**De Aston**

**English Department**



**Year 12 GCSE: Language Paper 2**

**Challenge Tasks**

**Complete one question a week.**

**Name:**

Source A: The Armada: one sailor's story

*Here is a letter written by one of the Spanish sailors, Francisco de Cuellar, to a friend. Cuellar was stripped of his clothing and robbed, even by people who helped him. He described the Irish as 'savages', and he often had to escape them. Below is an edited extract from this letter, telling his story.*

I believe that you will be astonished at seeing this letter on account of the slight certainty that could have existed as to my being alive. That you may be quite sure of this I write it at some length. As I have not had an opportunity to write to you for more than a year, I have not done so until now that God has brought me to these States of Flanders, where I arrived twelve days ago with the Spaniards who escaped from the ships that were lost in Ireland, Scotland, and Shetland, which were more than twenty of the largest in the Armada.

After the fierce engagement we had off Calais on the 8th of August, continuing from the morning till seven o'clock in the evening - which was the last of all - our Armada being in the act of retiring - oh! I don't know how I can say it - the fleet of our enemy followed behind to drive us from their country; and when it was accomplished, and everything was safe, which was on the 10th of the same month, seeing that the enemy had ceased to follow, some of the ships of our Armada trimmed up and repaired their damages.

On the fifth day there sprang up so great a storm on our beam, with a sea up to the heavens, so that the cables could not hold nor the sails serve us, and we were driven ashore with all three ships upon a beach, covered with very fine sand, shut in on one side and the other by great rocks. Many were drowning within the ships; others, casting themselves into the water, sank to the bottom without returning to the surface; others on rafts and barrels, and gentlemen on pieces of timber; others cried aloud in the ships, calling upon God; While I was regarding this solemn scene, I did not know what to do, nor what means to adopt, as I did not know how to swim, and the waves and storm were very great; and, on the other hand, the land and the shore were full of enemies, who went about jumping and dancing with delight at our misfortunes; and when any one of our people reached the beach, two hundred savages and other enemies fell upon him and stripped him of what he had on until he was left in his naked skin.

A dispatch was sent to the Duke of Parma. There was a Scotch merchant in Flanders, who offered and agreed with his Highness that he would come to Scotland for us and ship us in four vessels to Flanders. All was treacherous; for an arrangement had been made with the ships of Holland and Zealand that they should put to sea and await us at the same entrance to the harbour of Dunkirk, and there they should put us all to death. God willed that of the four vessels in which we came, two escaped and grounded, where they went to pieces; and the enemy, seeing the means of safety which we were taking, gave us a good discharge of artillery. They could not come to our assistance with the boats from the port of Dunkirk, as the enemy cannonaded them briskly. On the other hand, the sea and wind were very high; so that we were in the greatest peril of being all lost. However, we cast ourselves afloat on timbers, and some soldiers were drowned, as was also a Scotch captain. I reached the shore in my shirt, without other description of clothing, and some soldiers of Medina who were there came to help me. It was sad to see us enter the town once more, stripped naked; and for the other part we saw, as before our eyes, the Dutch making a thousand pieces of two hundred and seventy Spaniards who came in the ship which brought us to Dunkirk, without leaving more than three alive; for which they are now being paid out, as more than four hundred Dutchmen who have been taken since then have been beheaded. This I have wished to write to you.

**Source B: 100-hour working weeks, sex below deck... and what they REALLY think of passengers: Confessions of a cruise ship worker**

By [JOHN HUTCHINSON FOR MAILONLINE](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/search.html?s=&authornamef=John+Hutchinson+for+MailOnline)

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It sounds like the dream job, travelling the world from port to port on a grand all-expenses-paid tour.

But life working on a cruise ship could be considered one of the hardest roles in the world, with 100-hour weeks, three-month stretches with no days off and wages so low that workers rely on tips.

So perhaps it is no surprise that life below deck consists of riotous parties, frequent liaisons and heavy drinking... despite the cramped shared cabins.

One American who tried life on the high seas has penned a warts-and-all book about his experiences.

Brian David Bruns now lives in Las Vegas, but before settling down he abandoned everything at the age of 30 to chase a fellow female cruise worker to sea, became the first American in Carnival Cruise Line history to complete a full contract without quitting.

The result of his experience was a tell-all book, Cruise Confidential, documenting what it's really like to work on a ship.

MailOnline Travel caught up with best-selling author and former cruise waiter to find out what life is really like on board the floating palaces that are fast becoming the most popular way to see the world...

One of Bruns' main concerns is how workers are only recognised as a cog in the machine, which he described as being 'owned by the corporation'.

'The work is constant and also very menial. In America, for example, we have empowered employees: they have rights, a voice, a modicum of respect. Crew members at sea have none of those things,' he says.

'As a waiter on Carnival's Legend I worked over 100 hours a week for 15 straight weeks, after which I stopped counting. Crew work seven days a week without a day off for up to ten months.

'Pay is not commensurate with hours worked, hence the lack of First World crew. Sailing international waters and flying flags of convenience allow cruise ships to break labour laws found in First World nations.

'That's why cruise ship employees are almost unanimously from Third or Second World nations, barring entertainers and a few vendors, such as Steiners.

'Cruise lines claim this as an issue of the past, but 'official' 80-hour weeks ignore the extra work crew must continue in order to avoid being fired.

'On Legend I was given two lunches off every eight days. Otherwise I worked breakfast, lunch, dinner every single day, and sometimes also midnight buffet.'

'The worst part of the job is being 'owned' by the corporation. They control what you eat, when you eat, when you can go use the toilet, how cold it is in your cabin, everything. If you've already worked 12 hours that day and they need you for another four, you work it no questions asked.

'Also annoying is how your day is structured: you are never given a full night's sleep in ten months. We averaged four or five hours a night (that's after 12 hours of labor). Most crew will nap when they can because after months of that you're in perpetual zombie-mode.'

Thank goodness for tips...

Working long hours is unfortunately not made better by a healthy wage. Bruns claims workers are paid below the minimum wage, and describes the process as being similar to a 'sweat shop.'

He says: 'Crew members are working way below minimum wage because that's a First World concept. These are sweat shops. There's always a line of desperate folks trying to land horrible jobs at sweat shops. This is no different.

**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**, **lines 1 to** 20.

List fourstatements from the text which are TRUE.

 **[4 marks]**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 0 | 2 |

You need to refer to **source A** and **source B** for this question:

Both sources give details about the places where the events occur.

Use details from **both** sources to write a summary of the differences between

 (8 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 0 | 3 |

Now refer only to **source A**, how does the writer use language to show his fear?

You could include the writer’s choice of:

• words and phrases

• language features and techniques

• sentence forms.

 (12 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 ideas and perspectives of the events that they describe.

In your answer, you could:

• compare their different ideas and perspectives

• compare the methods they use to convey their ideas and perspectives

• support your response with references to both texts.

 (16 marks)

**Question 5.**

Sailing and water sports are too dangerous.

Write a newspaper article in which you explain our view on the statement above. [40 marks]