

Section I

25 marks

Attempt Question 1

Allow about 50 minutes for this section

Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

In this section you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the ways language shapes and expresses perceptions

Question 1 (25 marks)

Examine **Texts one, two and three** carefully and then answer the questions on page 6.

Text one

DAY AND NIGHT
YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO ENTERTAINMENT AND LEISURE

Hey you . . . up in the sky!

By Eugene Ng

Some people consider Australian Paul Smith totally insane. And no wonder. He jumps off planes some 14 000 feet up in the sky, with a parachute strapped to his back and a surfboard fastened to his feet, performing acrobatics while freefalling at the breakneck speed of 120 mph.

To many, this choice of career would seem incredibly stupid, perhaps even suicidal, but Paul Smith is completely 'at peace' while cavorting and executing spins, loops and rolls, at these ridiculous vertigo-inducing heights.

Going by his official job description, 25-year-old Paul Smith is a skysurfer, and an ace one at that too. He has been skydiving for nine years. Here in Malaysia as part of the Golden Dreams Live tour which includes tandem jumpers, accuracy jumpers and aerobatic pilots, Paul's act was a highlight.

A relatively new sport, skysurfing was pioneered by skydivers in the US in 1980. Tired of conventional freefall jumps, they first experimented by lying flat on styrofoam 'boogie boards' while freefalling. The sport developed further when a French skydiver executed a freefall jump standing on a surfboard. Then, another Frenchman tried using a skateboard-sized board instead, and the sport of skysurfing, in its present form, was born.

It was Paul's dad who encouraged him to make that all-important first jump. 'I recall being quite scared. But after I did it, I remember thinking, "Let's do that again",' Paul reveals. And he has kept on doing just that. He is now a veteran of 5 700 freefall jumps, quite a feat for someone in the sport for such a short time.

Watching Paul manoeuvre 360-degree spins, forward and backward loops and somersaults,

Question 1 continues on page 3

Question 1 (continued)

all in 30 short seconds, on a giant screen, one gets an awesome close-up view of Paul's obvious mastery of the skills involved. A skill which not many people can emulate. 'It has to do with balance,' Paul reveals, quite emphatically. 'That's the difference.'

Speaking to him, one realises that he actually is quite down-to-earth. Luckily, all his trips 'down to Earth' have been gentle ones so far. But is there a voice of reason which speaks to him, ensuring that he does not land with a THUD and SPLAT instead?

'I know this may sound strange, but I actually feel safer in the air. In the air, you are the master of your own destiny. When you're on the ground, you have to always look behind. Someone might steal your bag, or you might get shot in a drive-by shooting. I feel more frightened being in a car driven by someone I don't know than being in the air,' he pronounces emphatically.

'When I'm in the air, it's like being a kid all over again. Like when you get your first skateboard and you feel like you can do anything. You feel invincible. There are no rules!' he proclaims excitedly.

He calms down and adds, 'But you must accept the reality of the sport and acknowledge that things can go wrong. Accept that it is your responsibility to take care of your own life whenever you jump.

You must never get complacent. For me, I make sure I check my equipment is in order before I get on the plane. And I must be prepared mentally.'

Life began, for the young Paul Smith, in Sydney, Australia. As a kid, he reveals, he was ever willing to have a go at anything and everything. 'I have very fond memories of riding my pushbike,' he says, and then quickly adds, '... oh, and of course, falling off it as well.'

But it was, in a way, by design, that Paul was to take up skydiving. Both his dad and his sister also enjoy the sport. Only his mum prefers to have her feet firmly planted on the ground, although she has no qualms about the rest of the family having their 'heads in the clouds'. Even Paul's girlfriend skydives.

Now, he literally lives for the sport. He skydives every day. He also watches videos of himself in the air and is very critical about his routines. 'I have to be. I want to be the best skysurfer around. My ultimate ambition is to win the world championships one day,' he states firmly.

But for now, while he is practising, he also tries to promote the sport. Some 28 000 people in Australia did their first skydive last year (only 20 did the same in Malaysia) and Paul believes this to be a good thing. 'It gets young people out of bad habits. It becomes a lifestyle and a very good career prospect. I mean, look at me. I get paid to do something I truly love!'

He even demonstrates a sense of humour by offering this anecdote. 'I took this 85-year-old lady tandem jumping (jumping off the plane strapped to an experienced skydiver) last year. And when we landed, you know what she said? She said it was boring! Can you believe it? I was speechless.'

Regardless of what 'Grandma' thought, the Malaysian audiences were left in raptures by the team's performance. The show in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, saw a turnout of 30 000. In Kuching, Sarawak, there was a 40 000-strong crowd and most recently, 50 000 in Penang.

With this kind of response, nerves of steel and easy access to the sport, who knows, skydiving may just take off here. And those involved may just find the 'peace' which Paul has found – 10 000 feet up in the sky.

Question 1 continues on page 4

Question 1 (continued)

Text two

Question 1 continues on page 5

Question 1 (continued)

Text three

CLIFFHANGER (1993)

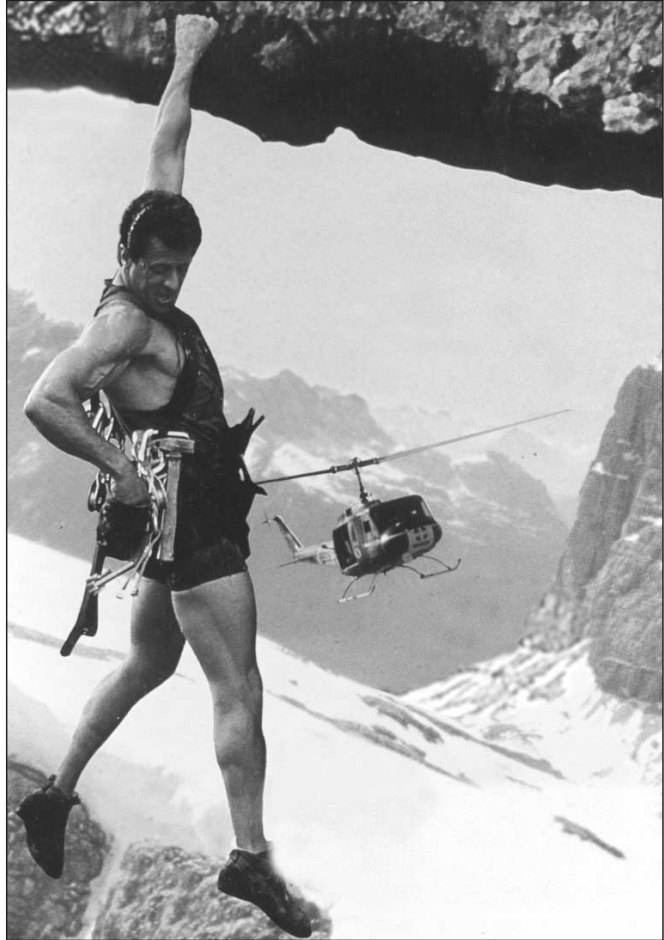
Critical Comments

‘Eye-popping photography, white-knuckle stunts, a swift pace, and entertaining characters add up to what a well-made action film should be: tons of fun. Story is thin, though.’
— *Leonard Maltin*

‘The best non-stop action picture of the year!’ — *Vernon Scott, UPI*

‘Spectacular, heart-thumping, throat-tightening, pulse-pounding, sweaty palms suspense.’ — *American Movie Classics*

‘Movies like this are machines for involving us and thrilling us. *Cliffhanger* is a fairly good machine.’
— *Robert Ebert, Chicago Sun Times*



Facts

Release date:
28 May 1993 (USA)

Box office opening:
\$20.4 million (USA)

Box office result:
\$84.0 million (USA)

Worldwide box office:
\$255.0 million

Budget:
\$65 million (USA)

Set in Colorado, but filmed in Italy. The American Environmental Protection Agency wouldn't allow filming in America for fear of damage that could be left by the film crew.

Production information

Director: Renny Harlin (*Die Hard 2*)

Writers: Michael France and Sylvester Stallone, with Ross LaManna, John McCormick and Michael Vickerman (all uncredited)

Producers: Renny Harlin and Alan Marshall

Associate Producers: Jim Davidson and Tony Munafo

Co-producers: David Rotman, Gene Patrick Hines and James R. Zatolokin

Executive Producer: Mario Kassar

Co-executive Producer: Lynwood Spinks

Original Music: Trevor Jones

Distributor: Tristar Pictures

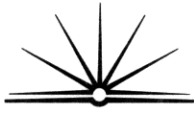
Question 1 continues on page 6

In this section you will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate understanding of the ways language shapes and expresses perceptions
-

	Marks
Question 1 (continued)	
Text one	
(a) Why would many people consider Paul Smith’s choice of career ‘incredibly stupid’ (line 9)?	1
(b) Identify TWO perspectives Paul expresses about his sport.	2
(c) Identify ONE language technique used in paragraph 7 (lines 50–55). Describe its effect.	3
(d) How does this article on skydiving engage the responder?	4
Text two	
(e) What is the purpose of Text two ?	1
Text three	
(f) Explain the meaning of ‘heart-thumping, throat-tightening, pulse-pounding, sweaty palms suspense’ quoted in the Critical Comments.	2
Texts two and three	
(g) Compare the use of language, images and layout in Texts two and three .	6
Texts one, two and three	
(h) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper giving your opinion on the increasing popularity of adventure activities. (Please do not use your real name, address or school name.) Write approximately 100–150 words.	6

End of Question 1

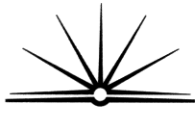


Section 1.

Q1 (a)

Because the sport he enjoys is very dangerous and unusual to many people. ~~At~~ Many people think it is "suicidal" for example: jump off a plane 14000 feet ~~up~~ up in the sky.

(b) He thinks that ~~the~~ ^{his} sport is "safe". At least he says: ~~is~~ safer in the air". ~~He~~, He explains that on ground, he's ~~is~~ always ~~the~~ need to be cautious because someone might steal his bag. but in the air ~~is~~ not possible. Thus safer. Second perspective is that he thinks ~~it is~~ the sport allow himself to feel free and feel "invincible".

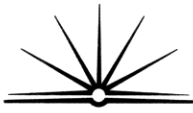


He thinks that the sport allows him to relive the times when he was a kid
ie: The feeling of unpressured.

(c). The use of ^{Onomatopoeia} ~~the words~~ "THU THUP"
and "SPLAT" ~~These words~~

These words allow the responder to get a more vivid image because it allows us to hear the sound effect of if Sgt Paul landed disastrously. The ~~Bolding of~~ ~~the word~~ Use of Capitalisation of these words also emphasises the effect and ~~draws our~~ draw our attention to the ~~text~~ text.

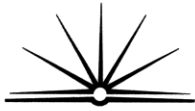
By using these sound devices ~~of Onomatopoeia~~ onomatopoeia, it makes the text more interesting and easy to understand.



(d).

The text engage the readers because the topic is interesting and unfamiliar to most people. For example: "The jumpi parachute" "performing Acrobatics while freefalling" etc.

Also the use of Quotation or actual comment made by Paul. eg: "I ~~feel~~ actually feel safer in Air". ~~the~~ Quoting his comments ~~make~~ reader can entice reader to the text because it allows reader to access his feelings directly. ~~It~~ also ~~allows~~ ~~make~~ ~~text~~ ~~fun~~ ~~to~~ ~~read~~. i.e. knowing first hand account of the person who is actually enjoying the sport make text interesting to read. \rightarrow DIO

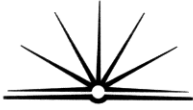


Thirdly, the inclusion of some personal experience by people other than Paul. Eg: the 85 year old ~~and~~ lady skydiving with Paul and said 'I'm loving it'. This shows that the sport is very popular even with people whose most unlikely to be doing it. It provides a sense of adventure and excitement to the text.

Also the use of exclamation ~~and~~ punctuation ~~and~~ eg: 'I get paid to do something I truly love!' ~~shows~~ this emphasises and highlights the positive aspect of adventurous sport and effectively convinces the audience of ~~his~~ Paul's positive attitude.

(e) Purpose to advertise and persuade people to go to Bridge Climbing.

(f) "heart thumping" means the excitement is so great that it makes the heart beating very loudly. "Throat tightening" "pulsing" "pounding" "Sweaty palms" "suspense" all suggest the thrill from the movie. Which makes viewer feeling very tense as the pulse non stopping, ~~to~~ sweat from palm and the tightening of throat due to the unforgettable suspense provided by "Cliffhanger".



(g)

Language: The purpose of Text 2 is to ~~is~~ advertise ~~it~~ and promote an activity ie "Bridge Climbing".

Therefore, the ~~text~~ language used is quite simple ~~and~~, easy to understand ~~and~~ and very descriptive eg: "To see a 360-degree panorama of city"

etc. This is because it's targeted to a wider audiences the simple and easy language appeal to many people. In text 3. the purpose is

to provide a review of a movie. The language are more complicated and there are many uses of language techniques

eg: ~~It's~~ ^{exaggeration} ~~the~~ "The best non Stop..." This is used to emphasise and highlight the excitement and

quality of film. Also, by giving comments from different sources

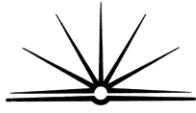
provide audience with a more fair representation of critics of the movie.



eg. from 'UPI' 'Chicago Sun Times'
'American Movie Classics' etc. The
Fact provided gives audience a
better understanding of the movie.
The information is direct and to
the point eg: "Release date 28 May
1993 (USA)" etc.

~~The image~~ The image ~~is also~~ in
Text 2 give audience a clear view
of the harbour bridge makes it
more inviting and attractive. The
expression on the man's and women's face suggest they're happy +
excited. The image of Stallon in text 3
gives an idea of the suspense
mentioned by ~~critics~~ critics
and to the viewer. His posture of hanging
over a rock attracts attention.

Both ~~text~~ text layout
are inviting with pictures
and good arrangement of text
The layout in text 2 uses ~~Technique~~
Technique



of shading highlights and bold to emphasize text. Text 3's layout is clear simple with important information layout in tables which makes it easier to read and more attractive to the eyes.



Dear Editor:

~~The~~ My name is [redacted] ^{and as a bank manager} ~~and~~

I found that adventure activities are very exciting and thrilling. I ~~think~~ think that everyone of us should not be afraid of trying out these sports for example sky diving, plane jumping, cliff jumping etc. These activities are a benefit to

us because it provides us with a sense of adventure and ~~excitement~~ excitement. It refreshes our mind and body.

Personally, ~~I~~ I am from New Zealand and I've tried Bungee Jumping. In the beginning



I was quite scared, but afterwards
I really loved it!! It wasn't
~~scary~~ as scary as I thought.

In my opinion, the increasing
popularity of ~~sp.~~ adventure
sport is a ~~positive~~ ~~positive~~
improvement to our society.

It allows people to discover
about their limits and their
ability. ~~It provides a sense~~

~~of~~ Many people may think
it dangerous, but ~~to~~ I think
with the improvement in technology
~~and the~~, these adventure

sport will become safer ~~and~~
 ~~safer for everyone of us.~~
and more attractive as
are leisure activity.