

OCR · GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE J351

Paper 1 — Communicating Information and Ideas

June 2025 exam series

QUESTION PAPER

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Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 23 May 2024 – Morning

GCSE (9–1) English Language

J351/01 Communicating information and ideas

Time allowed: 2 hours

You must have:

- the Insert (inside this document)



Please write clearly in black ink. **Do not write in the barcodes.**

Centre number

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Candidate number

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First name(s)

Last name

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If you need extra space use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.
- Use the Insert to answer the questions in Section A.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **16** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.
- Read the Insert carefully before you start your answers to Section A.

2
Section A

Reading information and ideas

You should spend **about 1 hour** on this section.

Question 1 is about **Text 1**, *Autobiography* by Joseph Carey Merrick.

1 Look at lines 1–10.

(a) Give **one** phrase that shows that Joseph Carey Merrick was like other children when he was younger.

..... **[1]**

(b) Give **one** phrase that explains what Joseph Carey Merrick's greatest misfortune was.

..... **[1]**

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Joseph Carey Merrick's stepmother made his life a misery.

1

.....

2

..... **[2]**

Draw on evidence from **both** texts to support your answer.

[6]

3 Look at lines 17–33.

Support your ideas by using relevant subject terminology.

[12]

[illegible]

Question 4 is about **Text 1**, *Autobiography* by Joseph Carey Merrick and **Text 2**, *My Left Foot* by Christy Brown.

4 'Both texts show how the writers successfully overcame the challenges they faced.'

How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer you should:

- discuss what we learn about the challenges each writer faced
- explain how far you agree that the writers overcame their challenges successfully
- compare the ways the texts present the writers overcoming challenges.

Support your response with quotations from **Text 1** and **Text 2**.

[18]

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9
Section B

Writing for audience, impact and purpose

Choose **one** of the writing tasks.

You should spend **about 1 hour** on this section.

In questions marked with an asterisk (*) you will be assessed on the quality of your extended response. You should plan and check your work carefully.

EITHER

5* Write the words of a speech to advise young people how to achieve success.

You should:

- describe what makes it hard for young people to achieve success
- advise young people how they can achieve success
- explain how young people will realise they have succeeded.

[40]

OR

6* Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper to argue that people should not be judged on their appearance.

You should:

- describe how people are judged on their appearance
- explain why people are judged on their appearance
- argue why people should not be judged on their appearance.

[40]

Write the number of the question you have chosen to answer.

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This image shows a blank sheet of white paper designed for writing. It features a series of evenly spaced horizontal blue lines across its entire width. A single vertical red line runs down the left side, creating a narrow margin. The paper is otherwise completely empty, with no text or markings.

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