



AQA Functional Skills English Level 2 Writing March 2023

Sample Answers

You have read this article on the website of Mercury, a news outlet.

Local School Bans Makeup

The Principal of Bramby High School, Sonda Phillips, has defended sending home 14-year-old Jenny Miller for wearing makeup. The Principal said, 'We can't have one rule for some students and different rules for others. Our makeup ban applies to all.'

Jenny's mother, Janice Miller, said, 'It's a disgrace because Jenny only wears a bit of eye makeup. I'm going to keep her out of school until they change their mind.'

Is the school right about this?
Does Jenny's mum have a point?
Should Jenny be kept off school?
What are your views?

To join the debate, send an email to:
News@brambymercury.co.uk

You wish to contribute to the debate. Write an email explaining your views about this subject for submission to Mercury. Your email should be approximately **150 to 200** words in total.

Remember to:

- plan your answer
- use correct spelling, punctuation and grammar
- write clearly and effectively.

[6 marks]
[+ 3 marks for SPaG]

Green highlighting - reference to mark scheme

Sample answer: **Pass**

To: News@brambymercury.co.uk

From: makeupgirlie@mymail.com

Subject: Submission regarding the ban of makeup at a local school

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my shock and disappointment regarding Jenny Miller being sent home from school for the 'crime' of wearing makeup. Uniform rules are one thing, but excluding a child from vital hours of education just because they are wearing a bit of mascara is another issue. I want to know what Principal Phillips thinks she is achieving by targeting young people who just want to express themselves rather than being made to follow nonsense rules.

One would think that in the modern world, grown adults shouldn't act like picky children, making up rules based on their misguided preferences and desire for conformity. I truly feel for Jenny and her mum, who have clearly felt forced to react to the frankly abhorrent punishment for a bit of creativity and self-expression. Although education is incredibly important, I believe that standing up for the right to express herself is far more crucial for Jenny. Her mum has started an important conversation by keeping Jenny out of school.

I hope that my thoughts will be shared in future articles, and look forward to hearing what others think.

Kind regards,
Maisie Scara

Word count: 192

Examiner comments:

- The response provides a clear and well-structured answer to the question, and the full context of the question has been considered (including the names of the principal and student involved, and understanding of the situation provided in the question).
- The answer includes a range of complex sentences that have been constructed accurately.
- A range of irregular and specialist vocabulary has been used and spelt correctly (e.g. disappointment, excluding, achieving, abhorrent).
- An appropriate format has been used for an email, including email addresses, a polite greeting and sign-off, a subject line, and well-structured paragraphs

Green highlighting - reference to mark scheme

Sample answer: Pass

You have seen the following invitation in LifesABuzz, a lifestyle magazine.

Here at LifesABuzz we are looking for your stories about finding new places. Towns, cities, the great outdoors... anywhere at all.

Tell us about a time you went somewhere new. A time when you were thrilled at the experience.

Submit online at: lifesabuzz.co.uk
Prizes for the best stories.

You want to submit a response to the LifesABuzz website.

Write an account about visiting a place for the first time.

Remember to:

- plan your answer
- use correct spelling, punctuation and grammar
- write accurately in sentences and paragraphs.

[12 marks]
[+ 9 marks for SPaG]

My experience in Magical Mablethorpe

By Sandy Beech

05/07/2024

Strapped for cash but with plenty of time to kill over a bank holiday weekend in May, I recently visited Mablethorpe with some of my closest friends.

Given that the town lacked a train station, I did not have particularly high hopes for the drizzly weekend, but I found myself pleasantly surprised by the experience. Like many British seaside towns, Mablethorpe seemed to be frozen in time. I could have visited twenty

years ago, and I have no doubt that the town would have been identical in almost every respect.

The coastline was absolutely stunning and ran on for mile after mile. Walking down the beach in the rain, I embraced the natural wonders that surrounded me and made a bold decision to run into the waves. There's nothing quite like the cold embrace of the ocean to send a shiver down your spine!

The town also offered a delightful range of surprises. There were rows upon rows of shops selling trinkets, seashells, toys, sweets, fish and chips, and just about everything else that you might expect at the coast. The indoor markets were particularly impressive. With prices that truly transported me back in time, I hastily crammed every shiny, useless bauble I could find into my basket, and was thoroughly satisfied with my haul of tacky items.

Yet, best of all, the town had a seal sanctuary filled with all kinds of fascinating creatures of all shapes and sizes - the otters, lynx, and (of course) the seals were my favourites, and I loved taking photos of them with my friend.

Overall, it was a fantastic little town, and I recommend it to anyone looking for their next seaside adventure.

Word count: 291

Examiner comments:

- The tone and style are appropriate for the task, and the text is likely to interest and engage the reader.
- The entire text is written clearly and organised in a logical order using paragraphs.
- An appropriate level of detail is included, highlighting several of the points specified in the question and elaborating on opinions and ideas.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate throughout.