
INTERNATIONAL AS ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Unit 2 Language and society

Thursday 15 May 2025

07:00 GMT

Time allowed: 2 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an OxfordAQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- There are **two** sections:
 - Section A: Language and social groups: texts
 - Section B: Language and social groups: writing.
- Answer Question 1 from Section A **and** Question 2 from Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 25 marks for Question 1 and 25 marks for Question 2.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A: Language and social groups: texts

Answer Question 1.

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Text A (below and on page 3) is an article published on the online news website *Euronews*.

Examine how language is used in **Text A** to:

- present the topic
- present the views of the different speakers
- express attitudes and values.

[25 marks]

Text A

euronews.culture

NEWS

SEE

HEAR

TASTE

TOUCH

SMELL

SERIES



🏠 > Culture > Culture news

Barbie honours STEM trailblazers for International Women's Day

By [David Mouriquand](#)

Published on 07/03/2023 – 12:19 • Updated 17:44

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Barbie has recognised seven women who are “trailblazers” in their field

British scientist Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock has been honoured with a one-of-a-kind Barbie doll in her likeness in celebration of both International Women's Day on 8 March and British Science Week from 10-19 March.

Aderin-Pocock, 54, best known for presenting BBC One's *The Sky At Night*, is the first Black woman to win gold at the Physics News Awards. She has been made a “Barbie Role Model” in recognition of her achievements in making space and science accessible to girls.

“Since falling in love with the idea of space travel as a young girl, I have spent my career trying to show girls how fascinating space science can be,” said Aderin-Pocock.

“I want to inspire the next generation of scientists, and especially girls, and let them know that STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is for them. These subjects are just too important to be left to the guys because, through science, you can literally change the world. I hope my doll will remind girls that, when you reach for the stars, anything is possible.”



British astronomer Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock

“We do often have these stereotypical images of what people do, and I like to smash those stereotypes whenever I get the opportunity.”

Dr Aderin-Pocock added: “As a black woman, I’ve found that I don’t always fit some people’s perception of a scientist. We do often have these stereotypical images of what people do, and I like to smash those stereotypes whenever I get the opportunity.”

Mattel will expand its Barbie Career range with a marine biologist doll this spring, joining STEM figures including a doctor, a vet, a scientist, and an astronaut.

Kelly Philp, Marketing director, Mattel UK, commented: “We know that globally STEM is a field widely recognised as underrepresenting women so, as a brand, Barbie is committed to showing girls more STEM careers. In the UK, research tells us women make up only 26% of the STEM workforce so showcasing an exciting career in space science like Dr Maggie’s is just one way we are inspiring girls to think differently about their career opportunities.”

Barbie has also recognised six other women who are “trailblazers” in their field: Susan Wojcicki, long-time YouTube CEO; Anne Wojcicki, the co-founder and CEO of 23AndMe; Janet Wojcicki, professor of Paediatrics and Epidemiology at the University of California; Prof Dr Antje Boetius, the German marine researcher and microbiologist; Katya Echazarret, Mexican electrical engineer & Science Show host; and Li Yinuo, the Chinese co-founder of ETU Education.



The dolls are the latest in a range of Barbie dolls honouring inspirational women.

“Our parents fostered independence and a belief that we could truly be anything we wanted to be when I grew up, but most important was to pursue a passion,” Anne Wojcicki said in a statement. “I hope that sharing our stories encourages young girls to try something new, face something that may scare them, and look at challenges as exciting opportunities.”

Their dolls, like Dr Aderin-Pocock’s, will not be on sale to the public but are one-offs given by Mattel.

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Turn over for Section B

Turn over ►

Section B: Language and social groups: writing

Answer Question 2.

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How far does gender affect language use?

In your answer you should refer to relevant ideas from language study, such as:

- language that is used to describe women and men
- language that is used by men and by women
- factors other than gender that may influence how language can be used.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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