

Tuesday 3 November 2015 – Morning

GCSE ENGLISH/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A680/01/RBI Information and Ideas (Foundation Tier)

READING BOOKLET INSERT

Duration: 2 hours



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- The materials in this READING BOOKLET INSERT are for use with the questions in Section A of the Question Paper.

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The following text is taken from a report on the ABC News website, 2 September 2013.

Diana Nyad, aged 64: “We Should Never Ever Give Up”

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The following text is a letter from the Help the Aged charity.



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**Working for a future where
older people are highly valued,
have lives that are richer,
and voices that are heard.**

**For years, Jean has known
nothing but loneliness.
Please give £12 to show her
you care.**



Dear Friend

Since her husband died, all that 77-year-old Jean has for company are her memories and a few fading photographs. She lives alone in her small flat, feeling lonely and forgotten as the world passes by her window.

You could show you care by supporting our Lonely Hearts Appeal. Will you open up your heart to Jean and give a gift of £12 to help change her life?

Once, Jean felt part of a community where everyone looked out for everyone else. She used to have a good neighbour who popped in regularly for a chat over a cup of tea and to check that all was well. This meant a lot to Jean, especially when her health began to deteriorate. Her sight and chest gave her problems and she now needs a stick to steady herself when she walks.

But her neighbour moved, taking away Jean's last friend in the area. Her new neighbours are busy people who wave as they pass, but nothing more.

Jean is too frail to get out much. Even making the short trip for her food shopping is hard. She struggles with the bus, trying to manage her bag of groceries and her walking stick.

More than a million older people in the UK are acutely isolated like Jean, but with the generosity of supporters like you, we can provide services to show them someone cares.

We work with local organisations all around the UK to help them provide minibuses, mobility aids and door-to-door transport for frail and isolated older people in their areas.

Our SeniorLink is an immediate response service which, at the touch of a button, enables older people to call for help or a reassuring chat. In addition, we offer our support to day centres around the country that provide a hot meal and much-needed company that so many older people crave.

Making a donation is easy to do. Please give us just £12 today by completing the enclosed form with the pen provided and returning it with your gift in the prepaid envelope.

Just £12 would make life feel worth living again for thousands of older people like Jean, who are so alone in the world.

I have enclosed a Christmas card with this letter. Please, if you can, take a moment to write your personal message to an older person. It will show them that someone really cares. It could be the only Christmas card they get.

Please act now to put an end to their loneliness. Without our help, thousands of older people like Jean will continue to suffer in silence behind their closed doors.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Lake CBE

Director General

PS More than half of people in the UK who are over the age of 75 live alone and many go for days or weeks without speaking to anyone at all. Please support our Lonely Hearts Appeal and show them they are not forgotten.

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