COMBINED FEEDBACK ON THE JUNE 2013 EXAM PAPER

UNIT R051: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SPORT

SPORT STUDIES
Level 1/2
DECEMBER 2014
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INTRODUCTION

This resource brings together the questions from the June 2013 examined unit (R051), the marking guidance, the examiner's comments and the exemplar answers into one place for easy reference.

The marking guidance and the examiner's comments are taken straight from the Report to Centre for this question paper.

The Question Paper, Mark Scheme and the Report to Centre are available from:

GENERAL EXAMINER COMMENTS ON THE PAPER

The majority of the candidates gained marks between the mid-thirties to low twenties this series. On the whole candidates appeared better prepared for the examination than in the January 2013 series, with some reasonably strong answers seen within the cohort. In such instances, answers were written in sentences and an attempt made at explanation or development.

Where marks continued to be missed, this was often as a result of a lack of understanding of the question requirements. Candidates often identified the broad topic area in the question and then gave any information on this topic which they could, rather than addressing the specific questions set. There was a tendency for many candidates to use one word answers, consequently lacking the depth and detail required for many of the questions.
Question 1 and 2

Answer all questions.

1. Give three reasons why families with young children may not be able to participate in sport.
   
   1. Cannot afford the cost of participation (if all the family want to take part)
   2. Family commitments mean lack of time
   3. There is no one else to look after the young children if parents participate

   **Other example answers**
   - No suitable activities for the young children to participate in whilst parents are participating
   - Have transport problems
   - Unsuitable timings of activities
   - Lack of time (due to work commitments)
   - Appeal of alternative leisure activities

2. Suggest four ways to raise participation in sport by families with young children.
   
   1. Activities at a subsidised rate (Eg family deals/family discounts)
   2. Offer free or subsidised equipment
   3. Organise activity sessions at the weekend/after school/suitable times
   4. Facility provides a crèche

   **Other example answers**
   - Provide a soft play area
   - Provide activities/clubs suitable for young children/parents
   - Provide (cheap) transport
   - Organise parent and child sessions
   - Market, using positive role models/increased advertising/media coverage (Eg family groups)
Mark Scheme Guidance

1. 1 mark for each correct answer.
   Mark first 3 responses only.
   BOD lack of time.

2. 1 mark for each correct answer.
   Mark first four responses only.

Examiner comments

Question 1
A reasonably well answered question, with most candidates able to offer at least two correct comments from the mark scheme.

Question 2
As with question one and perhaps because the question dealt with a group that candidates could relate to, at least two marks were gained, generally through points 1 and 4.
Question 3

3. Give three factors other than media coverage, and describe how each can have an impact upon the popularity of sport in the UK.

1. Participation (eg football has wide-spread mass participation due to strong infrastructure being in place)

2. Provision (eg tennis lacks easily accessible courts impacting on base level participation)

3. Environment/climate (eg regular involvement in snow sports as participant or spectator either requires frequent trips abroad or the use of artificial slopes as most parts of UK do not have appropriate terrain/weather)

Other example answers

- Spectatorship (eg live professional rugby matches readily accessible)
- Success for both teams and individuals (eg Chris Hoy’s success at the Olympics has increased participation in cycling)
- Role models (eg lack of role models for particular groups in particular sports, such as British Asian footballers)
- Acceptability (eg boxing still has vocal opposition who feel that the aim of the sport is to hurt opponent and that it is therefore not appropriate, especially for younger people; opposition to horse racing due to perceived animal cruelty by use of whip).
- Cultural preferences for selected sports (eg certain ethnic groups have preferred sports)
- Social/cultural/racist/attitudes (eg perception that a sport is very racist will influence popularity)
- Nature of the sport (eg cage fighting seen as very violent and may influence popularity)

Mark Scheme Guidance

1 mark for each correct answer.
Mark first three responses only.
Must have factor and description to gain mark.

Examiner comments

On the whole, not well answered; with point 6, relating to role models and point 3, relating to the environment the most widely visited concepts from the mark scheme.
Question 4

4. Describe four ways in which the media can have a positive impact on the popularity of sport in the UK.

1. Spectators have a wider choice of sports to watch on the television
2. There are dedicated sports channels therefore fans can watch sport at any time
3. (Extensive) media coverage of any sport/sports’ event will increase its popularity
4. Lesser known sports are televised – bringing their attention to people will increase participation
   eg basketball

Other example answers
- Large coverage of football in the press means fans can keep up to date with sport – mainly football as this is the sport that has most coverage
- Access to sport on the internet means that fans can access features/results 24 hours
- Television, internet access etc. allows people who work whilst live sport is taking place the opportunity to catch up when they have free time.
- Raises profile of performers who then become role models for increasing participation
- Sale of media rights allows sports organisations to improve spectator facilities and increase spectatorism
- Advertise /promote different sports
- Educate the public on the benefits of participation in sport (ie health/social well-being)

Mark Scheme Guidance

1 mark for each correct answer.

Examiner comments

Whilst the more obvious concepts, relating to the volume of media coverage, role models and the advertising of different sports featured frequently in candidate responses, there was only limited evidence of reference to the other points covered on the mark scheme.
Question 5 and 6

5  Suggest two ways to increase the level of participation in sport by retired people.
   1. Have retired only activity sessions
   2. Have suitable activities offered to the retired (eg carpet bowls; keep fit for the over 50’s; walking for health)

Other example answers
- Link with GP referral scheme
- Programme some activities to take place during the day/suitable times
- Use role models from this age group in promotional material
- Advertise in appropriate places (eg doctors’ surgeries, health websites, libraries)
- Arrange suitable transport/subsidised transport
- Reduction of charges for the retired

6  Which of the following is the best example of a popular sport in the UK in terms of the numbers participating?
   (Circle your chosen option to indicate your answer.)
   (a) Fencing
   (b) Rowing
   (c) Football
   (d) Hockey

Mark Scheme Guidance
5.  1 mark for each correct answer.  
Mark first two responses only.

Examiner comments

Question 5
A well answered question.

Question 6
Virtually all candidates gained the one mark on offer for this question.
Question 7

Give two examples of etiquette in sport. Identify two reasons why etiquette is important for performers or spectators.

Example 1:
When a famous sportsperson or a member of the local community who is connected with a sports club has died then there is often a minutes silence and all spectators are expected to observe the minutes silence out of respect.

Example 2:
It is usual for the audience to be silent when shots are taken at a snooker match/during serve in a tennis match this it to allow the players to concentrate.

Reason 1:
Shows respect for other performers/sport/values

Reason 2:
Allow other performers to perform to the best of their ability

Other example answers
Example:
• At sporting events spectators are expected to remain silent during the playing of national anthems this shows respect

Reason:
• Fairness for everyone involved in the activity
• Ensure that events take place in a safe and secure environment both in terms of spectators and participants
• Broadens appeal of the sport/enhances sport’s reputation leading to increased spectorism/participation

Mark Scheme Guidance

Maximum 2 marks for examples of etiquette.

Maximum 2 marks for why etiquette is important.

Credit other suitable examples.

Examiner comments

The point relating to spectators being silent during play was frequently referred to. However, a considerable number of candidates simply repeated this point but in an additional activity, in an attempt to gain the second mark available.

Many candidates were only able to comment on respect as a reason for observing etiquette, thereby reducing their maximum scoring potential on this question.
Question 8

Infrastructure is an area of sport in which national governing bodies (NGBs) are involved. Identify aspects of infrastructure in sport and give examples of each.

1. Competitions and tournament
   Eg the FA organise the leagues and the cup competitions for football

2. Rule making
   Eg the ECB implement the rules for the sport

3. Disciplinary procedures
   Eg the RFU has a disciplinary procedure for any individual or team connected with the sport

Other example answers

• NGB’s provide a national directive and vision
  Eg 10 year strategic development plan

• NGB’s provide guidance, support and insurance to their members
  Eg technical facility build/guidance/advice on applying for sources of funding

• NGB’s assist with facility development
  Eg provide financial support/grants/advice

• Creating a performance development pathway for participation and progression
  Eg ASA provide awards scheme to enable progression to higher levels of performance

Mark Scheme Guidance

1 mark for each correct answer.

Maximum 3 marks for aspects of infrastructure.

Maximum 3 marks for relevant examples.

 Examiner comments

Knowledge of the various aspects of infrastructure in sport was limited in the vast majority of cases, as was evidenced by the average score on this question being only two marks; with the concepts of competitions and rule making being the most frequently occurring responses.
Question 9 and 10

9 Why should sports performers not use performance-enhancing drugs?

1. It is cheating/against the rules

2. Against the spirit of sports performance

3. Means that the athlete has an unfair advantage when competing against athletes who have not taken drugs

4. Can cause long term health problems

Other example answers

• Sports performers will be banned from competing if they are found guilty
• Sets a bad example for young people
• Brings the sport into disrepute/gives the sport a bad name
• Reflects badly on the nation they represent
• Some drugs can cause performers to be violent/over aggressive
• Loss of income/job/sponsorship

[4]

10 What does the symbol of five interlocking rings on the Olympic flag represent?

Represents the union of the five continents

Other example answer

• The five continents

[1]

Mark Scheme Guidance

9. 1 mark for each correct answer.

10. 1 mark for a correct answer.

Examiner comments

Question 9
Most candidates were able to access two or more marks on this question.

Question 10
A generally well answered question.
Question 11

11 Explain why many countries want to host a major sporting event.

1. Positive effects on the economy
2. Commercial benefits – money from sponsors
3. Commercial benefits – external investment which would not otherwise have been attracted
4. Commercial benefits – investment in buildings
5. Commercial benefits – increase in jobs for the period of the event/long term legacy jobs
6. Infrastructure – improved transport system in the country/venue of the event
7. Infrastructure – ‘Olympic village’ can be used for housing
8. Sports facilities – new facilities will be built

Other example answers
• Sports facilities – can be used for the local community/future events
• Sports facilities – capacity can be reduced then used as a local facility
• Sporting facilities – some facilities will be upgraded/improved
• Sports facilities – some facilities can be re-sited in a part of the country which does not currently have the facility
• Status – increase in tourism for the duration of the event/post event/indirect tourism spend (eg multiplier effect)
• Status – ‘shop window’ effect for the host country
• Builds a feeling of national pride/nation building
• Possibility of successful bidding for future sports events is improved
• Legacy of increased participation.

Mark Scheme Guidance

1 mark for each correct answer.

Examiner comments

Perhaps as a result of London hosting the recent Olympics, most candidates were able to offer at least three comments suggesting why a country might want to host a major event. The points most frequently made were the more ‘obvious’ ones relating to new facilities, improved transport and money coming into the economy.
Question 12 and 13

12 (a) Give two examples of national pride being promoted through sport.

1. Supporters unite behind the country in international events
2. Supporters wear country’s strip and have flags on their houses/cars/standing for the national anthem/singing national anthem

Other example answers

• Singing national anthem when watching a sports event/participating in a sports event
• Performers support each other/celebrate each other’s success (eg being selected for a national squad/team)
• Representing your country gives the performer a sense of pride

(b) Give two examples of excellence being promoted through sport.

1. Striving to be the best that you can in your favourite sport
2. Striving to represent your country

Other example answers

• Becoming a positive role model
• Developing a good work ethic through training
• High level performers/teams inspiring others to achieve excellence
• Creating high level performance centres (eg FA St Georges Park)

13 Many young people would like to get more involved in sport but not as a performer. Give two examples of how national governing bodies support such young people to be more involved.

1. Coaching awards (eg promoting schemes that aim coaching awards at young people)
2. Training of officials (eg schemes that promote training of young people as officials)

Other example answers

• Initiatives to develop administrative/organisational skills
• Free or concessionary entry to sports events
Mark Scheme Guidance

12 (a)  1 mark for each correct answer.
12 (b)  1 mark for each correct answer.
        Mark first two answers only.
13     1 mark for each correct answer.

Examiner comments

Question 12
A reasonably well answered question in part a) but less evidence of candidates being able to offer the examples of excellence being promoted through sport for part b).

Question 13
Candidates often did not answer this question effectively, with many citing examples which referred to the performer, rather than other opportunities offered by governing bodies; such as coaching and officiating.
Question 14

14 (a) Explain why a lack of role models can be a barrier to participation in sport.

1. Means that there are no role models to inspire people to get involved in sport and the sports industry

2. Where there are very few role models then this can give the impression that particular people or groups cannot be successful in that part of sport and the sports industry (eg women in motor racing)

3. This does not just affect those people or groups themselves; it can reinforce prejudice in others (eg lack of Asian professional footballers perpetuates myth that not suited to sport)

(b) Give three ways in which the media might help to increase participation in sport for females.

1. Show more female sport (eg women’s football)

2. Use more female performers as positive role models/being successful

3. Give female sport more prominence in scheduling.

Other example answers

• Have more female presenters on sports programming
• Have more female commentators on sport
• Promote positive body image for women/fitness & health benefits
• Advertise female sport/sports events
• Promote gender equality

Mark Scheme Guidance

14 (b) Mark first three responses only.

Examiner comments

14a) The average mark for this question was one mark, gained on the whole through point 1 on the mark scheme.

14b) Reasonably well answered, although a number of candidates offered suggestions which did not relate to media influence.
Question 15

15 Give reasons why some sports performers might use performance-enhancing drugs. What ethical issues does the use of performance-enhancing drugs in sport raise?

Reason:
(Point 1) To gain an unfair advantage/sustain level of performance; to be able to train harder/longer (Point 2).

Ethical issue:
(Point 24) Where drug use is evident there is not a level playing field.

Reason:
(Point 3) The athlete can build strength to facilitate additional training; the athlete knowingly takes a performance enhancing drug (Point 4).

Ethical issue:
(Point 30) should all sports performers be allowed to take performance enhancing drugs?

Reason:
(Point 5) Desire to win/pressure to succeed; the athlete wants to be successful both as an individual and for the nation they represent (Point 6).

Ethical issue:
(Point 23) the use of performance-enhancing drugs damages the reputation of sport.

Other example answers
Reason:
• (Point 7) Pressure from coaches/other performers/parents; the athlete receives pressure from team mates to take performance enhancing drugs (Point 8).
• (Point 9) Success brings money/extrinsic reward; if an athlete is successful they will be able to earn more money through participation and sponsorship (Point 10).
• (Point 11) Success brings fame; becoming successful can lead to increased coverage by the media and the athlete will become famous (Point 12).
• (Point 13) Return from injury; will be quicker if drugs are used – it is important for teams to have the best players available and with competition for places athletes want to return from injury as soon as possible (Point 14).
• (Point 15) To aid weight control; jockeys and boxers are examples of athletes who have weight controls in sport. Use of certain drugs can help reduce weight quickly (Point 16).
• (Point 17) To improve body image/size/shape; weight lifters using steroids to develop musculature (Point 18).
• (Point 19) To control arousal; snooker players taking beta blockers to control anxiety (Point 20).
• (Point 21) Performer perceives that fellow competitors are taking drugs; fear of falling behind other competitors (Point 22).
Question 15

Other example answers

Ethical issue:

- (Point 25) Some sports are tainted by the ongoing use of drugs, eg cycling.
- (Point 26) Sports performers are often role models to young people; it is therefore important that they set a good example.
- (Point 27) The use of performance-enhancing drugs will only spread wider if the next generation of elite performers grow up seeing it all around them.
- (Point 28) Should there be a distinction between recreational drugs and performance-enhancing drugs?
- (Point 29) Should someone be banned because they have taken recreational drugs which have not enhanced their performance?
- (Point 31) So that everyone participates on a level playing field?
- (Point 32) Is the battle to regulate against the use of performance enhancing drugs being lost?
- (Point 33) Are current regulations fair?
- (Point 34) Different rules in different sports (eg football not fully signed up to WADA code).
- (Point 35) Is the ‘whereabouts rule’ an infringement of people’s civil liberties?
Mark Scheme Guidance

Levels of response:

0 = nil response or response not worthy of credit

MB1 (1–3 marks)
The response shows a limited understanding of the reasons why some sports performers might use performance-enhancing drugs and the ethical issues that the use of performance-enhancing drugs raises. Candidates provide simple descriptions of a few points from the indicative content. No attempt is made at evaluation and there may be some irrelevant material in the answer.

There is little or no use of technical vocabulary and sentences have limited coherence and structure.

Errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling may be noticeable and intrusive.

MB2 (4–6 marks)
The response shows an understanding of the reasons why some sports performers might use performance-enhancing drugs and the ethical issues that the use of performance-enhancing drugs raises. Candidates make some valid points from the indicative content with good knowledge and understanding. Some attempt at evaluation is made, which may include the use of one or more of the developed points in order to gauge the value of the benefit(s).

There is some use of technical vocabulary and sentences for the most part are relevant and are coherent.

There are occasional errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling.

MB3 (7–8 marks)
The response shows a detailed understanding of the reasons why some sports performers might use performance-enhancing drugs and the ethical issues that the use of performance-enhancing drugs raises.

Candidates make many points from the indicative content, several of which may be developed, leading to an evaluation being clearly made.

The answer is well structured and uses appropriate terminology and technical vocabulary.

There are few if any errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Differentiating between levels look for:

MB1:
• Where valid indicative points are made they may mainly be from points 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11.
• Simple description rather than explanation.

MB2:
• May be one or more developed points.
• Some explanation.

MB3:
• Points are developed/expanded in more than one area of the answer.
• Clear explanations.
• Very few QWC errors.

Emboldened points are developed points which show further understanding. It would be expected that where these are used in the response, it would be a MB2 or MB3 response in most cases.

Not using the developed points must not prohibit candidates from achieving the top band or full marks, but is a potential indicator of the level at which they are responding.
Examiner comments

Whilst some candidates were able to offer comments relating to why sports performers might take performance enhancing drugs, there was only rare evidence of the ethical issues involved for such performers.

Centres should be encouraged to carefully consider the assessment criteria contained within the three levels (i.e. MB 1,2,3) and offer candidates strategies to address the differing demands of a question marked by a levels response mark scheme, whereby a correct point from the mark scheme does not necessarily mean a mark is gained.
Contact us

Staff at the OCR Customer Contact Centre are available to take your call between 8am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.
We’re always delighted to answer questions and give advice.

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