

Leaving Cert English Ordinary Level 2018
Sample Answer for Paper 1 Comprehension
Text 3 - Interview with Kailash Satyarthi

Question A - 50 Marks

(I) From your reading of the written text on Page 6, what impression do you form of Kailash Satyarthi? Support your answer with reference to the text.

The impression I form of Kailash Satyarthi is that he is brave, successful and positive. I think that he shows his bravery from a very early age when realises that a child of his own age is deprived the right to an education and he decided to challenge the boys father as to why he doesn't send his son to school. As he says himself 'I gathered all my courage and ran straight to his father and asked him why he didn't send his son to school'. I feel that this was a very brave thing for a child just starting school to do. He showed great bravery as an adult when he gave up his good job as an engineer to become a human rights activist.

I think that he is very successful as he has developed a global campaign which has 'led to the rescue of over 80,000 child slaves'. He has seen the number of child labourers reduce from 260 million to 58 million whilst the number of children out of school has also dropped, from 130 million to about 58 million. His success in this area has been recognised by him being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in the world.

I believe that Kailash Satyarthi is a very positive person as despite all the suffering and injustice he has seen he still has a very positive, optimistic view of the world. Rather than give up when he saw the injustice in the world he did something about it and campaigned for those who needed his help. He has a very positive attitude towards young people saying that they are 'very idealistic', and that 'they are looking for a better life for themselves, for their community and the world'. He is very encouraging towards young people saying that 'we should give these young people voices' and 'build their leadership

abilities'. He encourages young people to 'dream big', for themselves and 'for all of humanity'.

(II) Look at the image that appears on Page 7. Outline two or more reasons why you do or do not think that this poster is effective in communicating a message against child labour. Support your answer with reference to both the words and images in the poster.

I think that the words and images work together very well in this poster in communicating the message against child labour. Firstly, if we look at the words used they are very simple and easy to understand, even most children would be able to read them. Also they are short and easy to remember. 'Family, friends, health, school, life and fun' are some of the most the most basic, but most important things in anyone's life. Any of us can imagine what our lives would be like if we didn't have these things. This means we can imagine what life is like for young children who are deprived of these basic rights.

The way the words are written helps emphasise this point. The letters in white on a black background remind us of a blackboard in a classroom, the very classrooms that these children are excluded from. Also the lines scratched through the words seem violent, like marks left by a whip. This emphasises the cruelty of depriving children of an education. It emphasises the cruel reality that the only thing left in their lives is work. The image of the little girl carrying heavy bricks brings home the reality of life for these children. A little girl of that age should be playing with toy building blocks, not carrying heavy concrete blocks. Her facial expression shows us how unhappy these children are and how their lives are not as they should be. The simple slogan of 'Stop Child Labour' sums up the whole campaign and tells us what we should all be doing to help the children of the world.

(III)

A. Imagine you are the director of a documentary film about Kailash Satyarthi's campaign against child slavery. Suggest a title for the documentary. The title you choose should reveal something about Satyarthi's work against child

slavery. Outline two reasons why you think this would be a good title for your film.

The title I would suggest is 'Kailash Satyarthi 3-D; Dream, Discover, Don't be Lazy'. I think this would attract people attention as the term 3-D is usually used in connection with action movies and films of that type. Also the use of alliteration would make it catchy and easy to remember. The other documentaries mentioned in the exam paper; 'No limbs, No limits' and 'Pull like a dog', use quotes from the subjects of the film as their title so I think it would be good to use Kailash Satyarthi's own words in the film title.

I also think that 'Dream, Discover, Don't be Lazy' would give a positive feeling to the documentary. Many people would expect a documentary about child labour to be downbeat and depressing and mightn't want to watch it. I think that 'Dream, Discover, Don't be Lazy' would emphasise the inspirational and idealistic aspect of Satyarthi's work against child slavery. I think using such a positive title people would encourage the audience to watch the film and realise that they too can play a part in the fight against child slavery.

B. The theme of this examination paper is "Inspiring People". Identify someone, other than Joanne O'Riordan, Gary or Paul O'Donovan or Kailish Satyarthi, who inspires you and explain why you find this person inspiring.

The person who inspires me is Edmund Hillary, one of the first two men to reach the summit of Everest. I admire him for this great achievement but also what he did with his life afterwards.

Firstly, I believe that Hillary and Tenzing's ascent of Everest is one of the great achievements of the twentieth century. Although many people have climbed Everest since, they are, sometimes literally, following in Hillary's footsteps. The final approach to the summit, a difficult rock-climb, is still named the 'Hillary Step' in his honour. Their expedition achieved the first summit of Everest with very basic equipment and very limited assistance, without any of the satellite phones, GPS and helicopter back-up that climbers use today. Also Hillary was very much an outsider, he didn't have a military

background or a famous climbing reputation, he was a beekeeper from New Zealand who joined the British expedition by sheer force of will and ability. His physical endurance and mental determination got him all the way to the top of the world.

I also admire him for how he lived his life after this great achievement. Although he could have used his fame and celebrity to make himself rich by endorsements and commercial activity he instead used it to help other people. The charitable foundation he set up helped the local Tibetan people by building schools, hospitals and high altitude aircraft landing strips. He established a climbing school for local Sherpas to pass on his skills and knowledge, ensuring that local people who worked on the expeditions that followed his own would have the skills needed to climb safely. As well as working for other people he also continued to challenge himself. Instead of being content with his great achievement he continued climbing other mountains and exploring challenging regions, even leading a expedition to the South Pole. Even into his eighties he was still physically active and adventurous.