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English B – Standard level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension
Anglais B – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension écrite
Inglés B – Nivel Medio – Prueba 2 – Comprensión de lectura

3 May 2023 / 3 mai 2023 / 3 de mayo de 2023

Zone A afternoon	Zone B morning	Zone C afternoon
Zone A après-midi	Zone B matin	Zone C après-midi
Zona A tarde	Zona B mañana	Zona C tarde

1 h

Text booklet – Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet accompanies paper 2 reading comprehension.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux candidats

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Ce livret accompagne la partie de l'épreuve 2 portant sur la compréhension écrite.

Cuadernillo de textos – Instrucciones para los alumnos

- No abra este cuadernillo hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuadernillo acompaña a la parte de comprensión de lectura de la prueba 2.

Text A

Emma's story

5 **Emma has come to the UK to work for Erasmus+ Volunteering Projects. This organization, sometimes called EVS (European Voluntary Service), allows young people aged 17-30 to take part in unpaid and full-time volunteering activities for up to 12 months in another country. This is Emma's story.**

10 "My name is Emma and I am a full-time volunteer in Norfolk (UK). I support young people with learning disabilities in their day to day lives, whether it's going shopping, going to work or going to art classes. It is amazing to see them become more independent and more self-confident from week to week. And while they are making progress, I am also developing new abilities.

15 In my last year of school, I already knew I wanted to go somewhere new and do something different. However, I knew that travelling wouldn't give me all I wanted during my year abroad. I therefore decided to take part in EVS, because I get to live in another country and experience new places and I can take time to decide if social work is something I'd like to do as a job later in life.

I have been a volunteer for 9 months now and I have learnt a lot in this role, not only from other volunteers and friends here but also from the people I help.

25 I support a young woman who is volunteering in the local library. In the beginning she seemed shy. She had been to the library before but it was a new situation with lots of new people and new challenges for her. In the 8 months we have worked together she has improved so much. She has learnt the library's system and is able to find books quickly. She is confident in talking to people and happy to have a range of tasks. She has also taught me that everyone has their own pace. I used to be an impatient person! I now know that everyone will do and finish their tasks at a pace that is best for them."



Text B

Honoring Black History with Anitra Belle Henderson

In 1860, a plantation owner smuggled in a shipload of 110 African people to Alabama on the *Clotilda*, the last known slave ship to arrive in the US, decades after the banning of the importation of enslaved people. When enslaved people were freed in 1865, survivors of the *Clotilda* couldn't afford to return to Africa, so they founded Africatown instead, a bustling town
5 rooted in their homelands and cultures.

After years of searching for the long-lost *Clotilda*, a team of historians and archaeologists finally discovered it at the bottom of Alabama's Mobile River in 2019.

Now, the City of Mobile will open a heritage house this summer to tell the story of the *Clotilda*'s survivors and of Africatown.

10 "We are excited to help the community of Africatown tell their story," says Anitra Belle Henderson, the leader of the team planning all the Africatown projects. "Our goal is for visitors to understand more about those who were enslaved. They have a name and a story."

The heritage house is designed to be an immersive experience. Visitors will feel the waves of the ocean like the enslaved people felt on their voyage, read stories about the slave trade and
15 the survivors of the *Clotilda*. They'll also be able to visit Africatown, where many descendants of the *Clotilda*'s survivors still reside.

"Each detail of the heritage house was designed with reverence to the ancestors, descendants and the community," Belle Henderson says. "Those who are curious about African culture can visit an African community on American soil—a community that was built with hope
20 and promise."

"The many stories show the diverse brilliance of black people," she says. "Since the discovery of the *Clotilda* there has been a new excitement in the community. Educating people about Africatown's past will definitely create a bright future for a community that so deserves the attention it is receiving."

Text C

Top Future Transport Innovations

A recent report released by the US Department of Transportation (DOT) identified a critical need for improvement of the nation’s transportation system. While the DOT has begun accelerating the improvement of the country’s highways and bridges, new forms of transit are being developed and will most likely be implemented soon.

5 These five innovations will revolutionize transportation in the near future.

1. **Hyperloop transportation systems**

10 Hyperloops are essentially transportation tubes where pods of passengers or freight pass through a pressurized track at high speeds. Hyperloops run at an average of 600 miles per hour. There are several companies currently working to advance the technology. One company hopes to launch its first passenger service in the next year or two.

2. [– 27 –]

15 Automated city buses and shuttles will be in operation in the near future. Autonomous vehicles use cameras, radars and GPS systems to recognize and communicate with traffic lights and have impressive safety records. These buses of the future will reduce the impact on the environment because they are electric. Such buses are already in operation in China and Germany, and are being tested in the US.

3. [– 28 –]

20 While automated buses are being developed worldwide, China is working on a bus system that will reduce traffic congestion. The bus “straddles” traffic by running on special tracks that allow regular vehicles to drive underneath. A system currently being designed in China is expected to reduce traffic congestion by thirty percent.

4. [– 29 –]

25 A fleet of flying hotels is being designed by a company in Canada. Driftscape is a mobile, self-sustaining hotel that uses drone technology. Driftscape allows guests to travel while sleeping, and to roam or to touch down in diverse locations. It consists of several modular units including food and beverage elements. Driftscape offers spectacular panoramas and has minimal impact on the environment, preserving the integrity and authenticity of the locations visited.

5. [– 30 –]

30 Air traffic control systems in operation today are ground-based, using technology that dates back to the 1960s. Control systems using satellites allow air traffic controllers to be more efficient. The US is currently working on such a system: NextGen, which is being implemented in stages through 2025. GPS technology will be used to increase accuracy and shorten routes. NextGen will save time and fuel, reduce late arrivals, increase flight capacity and permit controllers to monitor aircraft with improved safety margins.

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References:

- Text A** Volunteering Matters, 2016. EVS Full-Time Volunteering: Emma's Story. *Volunteering Matters*, [online]. Available at: <https://volunteeringmatters.org.uk/casestudy/evsemma/> [Accessed 27 July 2022]. Source adapted.
- Summer, L., 2020. *Smiling ethnic woman showing volunteer sign on red apron*. [online image] Available at: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/smiling-ethnic-woman-showing-volunteer-sign-on-red-apron-6348129/> [Accessed 24 August 2022]. Source adapted.
- Text B** Copyright 2023 Smithsonian Institution. Reprinted with permission from Smithsonian Enterprises. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any medium is strictly prohibited without permission from Smithsonian Institution.
- Text C** MarshMcLennan Agency, 2018. Top 10 Future Transportation Innovations. *Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC*, [online]. Available at: <https://www.marshmma.com/blog/top-10-future-transportation-innovations> [Accessed 21 December 2021]. Source adapted.