

SECTION A: Reading**Answer ALL questions in this section.****You should spend about 1 hour 30 minutes on this section.****The following questions are based on Text One and Text Two in the Extracts Booklet.****Text One: A Splendid Stay in Bhutan****1** From lines 1–3, select **two** words or phrases that describe Bhutan.1 Switzerland-sized2 Standing at 8,000ft**(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)**

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1 'Switzerland-sized Himalayan nation'

2 'a kingdom'

(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)

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1 "This Switzerland-sized Himalayan nation"

2 "It is a kingdom that really is on top of the world"

(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)

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2 Look again at lines 25–42.

In your own words, describe what the writer does in Bhutan.

The writer hikes through rice paddies. The writer hikes through pine forests. The writer watches yaks graze. The writer buys prayer beads from locals. The writer tries archery. The writer visits the Tiger's Nest monastery.

(Total for Question 2 = 4 marks)



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3

Turn over ►

2 Look again at lines 25–42.

In your own words, describe what the writer does in Bhutan.

Firstly, the ~~author~~ writer explains that she visited the ancient sites in Bhutan. She goes to the older buildings, some larger and some smaller.

Secondly, the writer explores the nature in Bhutan by walking along trails. These include visiting woodlands, or venturing up steeper climbs into the more mountainous locations.

Thirdly, the writer appreciates the Bhutanese traditions in the higher mountains when meeting local farmers or inhabitants.

Finally, the writer tries the Bhutanese sports with some of the boys that know how to play.

(Total for Question 2 = 4 marks)



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3

Turn over ►

2 Look again at lines 25–42.

In your own words, describe what the writer does in Bhutan.

The writer describes how she travelled ~~through~~ Bhutan, visiting towns which have remained largely the same, ~~as~~ compared to the ^{17th} ~~18th~~ century. The writer describes Bhutan's landscape as she travels through it, hiking through rice fields and pine trees to places of worship. The writer states there is ~~some~~ always something new to do in Bhutan, from ~~with~~ observing yaks to bartering with the locals, even attempting archery which is Bhutan's national sport. The writer even travels to the Tiger's Nest monastery a world heritage site, which she describes as being more like a fictitious place rather than a ~~place of worship~~ holy site.

(Total for Question 2 = 4 marks)



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3

Turn over ►

3 From lines 43–52, explain what we learn about the hotels.

You may support your points with **brief** quotations.

Their hotels are of high quality as she states that their "hotel standards are as high as any in"; this shows that Bhutan even though Bhutan seems simplistic, they have good luxurious hotels. In addition, she compares their hotels to "hotels in Tokyo or Venice". This ^{shows} suggests that the hotels are luxurious and are a good a comparative to a good tourist location. She mentions that "she was like treated like royalty"; this simile ~~infer~~ ^{highlights} highlights the luxurious the services that were being offered to her while she was in Bhutan, as "royalty" has connotations of prestige and a high ^{level} ~~level~~ in hierarchy.

(Total for Question 3 = 5 marks)



3 From lines 43–52, explain what we learn about the hotels.

You may support your points with **brief** quotations.

Finally, ~~to see~~ ~~from~~, I learned that the hotels in Bhutan are traditional as the designs created in them are 'inspired by local dzongs', implying that they are proud to show their culture and heritage. Secondly, we also learn that the hotels are modernised as the writer states that the 'hotel's standards are as high as any...', suggesting that they are advancing and up to date with the outside world. Thirdly, we also learn that the hotels are highly luxurious and offer high quality activities such as 'spa treatments...in outdoor hot-tubs warmed with mineral-rich, fire-heated stones and herbs', hence implying the many luxuries one can have in Bhutan. Additionally, the hotel also provides a variety of cuisines as 'meals range from smoked salmon and tender Australian rib-eye steak to Bhutaneese feasts', suggesting that there were many different meals one could choose from. Lastly, we also learn that the workers from the hotel are kind as they delivered food 'with sweet-smiles', implying the friendly nature and community in the hotel.

(Total for Question 3 = 5 marks)



Remind yourself of the extract From *Beyond the Sky and the Earth: A Journey Into Bhutan* (Text Two in the Extracts Booklet).

- 4 In what ways does the writer use language and structure to convey her impressions of Bhutan?

You should support your answer with close reference to the extract, including brief quotations.

(12)

The writer's first impression of Bhutan was one of fantasy. The writer explains how it is easier to picture "a giant child ^{the} gathering earth" than "landmass meeting landmass" this ^{lexis gives} ~~gives~~ the reader a fantastical impression of Bhutan being created by a god-like being "pinching mud into ridges and sharp peaks" to create the landscape of Bhutan.

The writer presents her astonishment at seeing signs of the "outside world" by conveying to the reader how the writer believed Bhutan was ~~the~~ more isolated than it is. The writer uses listing to present this describing the sights of the outside world "teenagers with acid wash jeans", "Willie Nelsons greatest hits" and a "Rambo poster" the writer describes these as "startling" against the "Bhutanese-ness" of everything else.



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5

Turn over ►

The writer also uses structure to convey her feelings about the Bhutanese people. The writer uses listing again to describe the people of Bhutan, "Medium height and sturdily built", "Beautiful aristocratic faces" and "high cheekbones and gentle smiles" this provides an image of the Bhutanese people for the reader, a people which the writer believes to be "very handsome".

The writer also uses language to present her feelings of the Bhutanese people. Her description of their "aristocratic faces" which contradicts their Buddhist traditions. "Aristocrat" would imply that the people possess lots of materialistic wealth, however the writer previously presented how the Bhutanese people are not rich as their capital used to be "nothing but rice paddies" however the Bhutanese people are still so impressive to the writer that she "can find no single word" to hold her impressions.



Remind yourself of the extract From *Beyond the Sky and the Earth: A Journey into Bhutan* (Text Two in the Extracts Booklet).

- 4 In what ways does the writer use language and structure to convey her impressions of Bhutan?

You should support your answer with close reference to the extract, including **brief** quotations.

(12)

Firstly, ^{Zeppa} ~~the writer~~ uses personification to initially talk about Bhutan's appearance this is evident by the quotation "Mountains all around, climbing up to peaks, rolling into valleys, again and again." Zeppa uses personification in order to demonstrate majesty of Bhutan, she uses strong verbs "climbing" and "rolling" to demonstrate the power in Bhutan's appearance showing how magical it is, almost like an ocean making the mountains seem like they are moving and flowing. She also uses listing to emphasise the vastness of Bhutan saying "again and again" to demonstrate how these mountains go on and on, also implying that they do not stop - this shows the true vastness of Bhutan showing how the writer feels excited to explore all that Bhutan has to offer. &

Secondly, the writer uses a combination of geographical lexis as well as a metaphor to further emphasise how astonished and mesmerised she is about how beautiful Bhutan is. This is evident by the quotation "I know the technical explanation... colliding into Asia... but I cannot imagine it." Zeppa is in such disbelief of the almost magical appearance of Bhutan that she tries to justify it and explain it by using geography to explain how Bhutan came to be, however not even



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geography can help her explain it she reaches this conclusion by stating, "I cannot imagine it." Instead she in vision Bhutan's location by imaging "a giant child gathering earth in great handfuls, piling up rock ... poking holes for water to fall through." the metaphor is significant of Zeus's child like enthusiasm to uncover the hidden treasure that Bhutan has to offer. ~~At~~ the metaphor is also presented as a list to further emphasize the sheer size and beauty of Bhutan. Furthermore this metaphor links to the adjectives "climbing" and "rolling" as both adjectives and the metaphor are indicative of Zeus's childlike enthusiasm. The metaphor helps convey her impression of Bhutan as it demonstrates to the reader that Bhutan is a place of magic and wonder.

Thirdly she sees that the population of Bhutan is small using statistics to back it up this is evident by the quotation "official population is 20,000 it seems even smaller". the simple declarative sentence is blunt yet it helps the reader understand Zeus's impression that Bhutan is isolated and extremely exclusive and magical as only a small amount of people get to experience its majesty. To further emphasize Bhutan's isolation Zeus explains that it "took five flights and four days to get here" this short ~~and direct~~ ~~and direct~~ declarative sentence helps to further emphasize Bhutan's



exclusivity and isolation almost implying it is a hidden gem of the world only available to few.

Moreover, Zappa's impressions of the people of Bhutan are extremely positive as she agrees to the statement by George Bogle saying "the best built race of men I ever saw", this further helps to demonstrate Bhutan's greatness as it shows they have not only the best landscapes but the best people. She claims they have "aristocratic" faces which is ironic as these people are far from aristocrats yet they have a high dignity and majesty about them. Finally she demonstrates her shock that the people can speak "impassable English", this helps the reader understand that these people aren't ancient like the land they walk on but in fact are somewhat modern and educated.

(Total for Question 4 = 12 marks)



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Turn over ►

Question 5 is based on both Text One and Text Two from the Extracts Booklet.

- 5 Compare how the writers present their ideas and perspectives about their experiences.

Support your answer with detailed examples from both texts, including **brief** quotations.

(22)

A Splendid Stay in Bhutan is an autobiography written by Lisa Granger which describes her first impression of the Bhutan.

Beyond Beyond the sky and ~~earth~~ the earth is also an autobiography which ~~tells~~ talks about Jamie Zeppa in her early days.

At the Beginning of text one Lisa described how and where Bhutan is formed.

"Sandwiched between the great Asian giants of India and China, is in the heart of the Himalayas, standing at 8000 ft"

In this sentence Lisa described how the ~~land~~ country is sandwiched between the great Asian giants India and China.

In text two Zeppa also described how the Indian subcontinent collapsed into Asia.

"The Indian sub ~~continent~~ continent ~~collided~~



into a colliding into Asia thirty or ~~forty~~ ^{forty} million years ago."

Lisa describes how the people of Bhutan treated her properly and smiled to her.

"I'm being treated like royalty"

"Delivered with sweet smiles"

This shows how the ~~Bhutanese~~ ^{Bhutanese} people are polite and make you feel welcome.

In Zepp's auto biography the same happened to her.

"The young man behind the counter walks with us to the street, pointing out the way, explaining politely"

"I search for the right word to describe the people, for the quality"

By this we understand that all the people of Bhutan were treating both writers in a good manner and being nice to them. Also both of the ~~writers~~ ^{writers} said and words



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Turn over ►

to describe how good the people are
to them.

In ~~splend~~ 'A splendid stay in Bhutan'
the writer described the blue sky and the sun"

"And the skies couldn't be bluer"

However in "Beyond the sky in earth"
the writer mostly described the mountains
and the rocks.

"Mountains all around."

This shows that both writers might be
in different part of locations of Bhutan', where
one was higher (in the mountains and one
might be down.



Question 5 is based on both Text One and Text Two from the Extracts Booklet.

- 5 Compare how the writers present their ideas and perspectives about their experiences.

Support your answer with detailed examples from both texts, including **brief** quotations.

(22)

Both the writers, writes about their experience in Bhutan in first person of Bhutan. However Lisa Grainger describes to have a very positive experience of the country than Jamie Zeppa who did not ~~enjoy~~ ~~her overstays~~ overseas stay.

The writer Lisa Grainger ~~deser~~ describes the nature with ^{triplets,} facts and positive adjectives. 'Vast Vistas of steep mountains... gives way to pine higher up. This suggests that the writer ~~was~~ ~~loves~~ loves nature and was very observant of the scenery of Bhutan. His use of ~~fact~~ statistic ~~and fact~~ as facts makes the reader give an idea of ~~with~~ how high the mountains are, and he ~~takes~~ ~~talkes~~ ~~at~~ ~~Howe~~ ~~However~~, Jamie Zeppa was not very descriptive about the nature of Bhutan. ~~He~~ ~~the~~ and talks about rivers and forests that there is greenery rather than brown, ~~the~~ boring mountains. ~~Howe~~ ~~However~~, Jamie Zeppa was very limited to her description of the nature ~~which~~ which only suggested that the nature was quiet boring.



The writer in text 1 describes the weather ~~as~~ with metaphor and adjectives. '...the skies couldn't be bluer, or the air ~~thin~~ more crisp and fragrant with the scent of blue ~~pile~~ pine and ~~wood~~ woodsmoke. This description influences the reader to visit Bhutan. The writer's positive experience also shows ~~how~~ at which month of the year it is best to visit, ~~But~~ Bhutan. However the writer in text two was not very descriptive about the weather and rather gave a dull expression.

The writer uses a statement to ~~st~~ tell his opinion. 'There is always something ~~has~~ to stop at or explore'. This ~~say~~ illustrates a point that ~~as~~ is a visitor there are a variety of things to do. He later proceeded to ~~describe~~ describe the activities he carried out ~~showing~~ however in text two the writer does not ~~it show any~~ talk about any interesting activities ~~she has~~ in the country.

The writer uses positive statement and a metaphor to describe his ~~experience~~ overall experience in the hotel 'I'm being treated like royalty in a string of five five boutique hotels.' This illustrates that the writer had a



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good experience in her hotel which encourages the reader to visit. He ~~prode~~ proceeds to ~~describt~~ ~~describt~~ describe the hotel's interior and service with positive adjectives and metaphors, giving a positive ~~ste~~ However the writer ~~was~~ in text two was not very happy about her experience in the lion hotel.

In text two the writer ~~describes~~ presents facts and her knowledge about the country. 'I know the technical explanation for the country', ~~this~~ ... but I cannot imagine it. He describes the geography of the country to the readers with facts making the reader believe of what she wrote. However, in text two it was mostly of the writer's experience and how he observed nature.

The writer in text two uses triplet to talk about the buildings in Bhutan. 'The town itself ~~looked faded~~ looks very old.... thirty - old years ago.' This shows that the writer is not impressed about the new conditions and view that she



have encountered, discouraging readers to ~~to~~ have a good view on the conditions of the country. However in text one the ~~writes~~ writer ~~to~~ brings out a positive vibe ~~to~~ about the old ~~boitie~~ buildings.

In text two the writer uses triplet ~~a~~ list to describe the positive behavior of people of Bhutan. ~~'D see~~ '...dignity, unselfconsciousness, good humor, grace.' This shows that the ~~po~~ people of Bhutan are nicer than ~~of~~ the people from where she visited, and the writer in text two had the same positive experience with the ~~local~~ local community.

The writer in text one visited as a tourist whereas the writer in text two visited as a worker to be a teacher, that is why their writings might have had different views and opinions about the country. Overall, ^{both extracts} ~~then~~ ~~they~~ talk about the ^{shows} culture ~~where~~ the feelings for nature and ~~the~~ difference between being a worker and tourist.



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Turn over ►

Question 5 is based on both Text One and Text Two from the Extracts Booklet.

- 5 Compare how the writers present their ideas and perspectives about their experiences.

Support your answer with detailed examples from both texts, including **brief** quotations.

→ beauty
→ impeccable english
→ you are now family
→ mountain
→ history of food
(22)

Zeppa and Grainger use different techniques in order to convey their experiences of the welcoming nature of the locals. In Zeppa's text, she uses ~~an~~ ~~anecdote~~ an anecdote. For example, she describes that the "young man behind the ~~the~~ counter walks with us to the street, pointing out ~~the way~~ the way, explaining politely in impeccable English." Zeppa's use of the adverb "politely" highlights how kind and welcoming the Bhutanese ~~the~~ young man is to her, even though she is a stranger to him. Furthermore, the adjective "impeccable" may ~~be~~ be slightly ~~shocking~~ shocking or ~~initially~~ initially, the Bhutanese were described to be alienated from Western culture. Also, Zeppa uses this quotation to highlight how helpful this young man was as he made the effort to "walk with us to the street" instead of just staying where he was. This suggests the friendly nature of all of the Bhutanese people. Similarly, in Grainger's text, she also highlights how welcoming the Bhutanese people were to her. However, she uses speech from her guide in Bhutan to do so. Her guide tells her "you are ~~the~~ now family and it is our duty to our king to look after you." This



quotation clearly highlights how kind and welcoming her guide was, similarly to the young man who gave Zeppa directions. Grainger's use of speech ~~to make her~~ emphasises how determined her guide is to make her feel at home in Bhutan. Also, ~~the~~ the use of the noun "family" specifically suggests this welcoming nature of the people as the guide is considering ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Grainger, whom he ~~has~~ has only known for a short while, to be "family", the people with which you love unconditionally. Both writers ~~convey~~ convey the friendly and accommodating nature of the Bhutanese in their texts.

Through their use of ^{the} listing ~~of~~ of foods, both writers convey their opinions about their experiences in Bhutan. In Zeppa's text, she describes the food to be unappetising. She begins paragraph three with "I share breakfast of instant coffee, powdered milk, plasticky white bread and ~~flavoured~~ ^{flavoured} red jam in the hotel." In this quotation, Zeppa uses ~~unpleasant~~ unpleasant adjectives such as "flavoured" ~~and~~ and "plasticky" in order to convey how ~~unimpressed~~ unimpressed she was with the breakfast she received in the hotel. These adjectives suggest that the food was very unappetising. Also, in this quotation, Zeppa



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describes typical western breakfast foods such as "coffee", "milk", "bread" and "jam". This ~~is~~ shows how Bhutan is being influenced by western culture. This may be in attempt to be more accomodating, food-wise to the ~~foreigners~~ foreigners that visit. Zeppa's use of a syndetic listing highlights the unappetizing nature of the food. ~~However, in~~ Similarly, in Grainger's text, she also lists the food she was offered at her hotel in Bhutan. However, she uses syndetic listing and ~~describes~~ describes the food in a much more pleasant manner than Zeppa does. Grainger ~~begins~~ begins her tenth paragraph with "meats range from smoked salmon and tender Australian ribeye steak to Bhutanese feasts". This ~~highlight~~ "range" highlights how accomodating the hotel was as they give their guests a range of options. Also, they provide foreign delicacies such as "Australian rib-eye steak" to better accomodate foreigners. Both writers use listing in order to convey their ideas about the food they were served.

Both writers use imagery to describe the beauty of Bhutan. Zeppa uses the ^{alliteration} ~~personification~~ of the translated Bhutanese district names such as "South Sandalwood Country" and "Lotus ~~is~~ Grove of



the Gods" This highlights the beauty that she was
lucky enough to experience. The alliteration of
"south" and "Sandalwood" suggests Bhutan's
exotic nature and gives rhythm to the names.

~~My South~~



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Turn over ►

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 6 ☒ Question 7 ☒

Dream Destinations

Dubai is one of the world famous city it's one of the seven Emarites of the United Arab Emarites and it has the world tallest building called Burj Khalifa and it has over 200 nationality around the world and it's famous about the safari of other United Arab Emarites desert.

I would like to visit ~~dubai~~ Dubai because it's the only city that ~~is~~ has the ability of it people to ^{speak} ~~speaks~~ over many languages and has many hotels with different levels of quality and it has many activities for the tourist to do for example jet sky, ~~sky~~ indoor sky indoor ski, swim in the biggest aquarium, Water Parks, Global village, and other things.

The city and the whole country have good communication and no racism for example a rich man is a friend with a normal ~~man~~ worker that what I like about Dubai they are so openminded with others.



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The other destination is Spain, it has the three top football teams ~~Barcellona~~ Barcelona, Real Madrid, Atletico Madrid that show how all football lovers want to visit the clubs stadiums.

I would like to visit Spain because of its food and as a ~~foot ball~~ football fan I would have to visit the stadiums in Spain.

The other destination is Bhutan, it's a nation between the great Asian giants of India and China, is in the heart of the Himalayas, standing at 8,000ft.

Bhutan also has awesome views from its giant ~~mount~~ mountains with a small population, people can ~~at~~ only visit it in a certain time of the year because the people like to care about their religion and to keep it safe and it ~~has~~ has the world protected Tiger Nest monastery 3000ft above the valley floor, which would seem more like a fantastical stage setting than a 17th-century site of worship.



The town didn't change that much described by the
first Western Jesuit in 1627.

I wish I visit these three destination one day to be
able to completion my dream and I have read a lot of books
to be educated of these three destination and one day
it all will happen and it will be the best memory
of my life.



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Turn over ►

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 6 ☒ Question 7 ☒

Dream Destinations

Choosing travel destinations can be hard. On the one hand, the place needs to have good accommodation and affordability, but on the other, it needs to be a place worth travelling to, with plenty of things to do. The following countries are places I wish to go, or in some cases, visit again.

Australia

Australia is one of a few places that I have always wanted to visit, but ~~as~~ have ^{been} unable to do so far. Although the travelling time is long for most tourists, I'm sure it will be worth it. The plethora of beaches are perfect for many activities; if you prefer to relax, you could tan, or if you are more active, you could try a hand at surfing. It is also a perfect opportunity to visit one of the world's 7 Natural Wonders of The World: The Great Barrier Reef. Wouldn't



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Turn over ►

it be fun to go snorkeling ~~or diving~~ where Nemo lives? ~~These~~ ~~Not to mention the~~ ~~perfect~~ ~~of~~ These activities are fun for both adults and children. Other activities include visiting the main cities, going to theme parks, and last but not the least, holding fluffy koala bears (which I look forward to the most).

Kenya

Serene wildlife. Beautiful landscapes. Immersive culture. Kenya has got it all. Even though I have been there already, I wish to go there again. 5 days there wasn't enough to take in the surroundings and do all the activities. I want to see the roaching savannah plains from the heights of a hot air balloon. I also didn't get a chance to see a leopard - although those are rare. Overall, it is wonderful place to go to learn about new, different cultures and go on exciting safaris to see some well-known animals in their natural habitat.

USA



This country appears to be on many people's travel destinations, mainly due to how massive it is. I have already been to the east coast, and I can tell you that the trip was incredible. Of course, I couldn't resist going to Disney World, and I think I ^{would} ~~could~~ go there every year if I could. The atmosphere is buzzing with with ~~enthusiasm~~ enthusiasm, wonder and ~~happy~~ happiness. ~~One could also do~~ in a sense, magic. However, I would also like to visit the west coast, mainly to visit the Grand Canyon (if you can't tell already, I love nature!). Just thinking about ziplining over its deep valleys gives me a shiver of excitement. I think that USA is a place definitely worth visiting, as there is something for everyone.

Antarctica

~~I know what~~ ~~it~~ Possibly one of the most underrated places, in my opinion, is Antarctica. It is so different from everywhere else on Earth, which is what draws it to me. Antarctic cruises ~~offer~~ ~~to~~ are the perfect way to see the enormous icebergs, go



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whale-watching and see penguins. Although there may be a low chance of you going on land, I would still love to visit the frozen desert that is Antarctica.

These countries are few of the ones I would like to visit, and ~~hopefull~~ maybe now, some of you would like to go there too.



Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 6 ☒ Question 7 ☒

Good morning ~~students~~, Year 11 students,

I am standing in front of you today, not to ask you how much revision you have all been doing for your exams or lecturing you on the importance of eating healthy, which you should definitely do! However I am here today to explain to you the importance of ~~keep~~ having the time to value the things in your life that really matter. ~~I would like to begin~~

I would like to begin with a question to you all, how many of you this year have had to drop a Sport or any type of instrument or even had to come out of a special family event that will only happen once, but your too busy? ~~Everyone~~ To me this subject is very important because I am someone who has had to back out of a commitment because I simply do not



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have the time. I strongly agree with the statement of the fact that the life ~~of~~ in today's world is just too busy that we don't have the time to value the things that really matter. It has been proven that over 50% of the students aged 16 to 18 are suffering from health problems because of the lack of exercise they have in their day to day lives. Personally, I think that it is so important that we make time for the things that matter in our lives because the truth is... hard work is never going to end, having to sit exams is never going to end so we as students aged 16 and 17 really need to think about that for our future. Don't get me wrong, of course we need to all revise our hardest and work our hardest for these exams, but you can not make the busy lives we all lead affect the things that really matter to us. Just remember that these exams and future exams are just a small part of your life, ~~ye~~ we have



Our whole lives to be with the things and people that we love. Saying all of this, however, if the thing that you love doing is playing video games defiantly, focus on other things. On the other hand if that is genuinely something you enjoy make time for it, just don't play it constantly.

Before speaking to you all today, I spoke privately with some individuals about the statement of the things in life we should value, and all of them within their points said friends and family. From our conversations as well I was able to pick up on the fact that students our aged taking our GCSEs and IB are all so busy that they have missed out on things such as family events, friends birthdays, holidays and it made me sad to think that ~~me~~ I have had the same issues because of all the business going on in our lives on a day to day basis.

Finally, before I leave you today to



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return to our busy lives I would like to mention one more thing before I go, and that is how healthy it is to take a break from all the crazyness that we have in ~~our~~ our lives and to just completely wind down. Furthermore, I would just like to leave you with this thought... what ^{similar to where} ^{I started} are you going to do, to make time for the things that really matter in your life?

Thank you for listening.



Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 6 ☒ Question 7 ☒

~~Then world~~ ^{Life} can be a chaotic, confusing haze of duties and emotions, ~~choices~~ decisions and luck, chance and fate. ^{Every individual} ~~It's because~~ faces separate struggles, relative to them, and we are ^{often} met with challenging times in our lives that can define who we are as people. And so it's understandable, that throughout this scuffle of confusion we, ~~perhaps~~ both individually and collectively, forget what 'really matters'.

many of us may disagree with that statement. Personally, I both agree and disagree. It really boils down to the question of - what ^{does} really matters? A lot of us sitting here today are quick to think 'family', or 'my career', or 'religion' as the ultimate answer. And it would be ignorant to assume the aspect that is most important to us ^{one of} would be the same for all individuals.

But what's the point in knowing what really matters? There never seems to be any time to focus on it. From a young age, we, as children are ^{unwittingly} put into ^{the} "competition" that is life. Our educational value is relative to others, if others have done better, have you really done your best? This is a question, we, as students, find ourselves asking, yet in the grand scheme of things, too often do we end up being considered another employee



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with a university degree we specialise in, only to work in a 9-5 corporate job. So is it ^{even} education or our career that really matters? Or is it pity and religion, praying and believing in something that others claim is a waste of time. 'It's pointless, why bother?' Well, it must be family, those that care and love you unconditionally, who are there for you when the rest of the world falls apart ... until ^{you see that} mom and dad get a divorce, or your parents are abusive, and you realize that no one in this world is genuine anymore - we're too distracted by superficial, materialistic things that won't matter in the grand scheme of things.

So, what really matters? ...

...does anything really matter?

In a world where mental health becomes a ^{greater} ^{n.} issue everyday, this is a common question ^{w depression} people are asking themselves, ^{at} ~~even~~ a younger age each time. And who am I to know, a 15 year old who hasn't even finished her exams yet? So I don't know, naturally. But I am naive enough to have my own answer to the question:

What really matters?

Well, ^{personally} ~~me~~, I'd say perspective. And balance. Because education matters, when it's what girls in third world countries are aching for, when it's a form



of liberation and passion. Your '9-5' job matters, when it is something you are passionate about and helps you provide for your family. They matter, too, as does your religion and anything else you can possibly think of. That's an incentive to keep going. It's about our perspective, how we ^{look} ~~look~~ at situations, but also our balance. A balance between individuality and unity, between ~~time~~ ~~person~~ who we love and what we love. With balance, we ~~it~~ will not be too busy to spend time on what's really important, and with perspective, we can find out what is really important.

~~And as~~

But, as I said earlier, I'm only a 15 year old girl with no real qualifications. ~~And as time~~
But to me, these are two aspects ~~that~~ that I believe everyone should value. ^{ye} ~~But~~ at the end of the day, we're all trying to live our lives how we see fit, and as long as we are "living and loving and learning", I can't say much else than to at least ~~give~~ ~~may~~ contemplate on ^{the} ~~big~~ idea of perspective and balance.

Thank you for your time. ~~Thank you~~.



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