

# VCE ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

## 2018 Practice Paper 1 ANSWER GUIDE

### Section A

#### Text 1

#### Question 1. 10 marks

**a. Which type of animal does Clarice think is cleaner? Give an example and explain how her delivery helps her convey her point of view.** **2 marks**

“Cats are ... much MUCH cleaner” Her emphasis on the second use of “much” emphasises the extent to which cats are cleaner than dogs.

**b. Explain how Frank’s dogs sometimes cause him stress.** **1 mark**  
They bark at visitors who have often come to the house before.

**c. Give one piece of evidence to show that Clarice is a responsible pet owner.** **1 mark**  
She puts a bell on her cats’ collars to stop them killing birds.  
She brings her cats in at night.  
She takes her injured animals to be treated by the vet.

**d. List two advantages of cats over dogs that Clarice mentions.** **2 marks**  
Cats are quieter, you can leave them when you go away, they exercise themselves, they don’t frighten people.

**e. Both Frank and Clarice accept each other’s criticisms of the behaviour of dogs and cats. However, one of them offers a more positive way of looking at this behaviour. Complete the table below.** **4 marks**

Animal behaviour	Agreed Criticism	More positive view
Dogs	They are noisy because they bark	Frank: They are watchdogs
Cats	They kill birds	Clarice: They kill rats and mice

#### Text 2

#### Question 2. 10 marks

**a. Tick the box next to the best answer.** **1 mark**  
**Dr Andrea Finch believes that the ideal situation for creating a marine park is when:**

- scientists are not allowed to fish there
- cruise ships can go there
- it is a global agreement amongst dozens of countries
- it covers a large area

- b. According to Dr Andrea Finch, what are two of the dangers of humans visiting the Ross Sea Marine Park? 2 marks**

Interfering with the animals  
Leaving litter behind  
Cruise ships damaging the environment

- c. How does Jasmine Good show her feelings about visiting Antarctica? Provide one example of her choice of language and delivery. 1 mark**

“amazing” – enthusiastic voice to show her admiration;  
“really cold and really windy” – emphatic to show how difficult the weather was

- d. How does Dr Andrea Finch communicate her respect and admiration for the animals in Ross Sea Marine Park? Support your answer with two examples of her choice of language and delivery. 2 marks**

Aren't they [plankton] amazing! (enthusiastic voice)  
The blue whale is the largest animal ever known on the whole planet. (emphasising its uniqueness)  
Even a newborn blue whale is 7 metres in length. (emphasising its exceptional size)

- e. Identify two phrases Jasmine Good uses to explain how penguins are “cute”. 2 marks**

march around with their fat bellies and tiny legs  
dive in and out of the water  
feed their chicks  
make a lot of noise

- f. What will Dr Andrea Finch do next to help preserve marine animals and the environment? 1 mark**

Dr Finch will be campaigning to extend protection of the Ross Sea Marine Park to 35 years.

OR

She will work to establish more marine parks around the world.

- g. Provide one word to describe the interaction between Jasmine Good and Dr Andrea Finch. 1 mark**

Cooperative, respectful, enthusiastic, polite, supportive

## Section C

### Question 1 10 marks

- a. Identify two features that the article says make digital virtual assistants desirable. 2 marks**

Select from the following:

These new devices look great, speak with a soothing voice and are endlessly patient. They can do almost anything: purchase movies, buy apps, order groceries, find and buy new shoes, or select cushions that match your home's colour scheme... your device can get you everything you need - and have it delivered. You no longer have to read the news for yourself, no more remembering to bring home milk, no flicking a light switch or locking a door.

**b. The article contends that digital virtual assistants can be dangerous. Identify two arguments it uses to support this point of view. 2 marks**

They encourage people to go into debt that they cannot afford.  
They rob people of their autonomy and make people's decisions for them.  
They are virtual spies, collecting private information about individuals.

**c. Explain how the lists I and ii help to support the article's point of view. 4 marks**

- i. "purchase movies, buy apps, order groceries, find and buy new shoes, or select cushions that match your home's colour scheme. Even make sure the house is securely locked-up when you are not there"
- ii. "...home-based, ever-alert eavesdroppers"

The first list outlines some of the ways a digital virtual assistant can help the householder. The list is long and makes it seem like the digital virtual assistant will be extremely useful. This helps to explain why so many people use the device. However, the article wants readers to recognise that virtual home assistants are a threat to their privacy and security. The second list adds to the sense of threat posed the digital virtual assistant as a spy. The list makes the device seem unobtrusive ("home-based") but extremely efficient ("ever-alert") for this purpose.

**d. Explain the purpose of the question at the end of the article. 2 marks**

"Would you?" turns the confident tone of the statement, "After all, you would not send your banking details to an unknown 'well-wisher' from a country half way across the world" into a question which directly challenges the reader to use their "common sense".

## **Question 2 10 marks**

**Analyse the ways in which the writer uses argument and written and visual language to try to persuade others to share their point of view.**

The title of the magazine, *Consume Away*, is playfully ambiguous. It implies that it supports consumerism, but also suggests consumerism should be avoided. The magazine's purpose is to inform readers about the merits and risks of online consumerism. The article takes a considered tone and speaks with authority about devices known as 'digital virtual assistants'.

The article contends that even though digital virtual assistants have many attractive features, owners should be cautious and use their common sense about the ways they use these devices. It builds this argument systematically.

The first paragraph outlines some of the ways a digital virtual assistant can help the householder. It presents these virtues in lists, acknowledging for instance that the devices "look great, speak with a soothing voice and are endlessly patient", like a compliant servant. This helps to explain why the device is "becoming increasingly popular". Further lists outline the ways that the device can help: "purchase movies... home's colour scheme"; "you no longer have to ...locking a door." The exclamations at the end of the first paragraph, "How easy! How wonderful!" seem to endorse the devices, but the second paragraph introduces an abrupt shift in tone.

Starting with the word “Unfortunately”, the article signals that all is not “wonderful”. The writer lists concerns about the devices that can: “tak[e] over your privacy, your bank account, your data and your life.” The reader is warned that “you begin to lose your autonomy. You start to rely on them. They subtly encourage you ...They predict your needs...” The term “gadgets” has connotations of usefulness and harmlessness. However, these gadgets “lead people into debt and steal their personal information”. They are capable of causing great harm.

Quoting the Consumer Advocacy Centre adds to the authoritative tone of the article. Readers assume that such an organisation would have solid evidence to support its conclusions. It suggests that middle-class people with jobs are constantly in debt because they have given in to the “urge to purchase”. The assonance in this expression means that “urge” and “purchase” echo each other. The term “consumers-on-steroids” suggests that these people spend wildly and amass debt as a result of “impulse” buying initiated by their device.

The next paragraph asserts that digital virtual assistants exploit “four fatal factors”. The alliteration in this phrase strengthens the sense of threat or disaster suggested by the word “fatal”. The infographic shows how these factors apply to people buying digital virtual assistants. It illustrates how they link together snugly, like a jigsaw puzzle.

The article uses the word “spooky” to label some of the ways these gadgets take control. This term causes the reader to feel alarmed, if not frightened, about being manipulated by the devices. The reader is told that the “devices are also virtual spies” and their surveillance is relentless because they are “always listening, always recording...constantly compil[ing] and coordinat[ing]” the information they gather.

The last two paragraphs of the article sound rational and restrained. The writer quotes statistics to show that “In the first quarter of 2017, 3.4 million people globally set up these devices in their homes”. This suggests that the people who buy these “gadgets” do not think carefully about making an “investment” in the product. They only do it to be fashionable or “on trend”.

In summing up, the article acknowledges real positives e.g., “Digital virtual assistants can save you valuable time and money... keep your home secure”. It does this to seem balanced and fair so that readers will be inclined to take its warnings seriously. Finally, it reminds readers of financial scams that have tricked people into losing a lot of money after they sent “banking details to an unknown well-wisher” from a far away country. This shows that sometimes people behave foolishly and impulsively. It appeals to the good sense of readers by inviting them to answer the question “would you?” with a resounding “NO!”

## Section A transcripts

### Text 1 Cats and dogs

#### Background information

Frank and Clarice have a podcast called “No Small Thing” where they talk about everyday topics.

#### Frank:

Today on “No Small Thing” we thought we’d talk pets, especially dogs and cats. So Clarice, why don’t you start us off and tell us what you think about the pros and cons of dogs and cats as pets?

#### Clarice:

Well, I’m probably the wrong person to ask that question, because I don’t like dogs much. I’m a bit scared of them to tell you the truth. Cats are so much easier to look after and much much cleaner. That is apart from shedding their fur which gets all over everything. But if you brush their fur a lot – like every couple of days- you can keep that problem under control, more or less. And it’s easy enough to get rid of the hairs with rolled up sticky tape. Or you can buy one of those sticky roller things that you roll over the furniture to pick up fluff and hair. Cats are quieter, they’re just as affectionate as dogs. And you can leave cats out of the house when you go away, as long as you arrange for someone to feed them and give them water. They take care of exercise themselves and they don’t frighten people, like dogs do.

#### Frank:

Well, I agree with the positive stuff you’ve said, Clarice, said about cats but I like dogs and cats equally I think. I have two cats and two dogs at my place. They all get on really well together because they’ve lived together since they were youngsters. The dogs are noisier, it’s true, but you can also argue that they are good watch dogs because of their barking. And that is a definite plus. Visitors tend to think dogs are a lot noisier and more annoying than the owners do. This is because the dogs bark to greet visitors and to warn off strangers. But they’re not noisy like that all the time. And I suppose partly it is because people who have dogs that bark get used to the sound and don’t hear the noise so much. Maybe anyway. It can be a bit stressful though, especially when regular visitors like family and good friends are faced with dogs that bark at them all the time. This can happen even though those people have been to the house many times. And Clarice, what about the points people make how cats damage the environment? They do kill a lot of birds.

#### Clarice:

Yes, I have to admit that that’s a real drawback to keeping cats- they are natural hunters, killing is natural behaviour, it is an instinct. It’s awful when they get a bird. I try to stop that happening by putting a bell on their collars. They can’t move silently when they have a bell around their neck, and then the birds in the garden are somewhat protected. But you can also argue that cats kill rats and mice as well, and that is only a good thing. And, on top of that, I keep my cats in the house at night. I call them in about 9.00pm for their food. If I’m honest, I’d say that that is more because I am scared they will be hit by cars at night and I want to protect them.

**Frank:**

I think the real problem is with feral cats – domestic cats that have gone wild- and the damage that they do to small marsupials and the other native animals in the bush. I've seen documentaries about places where feral cats are ruining the wild life. Some of them grow into real monsters and kill their way through whole populations of native animals. If you're a responsible pet owner, you will have your animals castrated so they can't breed, and if people do this, the numbers of cats would be kept under control.

**Clarice:**

Yes, and also castrated tom cats don't fight as much with other cats in the neighbourhood. That's a horrible sound to hear, when there's a cat fight going on in the yard, and you fear your cat is going to come in hurt because some horrible tom cat that hasn't been castrated is attacking him. One of my cats had a terrible infection from a tom cat's bite- it cost me a fortune at the vets. The infection had to be treated over and over again and I had to keep on taking the cat back to the vet for more treatment. I was furious with my neighbours for keeping this tom cat and I let them know that I thought it was irresponsible behaviour not to get him castrated.

**Frank:** What happened? Did they get him castrated?

**Clarice:** Well in the end they did and after that he was much better behaved.

**Frank:** That's a very happy note to end on Clarice. Thanks everybody for listening and we'll see you next week on our regular No Small Thing.

## **Text 2 Ross Sea Marine Park**

### **Background information**

Jasmine Good is the host of a radio show called “News Up Close” which has a segment called “The Environment Spotlight”. This week, Jasmine has invited Dr. Andrea Finch onto the show to talk about the Ross Sea Marine Park.

### **Glossary**

**plankton**- microscopic creatures that live in seas and oceans

**krill**- small creatures that live in the sea and are eaten by other creatures

### **Jasmine Good**

Welcome to the News Up Close Environment Spotlight segment. Today I am talking to Dr Andrea Finch who has spent years working in our oceans and trying to protect our marine environment. Hi Dr Andrea. I believe that you have some good news to share with us.

### **Dr Andrea Finch**

Hi Jasmine. Yes I do. Imagine how wonderful it would be if dozens of countries got together and decided to protect one and a half million square kilometres of the earth and turn it into a nature and wildlife park. Think about what it would mean if we had a place on earth that no person or country owned and it was clean and pure. And just think about what might happen if we decided that there would be no mining or killing of animals there.

### **Jasmine Good**

That sounds like a pretty big dream. Could it really happen?

### **Dr Andrea Finch**

Well, it’s not a dream, it’s not a fantasy. It has already happened! It is the world’s biggest marine park. It is called the Ross Sea Marine Park and it is near Antarctica. It is the largest protected area on the planet and it is the result of an agreement amongst dozens of countries in the world. Luckily only very few humans are allowed to go there right now. We don’t have to worry about the damage that cruise ships can cause the environment, or stop people interfering with the animals. We don’t have to clean up the litter that people leave behind. The main activity allowed is scientific research. The one thing that people can do in the Ross Sea is study this natural wonder. And it really is wonderful.

### **Jasmine Good**

Wow, that sounds like a dream come true. But can you tell us more about what a marine park is?

### **Dr Andrea Finch**

A marine park is like a national park on land, except it’s in the ocean. The purpose is to protect the environment, the plants and the marine animals. No fishing is allowed, except for scientific purposes, and that will only be allowed in 30% of the new Ross Sea Marine Park.

### **Jasmine Good**

Actually, I have been to Antarctica and it was amazing! It was cold and windy, really cold and really windy. We got to see the smallest animals, like plankton. We were told they are the most important animals because all other animals depend on them for food.

**Dr Andrea Finch**

Aren't they amazing! Perhaps the next most important animal is the krill. Krill and plankton are eaten by other animals, which are eaten by the next animal and so on. All the seals, whales, and birds need plankton and krill. One blue whale alone eats about 40 million krill every day. The Ross Sea is a breeding ground for the blue whale, the largest animal that has ever existed on the whole planet. I've been lucky to see some; it is hard to imagine an animal 30 metres long. The heart weighs 180 kilograms. Even a newborn blue whale is 7 metres in length.

**Jasmine Good**

That is really awesome. And I believe that the Ross Sea Marine Park is just fantastic for smaller animals. There is a huge population of emperor penguins, for example. I love the way penguins march around with their fat bellies and tiny legs, diving in and out of the water, feeding their chicks and making a lot of noise. Even when you have seen hundreds of penguins, they still look really cute.

**Dr Andrea Finch**

Oh true. But we do have some challenges ahead. This environmental project will not work if we only do it for a couple of years. So we have to ensure that Ross Sea Marine Park will be protected for 35 years, and that we do not stop there. We have to develop more marine parks, and we have to do it very soon.

**Jasmine Good**

So if we can join together across dozens of countries and work together to save this part of the planet, we should feel hopeful about what we can achieve next.

Thanks very much for your time today, Dr Andrea. It has been fascinating.