

**Modified Enlarged 18pt**

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Tuesday 2 June 2020 – Morning**

**GCSE (9–1) English Language**

**J351/01 Communicating information and ideas**

**Insert**

**Time allowed: 2 hours**

**plus your additional time allowance**

**READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF**



## **INSTRUCTIONS**

**Do NOT send this Reading Insert for marking. Keep it in the centre or recycle it.**

## **INFORMATION**

**Use this Insert to answer the questions in Section A.**

## **Details of text extracts:**

### **Text 1**

**Text: adapted from 'Autobiography'**

**Author: Harriet Martineau (1877)**

### **Text 2**

**Text: adapted from 'A Roof of One's Own'**

**Author: Jeanette Winterson (2010)**

## Text 1

Harriet Martineau was a successful writer when she was an adult but had a difficult childhood because of constant illness and strict parents. In her autobiography she describes how she became a writer.

5 When I was young, my parents did not think it proper for young ladies to study very conspicuously, and especially not with pen in hand. Young ladies were expected to sit down in the parlour to sew – during which reading aloud was permitted – or to practise their music, so that they would be fit to receive callers.

10 Thus, my first studies were carried on with great care and reserve. I was in the parlour regularly after breakfast, before dinner in winter, and after tea in summer; and, if ever I shut myself into my room for an hour of solitude, I knew it was at the risk of being sent for to join the sewing circle, or to practise my music. But I won time for what my heart was set on, 15 nevertheless, either in the early morning or late at night.

20 I had a strange passion for translating in those days; our cousin used to read Italian with Rachel and me; we made some progress through the usual authors and, out of this, grew a fit to translate them into English. I believe we really succeeded pretty well and I am sure that all these exercises were a singularly apt preparation for my after work.

25 At this time I had my first appearance in print. My brother James desired me to write something that was in my head and try my chance with it in the

30     ‘Monthly Repository’, the poor little periodical<sup>1</sup>  
I have mentioned before. What James desired I  
always did and, soon after six o’clock one bright  
September morning, I was at my desk.

35     I wrote away in my abominable scrawl of those  
days, feeling mightily like a fool all the time. I told  
no one and carried my paper in an expensive packet  
to the post-office myself. I took the letter V for my  
signature – I cannot remember why. I had no definite  
expectation that I should ever hear anything of  
my paper and certainly did not expect it could be  
published in the forthcoming magazine.

40     That magazine was sent in on a Sunday morning. My  
heart may have been beating when I laid hands on  
it, but it thumped prodigiously when I saw my article  
and a request to hear more from V of Norwich.  
There is certainly something entirely peculiar in the  
sensation of seeing oneself in print for the first time  
45     – the lines burn themselves in on the brain in a way  
of which black ink is incapable in any other mode.

50     When James had read my paper, he laid his hand on  
my shoulder and said gravely, ‘Now, dear, leave it  
to other women to make shirts and darn stockings  
and you devote yourselves to this.’ I went home in a  
sort of dream, so that the squares of the pavement  
seemed to float before my eyes. That evening made  
me a writer.

---

<sup>1</sup>*periodical* = monthly magazine

## Text 2


**Jeanette Winterson was another successful writer who had a difficult childhood. Her mother restricted the books she could read. Here she describes what happened when she found some old roofing slates which she turned into her own books.**

J Winterson, 'A Roof of One's Own', pp4-7, Long Barn Books, 2010. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

---

<sup>2</sup>*tacking* = changing direction (sailing metaphor)

J Winterson, 'A Roof of One's Own', pp4-7, Long Barn Books, 2010. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.



---

<sup>3</sup>*harbouring* = hiding and keeping



### **Copyright Information**

**OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website ([www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)) after the live examination series.**

**If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.**

**For queries or further information please contact The OCR Copyright Team, The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA.**

**OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.**