

## UNIT 1 EXPLORING LANGUAGE

### Section A

#### Analysing Language

#### Response 1

Text A is representative of a news article which includes facts about a man who was buried in four feet of snow. Throughout this article the register is neutral, an example of this would be the compound declarative sentence "They searched for the man and dug him out". Therefore the verb "dug" indicates that the man was buried in the snow, which resulted in the rescue teams needing to plough him to safety. In addition, this article utilises how dangerous avalanches are by including the declarative sentence "Rescuers said he had been unconscious". Meanwhile the adjective "unconscious" connotes how life threatening it is to be a walker, in those hazardous conditions. Throughout the article it foregrounds major concern for the walker, this is made apparent in the simple declarative sentence "He has been very lucky" emphasising how vulnerable the walker was in the treacherous surroundings. The purpose of this text was to report the accidents that happened because of the avalanche, an example of this would be the pre modified noun phrase "lucky to escape from death". Therefore this fact initiates the apprehension which the target audience (Welsh people) would have because the pro noun "Snowdon", which is featured in the heading, suggests that the avalanche happened on Snowdon which is in Wales.

Text B illustrates an article which consists of John Stone's story. This is initiated in the sub heading, he describes the avalanche as "how a shortcut to high ground turned into a nightmare" this pre modified noun phrase highlights the abstract noun "nightmare" which connotes the avalanche was a very horrific and unforgettable experience. John uses the verb "scrabbled" emphasising the action of his feet as he held on for his life. The compound declarative sentence "In seconds I was safe, but Mike was gone" creates tension amongst the article, this is a typical technique used by magazines too engage with the audience. Also the tension allows readers too feel sympathy for John and Mike, it helps them too imagine what they was going through when the avalanche struck. John illustrates the avalanche with the metaphor "riding a sea of avalanche debris" suggesting that the avalanche was uncontrollable. The noun "debris" advocates that they was scattered pieces of remains, that swallowed his companion and allowed him to vanish. Meanwhile, the declarative simple sentence "There was silence." Again creates tension and danger. The connotations of this could be that his companion Mike could be severely hurt. Also the use of the triadic structure of nouns "no warning, no noise, no crack..." initiates the silence connoting that the avalanche was over. Throughout the second paragraph, John describes the avalanche with the simple declarative sentence "The avalanche had happened in an instant" foregrounding that the life changing experience, had happened before he could even think about it. "We knew the stats" this simple declarative sentence utilises that John has realised how crucial the first hour after the avalanche is. In fact he describes it with the superlative adjective "most important" this is because if he didn't act quickly, his companion could die. With the construction of asyndetic listing which features in the third paragraph "We'd been on every peak in the lakes, climbed almost 200 Munros, many of them in water...." He highlights that

he had become "complacent" this adjective connotes that he and his companion had become smug and self satisfied, the avalanche had hit the companions with a surprise. The fact that he was feeling "panic-struck" this adjective suggests the fear and hysterics he was experiencing when the avalanche had struck. Plosive alliteration "panic picked the wrong side" throughout the final paragraph emphasises that while they were in a frenzy, they were not concentrating and in fact risked their lives for stupid mistakes.

The register that is constructed in Text C represents an informal and friendly approach, this is typical of a social media post because their style is often unofficial. An example of this would be the declarative sentence "In case you missed it" which connotes the easy-going and chatty technique. The Facebook post which was posted by the Canadian Avalanche Centre uses the premodified noun phrase "ugly weak layer" to warn people and that they need to be careful. The post used an imperative compound sentence and asyndetic listing to advertise the alert "Avoid big avalanche terrain, avoid overhead hazard (including cornices)....". Therefore these instructions are easy to understand and are short and simple, which mirrors a stereotypical Facebook post.