



ICM

SEPTEMBER 2015

SPORTS JOURNALISM

Instructions to candidates:

- a) Time allowed: Three hours (plus an extra ten minutes' reading time at the start – do not write anything during this time)
- b) Answer Question 1, which is compulsory, and then any FOUR of the remaining questions
- c) All questions carry equal marks. Marks for each question are shown in []
1. a) How many players are in the following teams (excluding substitutes):
- i Rugby league
 - ii One day cricket
 - iii Basketball
 - iv Netball
 - v Hockey [1 each]
- b) Give the nationalities of:
- i Chris Gayle
 - ii A P McCoy
 - iii M S Dhoni
 - iv Cristiano Ronaldo
 - v Lionel Messi [1 each]
- c) Give the distance of the Grand National (approx.).
- d) Which is the heaviest WBA boxing weight?
- e) Who was known as Sugar Ray?
- f) Which sport stages the Kentucky Derby?
- g) Which event takes place for the America's Cup?
- h) What nationality is Didier Drogba?
- i) Which nation won the last soccer World Cup?
- j) What international event is played at Flushing Meadows?
- k) Who are the Chennai Super Kings?
- l) Who are PSG? [1 each]
2. Which TEN qualities would you expect to find in a chief sports reporter? [2 each]
3. Re-write the following football report of 300 words down to 175 words, removing all non-essential material:
- After more than 100 years of mostly heartache and disappointment, AFC Bournemouth, an unfashionable football club in a sleepy seaside town, has won the Championship league and will next season line up against the might of Arsenal, Chelsea, Manchester United and Liverpool.
- Six years ago, the Cherries, as Bournemouth are known locally, were virtually bankrupt and in danger of falling out of the leagues. Supporters rallied round and a wealthy Russian businessman put his financial muscle behind the club. The promotion to the Premiership could mean a share in the massive income from TV rights which could mean as much as £100million to the club.
- The whole question now is whether a club which has limited support – their maximum attendance is only 11,500 – can compete with the likes of Arsenal and Manchester United who have regular gates of more than 60,000.
- The Manchester United wage bill for England international Rooney probably exceeds the total paid to the whole of the Bournemouth team.
- Victory by 3-0 over Bolton sealed their triumph and now the charismatic young manager Eddie Howe will have to carefully evaluate his triumphant squad with a view to getting a team fit to hold their own in the top flight. Most pundits believe he needs a top class defender, for although the club scored more than 90 goals in the season their defence looked vulnerable on occasions in the season. Another couple of players with experience in the top league would also be desirable but their recruitment probably depends on the capability and willingness of their Russian backer to provide the money.
- It would be a disaster if the club were to be relegated after only one season and would spell an end to one of the most remarkable rags to riches stories in football. [20]

continued overleaf

4. As a sports editor on a TV station or national newspaper, you are instructed by your station controller to suggest an anchor for a midweek sports update programme. You have two outstanding candidates with their qualities listed below. Would you choose A or B? Explain why in 150 words.

Candidate A

Experienced newscaster
Good interest in sport
Background as film editor
Laid back attitude

Candidate B

Excellent sports reporter
Understands outside broadcasting
Good microphone
Very ambitious

[20]

5. Your leading football team has a habit of making news off the pitch as well as during matches. Describe FIVE events which would elevate a story about them from the sports pages to the front page of the newspaper or as a cross reference to a full story inside. [4 each]

6. In which sport do (or did) any TEN of these 14 women excel? Give their nationality.

- a) Evonne Goolagong
- b) Maria Navratilova
- c) Amelie Mauresmo
- d) Princess Anne
- e) Tiki Gelana
- f) Florence Joyner
- g) Oksana Baiul
- h) Sasha Cohen
- i) Veronica Campbell-Brown
- j) Ilyson Felix
- k) Patty Berg
- l) Nadia Comaneci
- m) Olga Korbut
- n) Serena Williams

[2 each]

7. As a sports editor for a major TV channel, you are in the running for promotion to Head of Outside Broadcasting. Before the final interview you summarise the experience and qualities of a sports editor which would make you a suitable person for the job. Give TEN qualities – and the reasons – you would put to the selection panel. [2 each]

8. Test your sporting knowledge. In which sport did the following excel?

- a) Diego Maradona
- b) Pete Sampras
- c) Seabiscuit
- d) Wilt the Stilt
- e) Mohammed Ali
- f) Juan Manuel Fangio
- g) Ayrton Senna
- h) Sevy Ballesteros
- i) Jake LaMotta
- j) Dino Zoff
- k) Ferenc Puskás
- l) Barry John
- m) Maria Sharapova
- n) M S Dhoni
- o) George Weah
- p) Emil Zátopek
- q) Paavo Nurmi
- r) Phil Mickelson
- s) Lee Trevino
- t) Roger Bannister

[1 each]