does the writer mean it LITERALLY or FIGURATIVELY? Substantiate your answer. (2)

1.4.2 Why is it ironic that a possible solution is found on *Instagram* or *TikTok*? (2)

1.4.3 Explain why the following statement is FALSE.

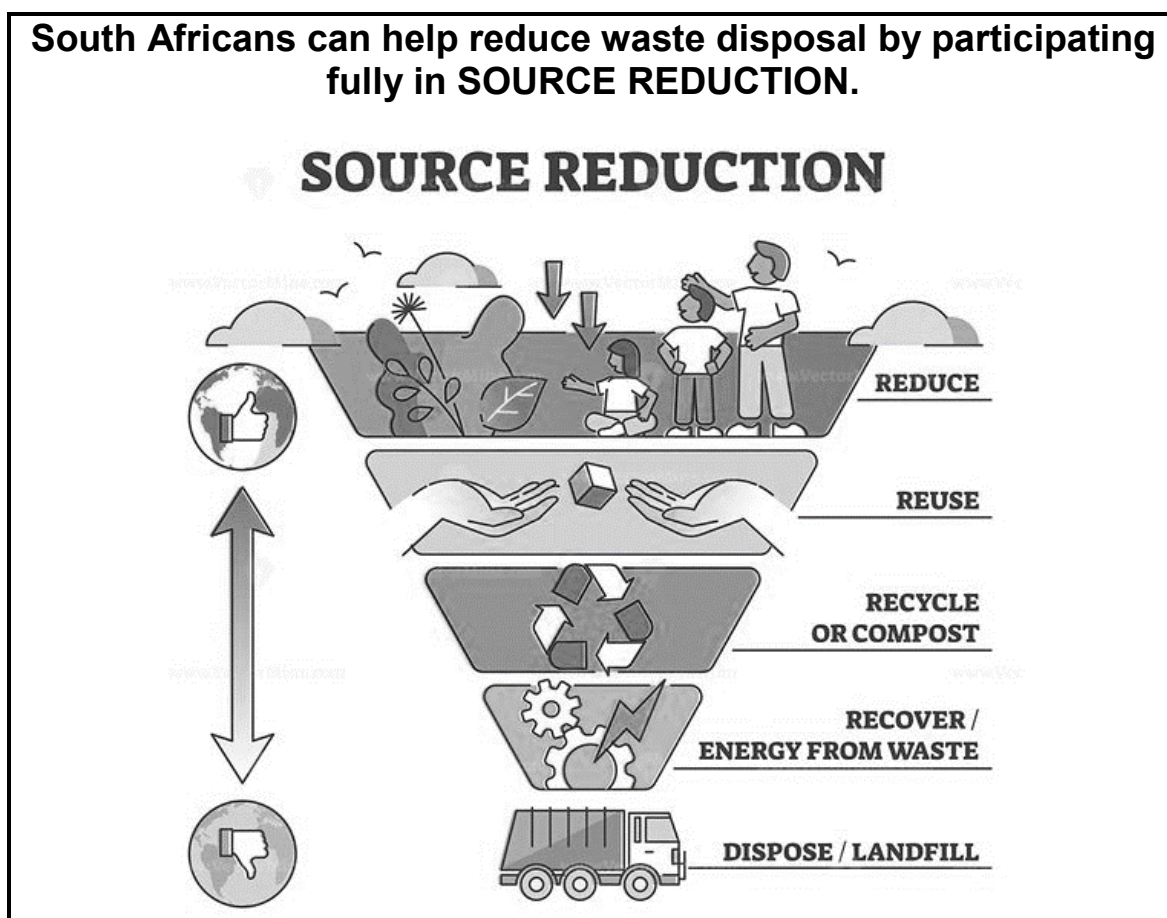
Dopamine fasting involves not using social media permanently. (1)

- 1.5 Refer to paragraph 5.
- 1.5.1 Quote THREE consecutive words to prove that dopamine fasting produces miraculous results. (1)
- 1.5.2 Why does the writer mention Daria Kuss? (2)
- 1.6 Do you agree with the researcher's view in paragraph 6?
Substantiate your answer. (2)
- 1.7 Discuss the suitability of the title 'SCROLL YOUR LIFE AWAY'. (2)

AND

Study the picture (TEXT B) below and answer the questions that follow.

TEXT B



[Source: [Pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)]

- 1.8 What visual evidence is there that 'reducing' waste is the most appropriate method? State TWO points. (2)
- 1.9 Choose the correct answer from those given below. Write down only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (1.9) in the ANSWER BOOK.
- When people 'recycle' waste, it means that they ... it.
- A rotate
B throw
C limit
D burn (1)
- 1.10 What does the image of a thumb at the bottom of TEXT B suggest about disposing waste or using a landfill? (1)
- 1.11 Do you think TEXT B succeeds in conveying a message to the reader?
Discuss your view. (2)

TOTAL SECTION A: 30

SECTION B: SUMMARY**QUESTION 2**

Every person has aspirations to become better. There are steps to follow in order to achieve this.

Read the passage (TEXT C) below and write SEVEN points on **how to achieve realistic goals**.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. List the SEVEN points in full sentences.
2. Use your own words as far as possible.
3. Number the sentences from 1 to 7.
4. Write each sentence on a new line.
5. Your seven-point summary should be NO MORE THAN 60 WORDS.
6. Indicate the TOTAL NUMBER OF WORDS you have used in brackets at the end of your summary.

TEXT C**SETTING REALISTIC GOALS**

Setting realistic goals is crucial for achieving success and maintaining motivation. Here are some key steps to help you set your goals with ease.

Start by reflecting on your strengths and weaknesses. Understand what you truly want to achieve and why it matters to you. Define your goals with clarity. Objectives that are vague make it difficult to track progress.

Large goals can be overwhelming. Break large goals into smaller, manageable tasks. Establish reasonable deadlines for each goal. Life is unpredictable, and circumstances may change along the way. Be prepared to adapt your goals if the need arises. Speak with a person whom you trust about your goals. Being accountable increases commitment.

Evaluate your progress on a regular basis and seek feedback from a person who guides you. The experience from this evaluation can assist you and keep you motivated. Stumbling blocks are inevitable as some people may view your goals as less important and unrealistic. Do not allow challenges to set you back.

By following these steps, you can set realistic goals that align with your aspirations. Remember, the journey towards achieving your goals is as important as the destination itself.

[Adapted from <http://chat.openai.com>]

TOTAL SECTION B: 10

SECTION C: LANGUAGE**QUESTION 3: ANALYSING AN ADVERTISEMENT**

Study the advertisement (TEXT D) below and answer the set questions.

TEXT D

The advertisement features a man with glasses and a mustache, wearing a dark sweater over a white collared shirt. He is in a thinking pose, with his hand on his chin. A large, bold question mark is superimposed over the lower half of his body. In the top right corner, there is a logo for 'iConic Gadgets 256' which includes a stylized smartphone icon. The text 'WORRIED WHERE TO BUY YOUR GADGETS' is written in a bold, sans-serif font across the middle. Below this, on the left, it says 'Well, we've got you covered ...'. On the right, a block of italicized text reads: 'Look no further. We are iConic Gadgets 256 that offers cellphones, headphones, power banks, chargers, smart watches & more ... at affordable prices!!!'. At the bottom, there is a location pin icon followed by 'Ivory Plaza – Wilson St', a telephone icon, a WhatsApp icon, and the phone numbers '075 325 8355 | 077 459 0124'.

WORRIED WHERE TO BUY YOUR GADGETS

Well, we've got you covered ...

*Look no further.
We are iConic Gadgets 256
that offers cellphones,
headphones, power banks,
chargers, smart watches &
more ... at affordable
prices!!!*

Ivory Plaza – Wilson St 075 325 8355 | 077 459 0124

[Source: [Pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)]

The text written in small font reads as follows:

Ivory Plaza – Wilson St

3.1 Who is the target audience of this advertisement? (1)

3.2 Refer to the headline of this advertisement, 'WORRIED WHERE TO BUY YOUR GADGETS'.

State TWO techniques the advertiser uses to attract the reader's attention. (2)

3.3 Study the following sentence:

Well, we've got you covered ...

3.3.1 Choose the correct answer from the words in brackets.

These words are referred to as a (theme/slogan) of the advertisement. (1)

3.3.2 Write 'we've' in full. (1)

3.4 Refer to the body copy of this advertisement.

Name TWO products that can be found at iConic Gadgets 256. (2)

3.5 Choose the correct answer from those given below. Write down only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (3.5) in the ANSWER BOOK.

Study the following:

Ivory Plaza – Wilson St

The underlined abbreviation stands for ...

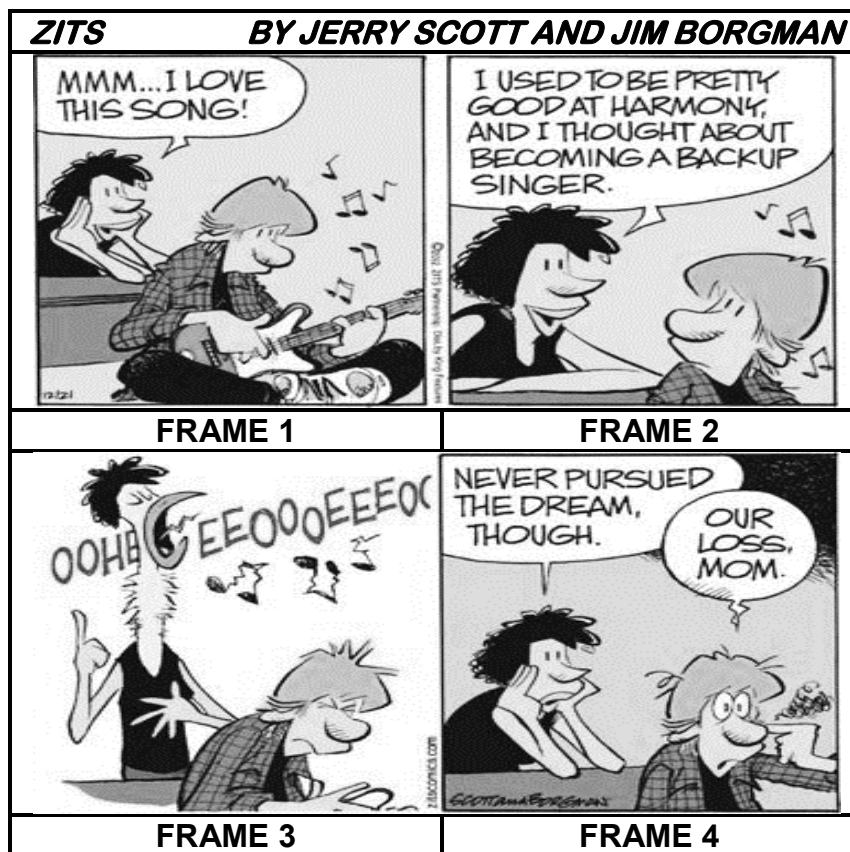
- A stall.
- B style.
- C store.
- D street. (1)

3.6 Do you think the visual of the man supports this advertisement?

Discuss your view. (2)
[10]

QUESTION 4: ANALYSING A CARTOON

Study the cartoon (TEXT E) below and answer the questions that follow.

TEXT E

[Source: ScottAndBorgman.com]

NOTE: In this comic strip, the young man is Jeremy and the woman is his mother, Connie.

4.1 Refer to FRAME 1.

4.1.1 What evidence is there that Jeremy is playing music? State TWO points. (2)

4.1.2 Choose the correct answer from those given below. Write down only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (4.1.2) in the ANSWER BOOK.

Study the following sentence:

I love this song!

The punctuation mark after the word 'song' is known as a/an ...

- A ellipsis mark.
- B question mark.
- C quotation mark.
- D exclamation mark.

(1)

4.2 Refer to FRAME 2.

How does Jeremy's body language indicate that he is listening to Connie attentively?

State TWO points. (2)

4.3 Refer to FRAME 3.

Explain how the cartoonist shows that Connie is a terrible singer.

Refer to both VISUAL and VERBAL aspects in your response. (2)

4.4 Refer to FRAME 4.

Write 'mom' in formal English. (1)

4.5 Refer to the cartoon as a whole.

Do you think Jeremy is being honest with his mother?

Discuss your view. (2)
[10]

QUESTION 5: LANGUAGE AND EDITING SKILLS

- 5.1 Read the passage (TEXT F) below, which has some deliberate errors, and then answer the questions that follow.

TEXT F**AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS A DOCTOR AWAY**

- 1 Apples are taste and available throughout the year. A study states that apples is essential for the daily human diet. They prevent bad cholesterol from building up on the veins. Studies show that apples are beneficial for the heart.
- 2 A few doctors at Isfahan Hospital conducted a research on the benefits of apples. They discovered that apples protect the brain from radical damage. These researchers added that apple juice helps in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. They concluded that the acids found in an apple prevent the development of tumours and cancerous cells. Some patients said, 'We often eat apples to reduce different diseases.'
- 3 The latest research proves that apple juice increases lung function. A study shows that apples are rich in dietary fibre. Vitamins in apple juice improve skin health. Apple juice is widely used in natural remedies for treating skin-related issues. That is why medical practitioners always say that an apple a day keeps a doctor away.

[Adapted from www.google.com]

- 5.1.1 Correct the SINGLE error in each of the following sentences. Write down ONLY the question numbers and the words you have corrected.
- (a) Apples are taste and available throughout the year. (1)
- (b) A study states that apples is essential for the daily human diet. (1)
- (c) They prevent bad cholesterol from building up on the veins. (1)
- 5.1.2 Rewrite the following sentence in the negative form:
- A few doctors at Isfahan Hospital conducted a research on the benefits of apples. (1)
- 5.1.3 Rewrite the following sentence in the passive voice:
- Apples protect the brain from radical damage. (1)
- 5.1.4 Identify the part of speech of the underlined words.
- Researchers added that apple juice helps in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. (2)

- 5.1.5 Choose the correct answer from those given below. Write down only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (5.1.5) in the ANSWER BOOK.

Study the following sentence:

The acids found in an apple prevent the development of tumours and cancerous cells.

The underlined part of the word 'development' is called a/an ...

- A prefix.
- B suffix.
- C root.
- D affix. (1)

- 5.1.6 Rewrite the following sentence in reported speech:

Some patients said, 'We often eat apples to reduce different diseases.' (3)

- 5.1.7 Give an antonym (a word opposite in meaning) for the underlined word in the following sentence:

The latest research proves that apple juice increases lung function. (1)

- 5.1.8 Rewrite the following sentence by filling in the correct question tag:

A study shows that apples are rich in dietary fibre,? (1)

- 5.1.9 Give the singular form of the underlined word in the following sentence:

It is widely used in natural remedies for treating skin-related issues. (1)

5.2 Study the text (TEXT G) below and then answer the questions that follow.

TEXT G



[Source: [Pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)]

5.2.1 Rewrite the following sentence into the SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE:

I shook a stranger's hand. (1)

5.2.2 Give the correct degree of comparison of the word in brackets.

My friend's hand is (strong) than mine. (1)

5.2.3 Combine the following sentences into a SINGLE sentence:

Friendship is important.
Friendship should be cherished.

Begin with: Not only ... (2)

5.2.4 Give the correct form of the word (friend) as used in the following sentence:

To be (friend) towards a stranger can lift his/her spirit. (1)

5.2.5 Study the following sentence:

I see my friend every day.

Use the word 'see' as a homophone in a sentence of your own. (1)

[20]

TOTAL SECTION C: 40
GRAND TOTAL: 80