



# **Functional Skills Certificate**

## **FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH**

**Component 1 Reading Level 2**

**47251**

### **Insert**

**The three sources that follow are:**

**Source A: a news report about a Disney toy factory**

**Source B: an article about gender-specific toys**

**Source C: a webpage about Victorian toys.**

**Please open the insert fully to see all three sources**

**[Turn over]**

## SOURCE A

MailOnline

**Dark Truth of Disney's Frozen Fairytale***By George Knowles in China and Tracy You in London*

MailOnline visited a factory making toys from the hit movie, *Frozen*, as Disney prepares to open a £3.8 billion theme park 900 miles away in Shanghai. At the Zhenyang factory in Qingxi Town, workers toil 11 hours a day, six days a week, to make toys which are sold through various toy stores and websites, such as Toys R Us and Amazon.



Workers come from China's poorest areas leaving families and children behind to spend 50 weeks a year on the production lines, only returning home for a fortnight at the Chinese New Year holiday. Basic pay is just £5.30 a day – one-tenth of the cost of a peak ticket to Shanghai Disneyland. A 'Do You Want to Build a Snowman?' jewellery box sells for £24.99 – only slightly less than a worker's weekly wage at Zhenyang.

Even by working six days a week and taking every available overtime shift at peak season, workers struggle to earn £300 a month. Employees do 100 hours' overtime a month to make ends meet, nearly three times China's legal maximum of 36 hours. If workers turn up one minute late for their shift, they are fined up to half a day's pay; and bosses hand out New Year 'bonuses' of just 50 pence per employee.



Summers are so hot here but we have 12 workers in each small room and only a couple of electric fans to keep us cool.

A worker at the factory told MailOnline that the men's dormitory blocks had only 24 squatting toilets for 320 workers. Workers complained of filthy, overcrowded toilets and canteen meals so poor they are forced to buy food outside.

Inside the park a single Anna or Elsa doll from *Frozen* will cost £35, a Mickey Mouse bag £36 and a Mickey Mouse steamed bun £3.70 – the price of a week of lunches at the factory canteen in Zhenyang.

A great deal needs to be done to improve living and working conditions but the only way to do this is to let the people who buy these Disney toys know the truth about what goes on.

Disney failed to respond to a request for comment, as did Zhenyang toy factory.

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## Transcript for SOURCE A

Information on the presentation of the text is in square brackets.

[Each of the photos in the article has a red frame around it.]

[On the top right of the page is a photo of Shanghai Disneyland's castle at night. It has pink walls, a blue roof and several turrets. The castle is lit up and there are spotlights behind the castle that point into the sky.]

[On the top left of the page is a logo for MailOnline. The word 'Mail' is in thick black text. The word 'Online' is in thin grey text.]

[Underneath the logo is the following heading. The heading is written in thick black text that is larger than the rest of the article's text.]

### Dark Truth of Disney's Frozen Fairytale

[The following text is written in smaller italic font.]

By George Knowles in China and Tracy You in London

[The following text is written in plain black font.]

MailOnline visited a factory making toys from the hit movie, Frozen, [Frozen is written in italic text] as Disney prepares to open a £3.8 billion theme park 900 miles away in Shanghai. At the Zhenyang factory in Qingxi Town, workers toil 11 hours a day, six days a week, to

**make toys which are sold through various toy stores and websites, such as Toys R Us and Amazon.**

**Workers come from China's poorest areas leaving families and children behind to spend 50 weeks a year on the production lines, only returning home for a fortnight at the Chinese New Year holiday. Basic pay is just £5.30 a day – one-tenth of the cost of a peak ticket to Shanghai Disneyland. A 'Do You Want to Build a Snowman?' jewellery box sells for £24.99 – only slightly less than a worker's weekly wage at Zhenyang.**

**Even by working six days a week and taking every available overtime shift at peak season, workers struggle to earn £300 a month. Employees do 100 hours' overtime a month to make ends meet, nearly three times China's legal maximum of 36 hours. If workers turn up one minute late for their shift, they are fined up to half a day's pay; and bosses hand out New Year 'bonuses' of just 50 pence per employee.**

**[On the left hand side of the page is a photo of a squatting toilet. Two outdoor-style taps are positioned over tiled flooring with a drain at one end. The floor is surrounded by a raised edge. The walls and floor are dirty and stained. On a metal shelf above the drain are a rust-stained water tank and a bottle of water.]**

**[To the right is a photo of a tiled room. There are rows of wide concrete sinks along each wall. The walls are stained and there is a dirty puddle on the floor.]**

**[Turn over]**

[On the right side of the page is a photo of a bedroom. Three bare bunkbeds are positioned close together against the walls. Some of the beds have personal items stored on them including bottles, clothing and carrier bags. Patches of paint are missing from the wall. There is a bucket beside one bed.]

[Underneath the photos is a speech bubble. It has a yellow outline and white text on a red background. The speech bubble contains the following text.]

Summers are so hot here but we have 12 workers in each small room and only a couple of electric fans to keep us cool.

[To the right of the speech bubble is the following paragraph of plain black text.]

A worker at the factory told MailOnline that the men's dormitory blocks had only 24 squatting toilets for 320 workers. Workers complained of filthy, overcrowded toilets and canteen meals so poor they are forced to buy food outside.

[The remaining paragraphs are written across the width of the page.]

Inside the park a single Anna or Elsa doll from Frozen [Frozen is written in italic text] will cost £35, a Mickey Mouse bag £36 and a Mickey Mouse steamed bun £3.70 – the price of a week of lunches at the factory canteen in Zhenyang.

**A great deal needs to be done to improve living and working conditions but the only way to do this is to let the people who buy these Disney toys know the truth about what goes on.**

**Disney failed to respond to a request for comment, as did Zhenyang toy factory.**

**[Turn over]**

## SOURCE B



Home | UK | World | Business | Politics | Tech | Science | Health | Family & Education | More

### Toy Story? *By Vanessa Barford*

Some people believe that gender-specific toys risk turning girls off science and maths and that parents should buy their daughters Lego to get them interested in engineering.

There are still huge gender divides in some professions. 80% of science, research, engineering and technology (STEM) professionals are male. 82% of workers in caring, leisure and other services are female.

Becky Francis, professor of education at Roehampton University, believes the toys children play with impact their career choice. She found boys tended to be given **toys that involved action, construction and machinery**, while girls were steered towards **dolls and 'feminine' interests, such as hairdressing**. "The message seemed to be boys should be making things and problem solving, and girls should be caring and protecting," she says.

Typical **boys' toys** tend to be more educational. "**Boys' toys like Lego and Meccano** contain technical information and instructions, and require fitting things together. **Girls' toys** tend to be around imaginative and creative play, which develop different skills," said Professor Francis.

Research by retail group Argos found that over 60% of adults working in design-led jobs, such as architects and designers, enjoyed playing with **building blocks** as children. 66% working in maths-related roles, such as accountants and bankers, preferred **puzzles**.

Critics believe the way toys are packaged and presented in shops adds to the problem.

**Dolls, cookery sets and pink princesses** are directed towards girls and **action men figures, construction kits and blue racing cars** towards boys.



Space scientist, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, believes the issue goes beyond toys. "It's important there are role models – we need to see female scientists on TV, on EastEnders," she says. Play and child development psychologist, Dr Amanda Gummer, says the key is to make sure children have access to a "healthy play diet. And there's an element of breaking down bias too – a lot of parents won't let a boy have a **doll**."

Ex-commando and full-time childminder, Neil Sinclair, says he wanted to be a soldier long before he had **an Action Man toy**. He believes children should be given a free choice of toys. "I'd take a storage container full of toys – **construction tools, musical instruments, everything** – and let them decide what to play with."

Everyone has memories of toys they loved playing with as a child. It might be **building blocks or a train set, a doll's house or a tea set**. It doesn't necessarily mean those that played with them grew up to be construction workers or train drivers, housekeepers or tea ladies.



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## **Transcript for SOURCE B**

**Information on the presentation of the text is in square brackets.**

**[On the top left of the page is a logo made up of three black squares. There is a white letter in each square, reading BBC from left to right.]**

**[Underneath the logo is a red bar stretching across the width of the page. It contains hyperlinks written in white text and separated by yellow lines. From left to right the hyperlinks are Home, UK, World, Business, Politics, Tech, Science, Health, Family & Education and More.]**

**[Underneath the red bar is the following heading written in large bold black text.]**

**Toy Story?**

**[To the left of the heading the following text is written in smaller italic text.]**

**By Vanessa Barford**

**[The following text is written in plain black font.]**

**Some people believe that gender-specific toys risk turning girls off science and maths and that parents should buy their daughters Lego to get them interested in engineering.**

**There are still huge gender divides in some professions. 80% of science, research, engineering and technology (STEM) professionals are male. 82% of workers in caring, leisure and other services are female.**

**Becky Francis, professor of education at Roehampton University, believes the toys children play with impact their career choice. She found boys tended to be given [the following text is blue] toys that involved action, construction and machinery, [the following text is black] while girls were steered towards [the following text is pink] dolls and ‘feminine’ interests, such as hairdressing. [The following text is black.] “The message seemed to be boys should be making things and problem solving, and girls should be caring and protecting,” she says.**

**Typical boys’ toys [‘boys’ toys’ is written in blue] tend to be more educational. [The following text is blue.] “Boys’ toys like Lego and Meccano [the following text is black] contain technical information and instructions, and require fitting things together. Girls’ toys [‘girls’ toys’ is written in pink] tend to be around imaginative and creative play, which develop different skills,” said Professor Francis.**

**Research by retail group Argos found that over 60% of adults working in design-led jobs, such as architects and designers, enjoyed playing with building blocks [‘building blocks’ is written in blue] as children.**

**[Turn over]**

66% working in maths-related roles, such as accountants and bankers, preferred puzzles ['puzzles' is written in blue].

Critics believe the way toys are packaged and presented in shops adds to the problem. [The following text is pink.] Dolls, cookery sets and pink princesses [the following text is black] are directed towards girls and [the following text is blue] action men figures, construction kits and blue racing cars [the following text is black] towards boys.

[To the right of the previous paragraph is a photo of a girl in a shop. She is standing next to shelves filled with toys in pink boxes. The girl is holding a pink box.]

[To the right of the photo is a photo of shelves filled with toy vehicles including trains, buses, fire engines and trucks. The toy vehicles are in blue boxes.]

Space scientist, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, believes the issue goes beyond toys. "It's important there are role models – we need to see female scientists on TV, on EastEnders," she says. Play and child development psychologist, Dr Amanda Gummer, says the key is to make sure children have access to a "healthy play diet. And there's an element of breaking down bias too – a lot of parents won't let a boy have a doll ['doll' is written in pink]."

Ex-commando and full-time childminder, Neil Sinclair, says he wanted to be a soldier long before he had [the following text is blue] an Action Man toy. [The following

text is black.] He believes children should be given a free choice of toys. “I’d take a storage container full of toys – [the following text is green] construction tools, musical instruments, everything [the following text is black] – and let them decide what to play with.”

Everyone has memories of toys they loved playing with as a child. It might be [the following text is blue] building blocks or a train set, [the following text is pink] a doll’s house or a tea set. [The following text is black.] It doesn’t necessarily mean those that played with them grew up to be construction workers or train drivers, housekeepers or tea ladies.

**SOURCE C**

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**END OF SOURCES**

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