

General Certificate of Secondary Education Higher Tier June 2012

## **English/English Language**



Unit 1 Understanding and producing non-fiction texts

### Insert

The three sources that follow are:

- Source 1: a magazine article called *Lifesaving with Class* by Rory Stamp
- **Source 2**: a newspaper article called *Trapped Chilean miners: rescue drill* reaches their refuge at last by David Batty
- **Source 3**: an extract from a non-fiction book called *Saved*.

Please open the insert fully to see all three sources

## ENG1H



#### Lifesaving with Class by Rory Stamp

'Help!' shouts an 11-year-old girl to her friend. 'I'm drowning! Help me!' Luckily, her friend knows exactly what to do - he quickly finds an RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) lifeguard, who springs into action.

Fortunately, this is not a real-life emergency on the beach. In fact, we're a long way from the sea. It's an inner-city school, and pupils are acting out a scenario as part of the RNLI's Beach to City programme.

Beach to City is based in inner-city areas aimed at educating children who live away from the coast.

RNLI lifeguards visit these areas educating children on the dangers of the seaside and how to stay out of trouble. The scheme is aimed at primary school children. Through close analysis of incident statistics, children living away from the coast in city areas have been highlighted as a high-risk group who are less likely to be aware of the work of the RNLI.

Each Beach to City Team is made up of an operational RNLI lifeguard and a beach safety supervisor. Their task is not an easy one. In 40 minutes they have to deliver key beach safety messages that children will listen to and retain. So the sessions are designed to be as memorable and fun as possible with plenty of play-acting to take part in and equipment to get to grips with.

Each session begins with an introduction to the RNLI charity and its lifeguard service. Children are taught how to identify lifeguards and where to find them. Then it's time for beach safety messages. First up, sun protection: slip on a T-shirt, slap on a hat, slop on the sun cream.

Next up are the beach flags and their meanings. Some children have an impressive knowledge of the flag system – though some seem to think the red flag (for dangerous water) means there's a shark about! Sharks don't present a threat to beach users but toy inflatable boats do, so guidelines on their use form a key part of the Beach to City programme. 'I used to patrol as a lifeguard in North Cornwall,' says Duncan Wood, a beach safety supervisor, 'and there were days when the majority of what we did involved rescuing children from drifting inflatables.'

Sessions also focus on the use of public rescue equipment (PRE), especially in Birmingham, with its extensive canal network. Respecting and using



equipment such as life-rings, throw lines and emergency communications is very important. The PRE advice has also been aimed at schoolchildren in London, where the Beach to City programme visited 30 schools.

Next year the RNLI's Education Team aims to add a fourth city to the Beach to City tour, and plans to continue adding more in the coming years.

#### Source 2

# Trapped Chilean miners: rescue drill reaches their refuge at last

9 October 2010 by David Batty



A man in a clown suit celebrates with a TV reporter after a drill reaches the miners.

A drill boring a rescue shaft to 33 trapped Chilean miners has broken through into an underground chamber where they have been stranded since August.

The major milestone at the San Jose mine came just after 8am Chilean time, and 65 days after the partial collapse of the gold and copper mine on 5 August.

"This is an important achievement," mining minister Laurence Golborne said. "But we still haven't rescued anybody. This rescue won't be over until the last person below leaves this mine."

The miners have been living in a shelter 700m underground. The drill has broken through into a tunnel that the miners can reach.

Word of the drill's success prompted celebrations among the miners' relatives who have camped there.

"Our nervousness is gone now," said Juan Sanchez, whose son Jimmy is stuck below. "Only now can we begin to smile."

Mr Golborne has warned that it will be three to eight days before the rescue mission can begin. Journalists from around the world have turned the previously remote hillside into a forest of TV antennas and motor homes as worldwide interest in the drama continues to surge. Families of the 33 trapped miners fear a media onslaught will overwhelm the men after they escape their underground dungeon.

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#### Source 3

*After their plane crashed high in the mountains of South America, two of the survivors left to find rescue for themselves and their companions.* 

## Saved

The next morning they started out, but once again Parrado drew ahead, spurred on by his curiosity to see what lay at the end of the valley. Canessa could not keep up. Little of his strength had returned with the night's rest. When Parrado stopped and turned to call him to hurry, he shouted back that he was tired and could not go on.

They walked on, and slowly the sound of their cushioned feet on the snow, which had been all that broke the silence, was superseded by a roaring noise which grew louder and louder as they approached the end of the valley. Panic entered the hearts of both of them. What if an impassable torrent now blocked their way? Parrado's impatience to see what lay ahead now took complete possession of him. His pace, already fast, quickened and his strides grew wider over the snow. 'You'll kill yourself!' Canessa shouted after him as he drew ahead, yet he too was possessed not so much by curiosity as by dread of what they were to see.

Parrado drew two hundred yards ahead of Canessa and then suddenly found himself at the end of the valley.

The view which met his eyes was of paradise. The snow stopped. From under its white shell there poured forth a torrent of grey water which flowed with tremendous force into a gorge and tumbled over boulders and stones to the west. And more beautiful still, everywhere he looked there were patches of green–moss, grass, rushes, gorse bushes, and yellow and purple flowers.

As Parrado stood there, his face wet with tears of joy, Canessa came up behind him, and he too exclaimed with happiness and delight at the sight of this blessed valley. Then both boys staggered forward off the snow and sank onto rocks by the side of the river.

For more than an hour they rested in the sun, and, as if it were indeed the Garden of Eden, the birds they had hardly seen for so long perched close to them on the rocks and seemed quite unalarmed by the extraordinary apparition of these two bearded, emaciated human beings, their bodies padded out with several layers of filthy clothes, their backs humped with knapsacks, their faces cracked and blistered by the sun.

They were confident now that they were saved, but they still had to press on.

They started down the right-hand side of the gorge. Although there was no snow, the going was not easy. They had to walk on rough rocks and climb over boulders the size of armchairs. A little farther on they were brought to a halt by an outcrop of rock which rose almost sheer in front of them and fell away precipitously into the river on their left. They could see that the ground was more even on the other side of the river and rather than scale the obstacle in front of them they decided to cross the river which flowed with such force that it carried huge boulders with it.

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Open out this page to see Source 2 and Source 3