

Component 1 Section A

Response 1

Text A is commentary from BBC sport's winter olympics team, who are describing what is happening in a newly introduced event, Parallel Slalom Snowboarding. Text B is commentary from the 2011 Queen's Birthday Parade. Both of the texts are on programmes on the BBC. The language used in each of these texts will be sophisticated.

Text A is a sporting event. Sport something that involves millions of people around the planet. People get engaged in sport, commentary on things such as the TV is one reason why people feel so engaged with the sport. Text A used many different spoken language techniques to help describe the event to audience. Firstly the use of intonation throughout the text is key. 'but we have a brand new event parallel slalom debuting in Sochi' This quote gives us some great examples of how intonation is used throughout this text. Intonation is used to try and help to engage the reader. Sometimes in sport, when a person is not there, it can be hard for other to feel the same emotion as those in the stadium. Raising the pitch of your voice is a very good way of helping to engage the listener. Another example is, 'What a fantastic race that was absolutely beautiful.' In this quote we don't only see intonation but we also are able to see emphatic stress on certain specific words.

Text B on the other hand is a lot slower. Text B is something to do with the Royal Family rather than a sporting event, this therefore means that the pace isn't as fast. People who are passionate about their sports tend to get very excited when commenting on it, this therefore leads to accelerando. Along with an increase of a person's pace, people also start to speak louder than they usually would do, This is very apparent in text A when CB says, 'COME ON', EL says, 'UP THERE' 'OOH BOCCACINI'S SHOUTING'. These are all examples of where the volume of a person's voice has increased as a result of the topic that they are discussing. If we look at text B we can see that there isn't a single point during the whole text whereby Huw is forced to raise his voice. It's the Queen's birthday so therefore there is no need at all to start raising his voice, Here is one main difference between the 2 texts.

Another key difference that we can see from text A and B is the amount of pauses that text B uses. This links back in with the speed in which the text was said. Huw pauses on numerous occasions and not always for a micro pause. There are quite a few examples of longer timed pauses. 'the music stops and they'll be ready for the transfer to take place (38)'. From this point on there is a 38 second pause. In terms of pauses this is a long pause and is done to let people focus on what is going on on the screen rather than just listening to a voice. Text A however is for a sporting event which therefore means that there isn't much time for stopping and watching. People like to have commentary while watching an event such as the winter olympics. There are some timed pauses but only for a few seconds, usually while the commentator is busy watching in detail what is going on, but sport in general is a lot faster than a commentator talking about the Queen's birthday parade.

All of the commentators in text A and Huw in text B are all talking on the BBC. This is a very highly thought of company so therefore the language is sophisticated. There are no examples of overlapping in source B. This is due to there only being Huw talking. Even in text A there are only very few examples of overlapping and this only occurs when the excitement builds.

'//COME ON' and 'hhh'. These are when someone overlaps someone else and this only happens very infrequently.

Jargon is used throughout both of the different texts. The commentators are assuming that you know what they are talking about. People will only take serious note on a programme about Snowboarding if they actually understand it. Words such as, 'velociraptor' and 'board speed.' These are all words in the lexis used that are linked to snow boarding. Similarly their are also unique words linked to jargon used in text B. 'Irish Guards' 'Prince William' and 'escort.' These are all examples of words used in Text B which are all linked to what is being talked about, the Queen.

Text B has more a wide ranging lexis than text A. Huw Edwards is a BBC news reader and a very well respected one too. This programme is on BBC1 so is being broadcast across the country on peoples TV's. He links in the fact that its the Queens Birthday with current affairs that are going on at around the time. The parade is to do with members of the armed forces parading to celebrate her birthday. 'Irish Guards who were deployed to Afghanistan just a few months ago.' This is him linking in this special programme with his every day job. The commentry sounds very educational and Huw mentions lots of different names of people and facts such as, 'the Prime Minister and Dr Liam Fox the defence secretary already here.'

Text A seems more spontaneous than text B. A lot of time and effort has been put into making the Queens parade. More people are going to watch a programme on the Queens birthday than a snow boarding event. The winter Olympics or Olympics are every 4 years however they are on TV for 2 weeks all the time. Many people dont decide what they want to watch, people just flick on when they have the time to do so rather than just watching it all of your time. The Queens parade however is not on for long and is a traditional event that is on TV. Many people like the Royal family so therefore watch it. It is a State event which is the reason that it is broadcast live on state TV, BBC. For this main reason I feel that it feels a lot better and more prepared than text A.

Huw has to be the one to keep speaking the whole time and engage his listeners. If he was boring or spoke too quickly, people would therefore become bored or he would run out of things to say which means that it would become rather awkward. This is the key reason why Huw uses lots of different pauses throughout the text.

We can see that the Language used throughout sources A and B is very different to one and other even though both are on the BBC. Sport and the Queens birthday couldn't be more different events. Many people including the commentators get carried away when it comes to sport. With sport there comes passion and passion helps to change the ways that we speak. People start to forget the politeness theory and get into a little world of their own. From Text A we can clearly see that at certain times throughout the snowboard race, Ed and Tim do get carried away. When comparing this to text B, Huw is there to guide us through the events that are taking place on the TV in front of us. He isn't there to get as passionate as some other people get on certain events and this is one of the key differences that we are able to see between texts A and text B.