

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

Insert

The two sources that follow are:

Source A: 21st Century non-fiction

The Crossing

An extract from James Cracknell and Ben Fogle's autobiographical account of crossing the Atlantic, published in 2006

Source B: 19th Century literary non-fiction

Idle Days in Patagonia

An extract from W H Hudson's travel writing, published in 1893

Please turn the page over to see the sources

Source A

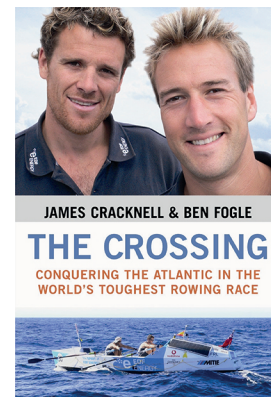
In 2005, Ben Fogle and James Cracknell set off together in a seven week race across the Atlantic Ocean in a rowing boat called 'Spirit'. In their book *The Crossing*, Ben describes what happened one night as he rowed and James slept.

BEN:

1 It was still dark. We had at least three hours of darkness to go before daybreak and, as
always, I had the sunrise shift. The ocean had continued to build, with an ever-increasing
wind that was gusting at 40 knots. The swell had grown and conditions were becoming
increasingly frenzied. I began to feel vulnerable again. If we can just make it to daybreak, I
5 thought, it will be easier to read the waves and prepare for the breakers.

Our boat was brand spanking new and bought straight from the race organisers. It had coped with the seas we
had experienced thus far incredibly well. I rowed on, worried by the deteriorating weather, and I thought of
10 my wife, back at home. I longed to be with her and away from this intimidating ocean. As I rowed, a barely
12 perceptible blue hue appeared on the skyline.

The swell was gathering, and the breaking waves were becoming more frequent. 'Come on, sun,' I thought,
15 willing the day to break. Something wasn't right.



16 I watched as a vast wave gathered behind the boat, soaring above the cabin, a wall of white
water towering over our tiny boat. Once again I dug the oars in to propel us forward, but the
wave was too big. For a moment it felt like we were moving backwards as we were sucked
into the belly of the wave, the horizon disappearing as the churning surf enveloped the stern
20 of the boat. I felt it lift, as a torrent of water crashed over the boat and I felt myself falling
backwards. I was aware of the boat collapsing on top of me. I struggled to pull my feet from
the stirrups to no avail. The world went black. I felt a weight on top of me and then a rush of
cold water as my body was brutally submerged into the bottomless Atlantic Ocean. My feet
were sucked from my shoes as I clung on to the oars for dear life, but then they too were
25 dragged from my clasp. My mind went blank as I tumbled through the surf, spun around
26 roughly like clothes in a washing machine.

I was somewhere underwater, but which way was up? Everything was midnight black. I
panicked as I grabbed the water, desperate for something to clutch on to. There was
nothing. No boat, just inky cold water.

30 I had been underwater for a seeming eternity and had started to panic. It felt as though my
lungs were collapsing and I struggled to find which way to swim. I felt my hand break the
surface as my body burst from the depths of the ocean. 'Paaaaaaah,' I gasped as my body
screamed for air.

35 'James!' I cried. There was no sign of him, nor the boat. I was in the middle of the ocean
without a life jacket, being tossed around in the surf like a rag doll. I spun around in the
water, gripped by panic.

40 There was the boat, a black upturned hull. 'James!' I screamed again. Nothing. Nothing in life had prepared me for this. No amount of planning could have readied me. What the hell now? Who would ever find me out here, hundreds of miles from the nearest boat, let alone land? I had to get back on to that boat.

My mind was numb with shock, but somehow I made it back to the upturned hull, and clung on. There was still no sign of James. Why wasn't the *Spirit* righting herself? I fretted as I hauled myself up on to her keel.

45 I could feel the boat listing. Slowly but surely the boat began to turn on top of me. I clutched on to the grab line as I collapsed back into the water, the boat springing upright. I clung on, silent and in shock.

'Ben!' I heard James's cry. He was alive. Thank god.

'I'm here, I'm here!' I squeaked, still clutching the grab line.

50 All around us the ocean was strewn with debris, loose equipment from the deck. After five weeks at sea we had become complacent and had long stopped lashing things down; we could only watch as all our worldly possessions drifted away into the rolling ocean.

Turn over for Source B

Source B

In 1893, William Hudson travelled by sea to Patagonia, a remote area in South America, to study birds. In his book *Idle Days in Patagonia*, he describes the journey to get there.

1 The wind had blown a gale all night, and I had been hourly expecting that the tumbling storm-shaken old steamship, in which I had taken passage to Patagonia, would turn over once and for all and settle down beneath the tremendous tumult of waters. For the groaning sound of its straining timbers, and the engine throbbing like an over-worked human heart, had made the
5 ship seem like a living thing to me; and it was tired of the struggle, and under the tumult was peace. But at about three o' clock in the morning the wind began to drop and, taking off coat and boots, I threw myself in to my bunk for a little sleep.

Ours was a very curious boat, ancient and much damaged; long and narrow in shape, with the passengers' cabins ranged like a row of small wooden cottages on the deck; it was as ugly to look at as it was unsafe to voyage in. To make matters worse our Captain, a man over eighty
10 years of age, was lying in his cabin sick; our one Mate was asleep, leaving only the men to navigate the steamship on that perilous coast, and in the darkest hour of a tempestuous night.



I was just dropping into a doze when a succession of bumps, accompanied by strange grating and grinding noises, and shuddering motions of the ship, caused me to start up again and rush
20 to the cabin door. The night was still black and starless, with wind and rain, but for acres round us the sea was whiter than milk. I did not step out, as close to me, where our only lifeboat was fastened, three of the sailors were standing together talking in low tones. 'We are lost,' I heard one say; and another answer, 'Ay, lost forever!' Just then the Mate, roused from sleep, came running to them. 'What have you done?' he exclaimed sharply; then dropping his voice, he
25 added, 'Lower the lifeboat – quick!'

I crept out and stood unseen by them in the dark. Not a thought of the wicked act they were about to engage in entered my mind at the time – for it was their intention to save themselves and leave us to our fate in that awful white surf. My only thought was that at the last moment, I
30 would spring with them into the boat and save myself. But one other person, more experienced than myself, and whose courage took a better form, was also near and listening. He was the First Engineer. Seeing the men making for the lifeboat, he slipped out of the engine room, revolver in hand, and secretly followed them; and when the Mate gave the order to board, he stepped forward with the weapon raised and said in a quiet but determined voice that he would shoot the first man who should attempt to obey it. The men slunk away and disappeared in the
35 gloom.

In a few moments more the passengers began streaming out on to the deck in a great state of alarm. Last of all, the old Captain, white and hollow-eyed, appeared like a ghost among us. We had not been standing there long when, by some freak chance, the steamship got off the rocks and plunged on through the seething, milky surf; then very suddenly passed out of it into black
40 and comparatively calm water. For ten minutes she sped rapidly and smoothly on, then it was said that we were stuck fast in the sand of the shore, although no shore was visible in the darkness.

There was no longer any wind, but through the fast-breaking clouds ahead of us appeared the first welcome signs of dawn. It was true enough that we were stuck fast in the sand; but
45 although this was a safer bed for the steamship than the jagged rocks; our position was still a perilous one and I at once determined to land.

END OF SOURCES

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Candidate signature _____

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

Friday 7 June 2019

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- **Source A** and **Source B** – which are provided as a separate insert.

Instructions

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.
- Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- You must refer to the insert booklet provided.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- There are 40 marks for **Section A** and 40 marks for **Section B**.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **reading** in **Section A**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of your **writing** in **Section B**.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 15 minutes reading through the sources and all five questions you have to answer.
- You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.
- You should make sure you leave sufficient time to check your answers.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
TOTAL	



Section A: Reading

Answer **all** questions in this section.
You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

0 1

Read again the first part of **Source A** from **lines 1 to 12**.

Choose **four** statements below which are **true**.

- Shade the **circles** in the boxes of the ones that you think are **true**.
- Choose a maximum of **four** statements.
- If you make an error cross out the **whole box**.
- If you change your mind and require a statement that has been crossed out then draw a circle around the box.

[4 marks]

- A** It would be dark for another three hours.
- B** Ben usually rowed the sunrise shift.
- C** The waves were starting to calm down.
- D** It was the first time during the race that Ben felt he was at risk.
- E** If it were light, Ben thought he would be able to judge the danger.
- F** Ben felt homesick.
- G** Ben was enjoying this early morning shift.
- H** There was no sign of daybreak.

4



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Turn over for the next question



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0 3

You now need to refer only to **Source A** from **lines 16 to 26**.

How does the writer use language to describe the power of the sea?

[12 marks]



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12

Turn over ▶



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0 4

For this question, you need to refer to the **whole of Source A**, together with the **whole of Source B**.

Compare how the writers convey their different perspectives and feelings about their experiences at sea.

In your answer, you could:

- compare their different perspectives and feelings
- compare the methods the writers use to convey their different perspectives and feelings
- support your response with references to both texts.

[16 marks]

Turn over ►



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box

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Section B: Writing

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

Write in full sentences.

You are reminded of the need to plan your answer.

You should leave enough time to check your work at the end.

0 5

'It is people who have extraordinary skill, courage and determination who deserve to be famous, not those who have good looks or lots of money or behave badly.'

Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper in which you argue your point of view in response to this statement.

(24 marks for content and organisation

16 marks for technical accuracy)

[40 marks]

You are advised to plan your answer to Question 5 before you start to write.



END OF QUESTIONS

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ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED**



Question number	Additional page, if required. Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.
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