

Integrated Skills in English III

Time allowed: 2 hours

This exam paper has four tasks. Complete all tasks.

Task 1 – Long reading

Read the following text about languages and answer the 15 questions on page 3.

Paragraph 1

The writer and Professor of Linguistics David Crystal relates the experience of a fellow linguist called Bruce Connell, who was doing some research in West Africa in the 1990s when he discovered a language that had never been studied before. The problem was that there was only one man left who spoke it. Connell was too busy to investigate further, so resolved to return the following year. By the time he got back, the man had died, and of course the language along with him. One day it existed, the next day it was extinct.

Paragraph 2

In itself, this story is not all that surprising: languages have been dying out (and new ones emerging) for as long as humans have been on the earth. More alarming is the current rate of language extinction. Professor Crystal, who has written a book called 'Language Death' as part of his campaign to raise awareness of the problem, estimates that of approximately 6,000 languages in the world, around half will disappear over the next 100 years. This means that's one language less every couple of weeks. As for endangered languages, it has been estimated that there are nearly 500 with only one speaker left, and over 3,000 with 10,000 speakers or fewer.

Paragraph 3

Does this matter? I confess that until I looked into it, I thought of this situation (if I thought about it at all) as just natural evolution. Languages come and go according to whether they meet the needs of the speakers, and of all the world's problems, this is nowhere near the most pressing. Professor Crystal, though, offers a number of reasons why we should care. Languages, he says, are interesting in themselves and teach us about language and communication in general. They contain the culture and history of those who speak them, and are a vital part of group identity. A further and more abstract argument is that diversity is necessary for evolution, or even survival, just as much in cultural terms as in biology. Speaking personally, I must say these arguments haven't converted me into a campaigner for endangered languages, but at least I'm grateful that there are people like David Crystal doing their best to keep the issue alive.

Paragraph 4

There are various reasons why languages die, including the obvious one of populations disappearing as a result of natural disasters or war, but the most common one is a gradual cultural assimilation. When one culture dominates another, there is pressure on people to adopt the dominant language. What usually happens is that, after some time, most people begin to speak both languages. This phase, however, tends to lead to a gradual decline in the 'dominated' language as younger generations stop speaking it. From then on, basic population changes take over as its surviving speakers become fewer and fewer. Later generations may look back with regret and realise that something valuable has been lost, but by then of course it's too late.

Paragraph 5

So, if we accept that disappearing languages is an important problem, can anything be done? Unsurprisingly, David Crystal is convinced that steps can be taken (and furthermore have been successful in various places). He cites examples from around the world, including the revival of Welsh, which was the result of deliberate policy decisions. Favourable conditions, however, must be in place, not least of which is the desire and willingness of the community to save their language. In cases where this doesn't exist, any efforts that are made will be doomed to failure. Beyond that, a threatened language needs to have prestige, which requires that it should be given a place in the education system and, in most cases, an agreed grammar and preferably a written form (if it doesn't already have one). None of this is cheap. One estimate is that there would be an annual cost of £40,000 per language. But when you compare that to the amount spent in other areas, perhaps it's not so much after all.

Questions 1-5

The text on page 2 has five paragraphs (1-5). Choose the best title for each paragraph from A-F below and **write the letter (A-F) on the lines below**. There is one more title than you need.

1. Paragraph 1
2. Paragraph 2
3. Paragraph 3
4. Paragraph 4
5. Paragraph 5

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | Why disappearing languages is a big issue |
| B | How a language becomes dominant |
| C | How languages can be rescued |
| D | A story of a lost language |
| E | Rate of language extinction |
| F | Typical process of language extinction |

Questions 6-10

Choose the **five statements** from A-H below that are **TRUE** according to the information given in the text on page 2. **Write the letters of the TRUE statements on the lines below (in any order).**

6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | The decline in world languages will slow down in the future. |
| B | The writer is now convinced that he should help to make people aware of the issue. |
| C | People tend to give a language more respect if it is taught in schools. |
| D | Languages are always dying out and new ones are born. |
| E | Some languages are lost along with the people because of natural disasters. |
| F | A researcher who returned to study a 'new' language found there were no speakers left. |
| G | The writer used to think that language death was not a problem. |
| H | It's thought that 3,000 languages will disappear in a century. |

Questions 11-15

Complete sentences 11-15 with an exact number, word or phrase (maximum three words) from the text. **Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.**

11. The writer's view was that the survival of languages depends on if they of people.
12. According to Professor Crystal, the of languages is necessary for evolution and survival.
13. Typically, after a period of bilingualism, one language will suffer
14. Attempts to save a language are without commitment from the people who speak it.
15. A language will be easier to save if it can be down.

Turn over page

Task 2 – Multi-text reading

In this section there are four short texts for you to read and some questions for you to answer.

Questions 16-20

Read questions 16-20 first and then read texts A, B, C and D below the questions.

As you read each text, decide which text each question refers to. **Choose one letter – A, B, C or D – and write it on the lines below.** You can use any letter more than once.

Which text

16. gives details of how rapidly mobile phone photography has grown?
17. gives an example of the changing role of media photographers?
18. explains the need to understand the equipment you are using?
19. explores the idea of the financial worth of particular image taken on a phone?
20. expresses that traditional photographers may need to change their ideas?

Text A

Professional photographers are becoming alarmed at the rise in popularity of photographs taken on mobile phones. An extreme view is that although photography is more popular than it ever was, with more people doing photography courses, the idea of photography as an art form is being destroyed. Others think that what might be happening is simply that photography is moving on.

Photographers can no longer make large sums of money photographing events like weddings. We can photograph events like these ourselves, even if the results may not be as impressive as hiring an expensive photographer. And photo-journalists often face fierce competition from people who just happen to be passing as a dramatic event takes place. These mobile phone photos taken by amateurs can capture the immediacy of the event.

Photographers as artists are also suffering from people using apps that can enhance even the dullest of their shots. Admittedly, some of the results of this technique are pretty awful, but some mobile phone photos do have a great deal of artistic merit. The new mobile photography awards have produced some memorable images.

Perhaps what's actually happening is that photography is becoming more democratic and less exclusive, which could be seen as a positive development. In response, photographers may need to undergo a shift in attitude.

Pete Morgan

Text B

Tips on taking effective photos on your phone

Cameras on our phones are becoming more sophisticated all the time. It's possible that soon they will be able to produce photos to equal those of even the most expensive cameras. In the meantime, though, it's not enough just to use an app to enhance photos later. You need to control how your photo looks at the time when you're taking it.

1. Make sure you know how to control the focus and light exposure. You should use the camera software like it's second nature, so that you don't have to stop and think about it. You don't want to miss an event or the chance of a great shot while you're fiddling with buttons.

2. Learn the basics of picture composition. This may sound boring, but it's vital, and it will make all the difference to your photos. You can find lots of advice about this online.

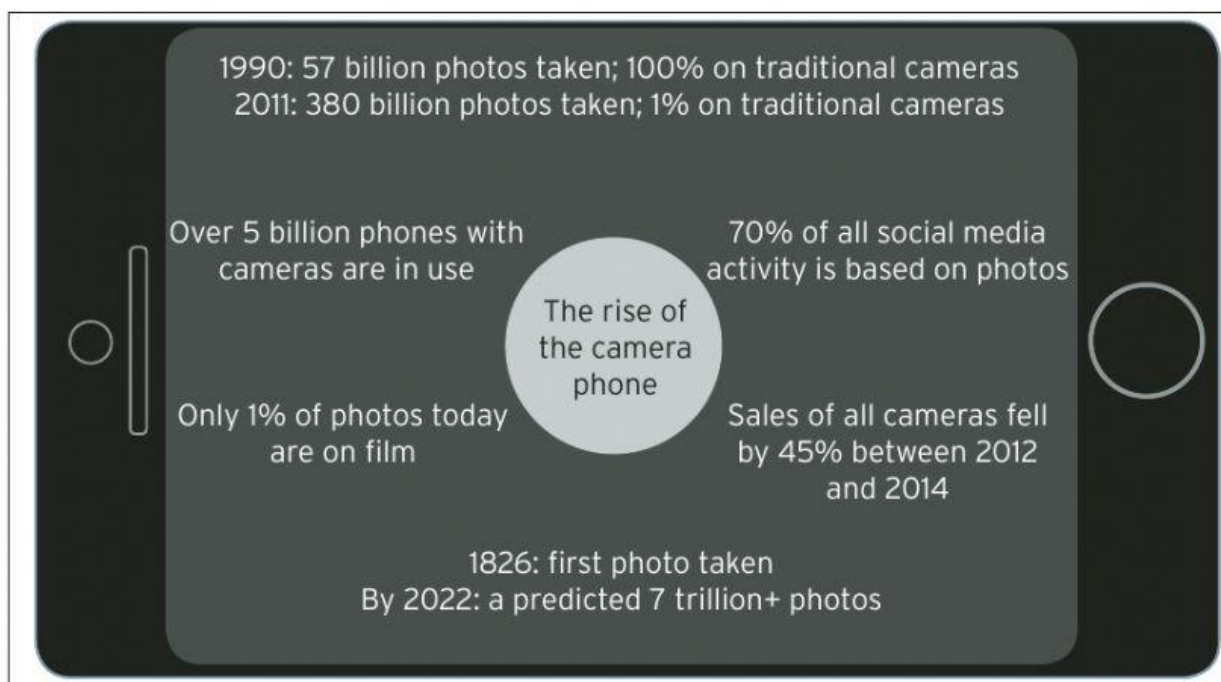
3. Do what photographers call 'working the scene'. Don't just take one shot, but try it from different angles or different distances. After all, the great advantage of digital photos is that you can delete any that don't work out as you intended.

Try following these tips and you could produce some really great images with your phone camera.

Text C

	Jen: The rise of the mobile phone camera has definitely affected me professionally. I find that nowadays I'm having to work harder to persuade people to use my services.
	Carl: What makes a huge difference for me is the fact that nowadays any image can be reproduced endlessly. It means that individual photos are losing their value. But people's everyday snapshots can hardly be called art, can they?
	Jen: My most popular shot recently was one that I took on my mobile phone and shared on social media. It's had thousands of viewings so far. Imagine if someone liked it and bought it without knowing how it was taken. Would they think it was less valuable if they discovered later that it had been taken on my mobile phone?
	Carl: Yes, maybe they would. It's certainly an interesting thought, isn't it? But surely the value of a photo should be for what it is, not the method used to take it.

Text D



Turn over page

Questions 21-25

Choose the **five statements** from A-H below that are **TRUE** according to the information given in the texts above. Write the letters of the **TRUE** statements on the lines below (in any order).

21.

22.

23.

24.

25.

- A People are less willing to pay for photographs of special occasions by professionals.
- B Mobile phones are already producing photos of the same quality as the best cameras.
- C Camera sales are reported to have fallen by around a half in a two-year period.
- D Using an app to improve photos cannot make up not having skill.
- E People entering competitions have taken great photos using phones.
- F Carl believes that the main problem is the ease of copying pictures these days.
- G Journalists are finding that the use of mobile phones helps them to photograph dramatic events.
- H Pete Morgan thinks photos taken on mobile phones are all of similar quality.

Questions 26-30

The notes below contain information from the texts on pages 4 and 5. Find an exact number, word or phrase (maximum three words) from texts A-D to complete the missing information in gaps 26-30.

Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.

Notes**Some facts**

- 1826 – first photo taken. In 2022 over 7 trillion predicted.
- Over 5 billion people use camera phones.
- Photos represent over half of all (26.)

What photographers fear

- Photography as a form of art is being destroyed.
- Passers-by with cameras are (27.) for photo journalists.
- Apps available to (28.) very boring photos.
- Value of photographs as works of art in question.

The upsides

- People on the street (29.) of something happening at that moment.
- The quality of mobile phone photos is surprising – they can have a lot of (30.)
- More people taking up creative photography.
- People are learning how to take great photos.

Task 3 – Reading into writing

Use the information you read in Texts A, B, C and D (pages 4 and 5) to write an article (200-230 words) for an arts magazine on the impact of the rise in popularity of photos taken with a mobile phone.

Do not copy from the texts. Use your own words as far as possible.

You should plan your article before you start writing. Think about what you are going to write and make some notes to help you in this box:

Planning notes

(No marks are given for these planning notes)

Now write your article of 200-230 words on the lines below.

[illegible]

Turn over page

