

https://dspace.org/

Adults learning to write: exploring alternatives to functional writing

Sher, Alison

2011-10-04
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/10478

Downloaded from a DSpace repository. https://dspace.org/

4020



INDEPENDENT EXAMINATIONS BOARD

NQF1 (ABET Level 4): Communication in English

5 June 2002

Time Available: 3½ hours

Surname : _____

First Name : _____

Student Number : _____

Centre Name : _____

Centre Number : _____

Time Started: _____ **Time Finished:** _____

Name of Invigilator: _____ **Signature:** _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This paper is three and a half hours long.
   ½ hour of the allocated time is provided for reading.
2. Read through the whole paper carefully.
3. You must answer all the questions.
4. Please answer in full sentences where required.
   Use your own words where possible.
5. This paper is out of 100 marks.
6. Write in blue or black pen only.
7. Check your work before you hand in your paper.

IEB Copyright © June 2002

SECTION A

Text 1

Read the text and answer the questions

Shots that echoed around the world

On 6 April 1959, 300 former members of the African National Congress (ANC) met in Soweto to form the Pan-African Congress (PAC). The new organisation launched its first major attack on apartheid – a campaign against the Pass Laws – on 21 March 1960.

1. Early mornings on the Highveld are chilly – even in the summer. On 21 March 1960 the sun began to shine across the rows of houses in Vereeniging's Sharpeville township. Hundreds of workers, collars turned up against the cold, headed for the Seeiso Street bus stop to board buses that would take them to work at the nearby factories.

2. Talk that morning was not the usual joking about friends and what they did over the weekend. Instead there was whispered fear about a typed document that had been circulated in the township four days earlier. The pamphlet called for a general strike on 21 March. There was a feeling of tension around.

3. As the early morning commuters began arriving at the bus stop, they were met by members of the Pan-African Congress (PAC), who told them to heed the stay-away call. Some workers drifted off, others waited for buses that never came. The drivers had been warned the day before not to report for duty.

4. By 10 o'clock a crowd of between 3 000 and 5 000 excited and cheerful people had gathered in the centre of Sharpeville, outside the police station. They were going to burn their reference books and to try to get arrested. One of the men explained many years later, "The reference book was like a chain around our necks."

5. Meanwhile the police called for reinforcements. By lunchtime about 300 policemen, had arrived in the township. Most of them were facing a large crowd for the first time. At 1.15pm there was a noisy argument outside the wire fence surrounding the police station. The crowd moved forward, pushed by curious onlookers from behind. A portion of the fence was trampled and a policeman was pushed over.

6. Then the police opened fire, apparently without any order to do so. The people in front immediately turned to run away, but could not get through the crush of people behind. The people panicked and they tried to escape – most of those killed were shot in the back.

7. The newspapers described the scene: a policeman stood on top of an armoured car and swung his machine gun in a wide arc, firing into the crowd. Bodies lay scattered in the road and on the pavement. The wounded fled into back yards and side streets. Little children ran like rabbits. One by one, the guns stopped. The police stepped out from behind the wire, stunned and disbelieving. Then the ambulances came. Later, two truckloads of bodies were taken to the mortuary.

IEB Copyright © June 2002

8. In a few terrifying moments, the people of Sharpeville had learned that flesh and blood were no match for guns and bullets. Sixty-nine of them had been killed and a further 180 wounded.

Adapted from: *The Reader's Digest*, ***The Illustrated History of South Africa***

Question 1

Read the sentences which are printed in italics under the title of the story. Why did the writer include this information?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 2

The words in the left column come from the text. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the words *as they are used in the text.*

former (sub-heading)	☐ standard	☐ past	☐ shaped
launched (sub-heading)	☐ started	☐ sent off	☐ took off
headed (paragraph 1)	☐ begun	☐ supervised	☐ went
circulated (paragraph 2)	☐ spun	☐ planned	☐ handed out
commuters (paragraph 3)	☐ travellers	☐ speakers	☐ organisers
heed (paragraph 3)	☐ want	☐ obey	☐ ignore
drifted off (paragraph 3)	☐ floated off	☐ went to sleep	☐ wandered away
trampled (paragraph 5)	☐ flattened	☐ pulled	☐ sloped

(4 marks)

Question 3

Tick the correct box and give a reason for each choice

a) The whole country went on strike on 21 March 1960.

☐ True ☐ False

Reason:

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) More people were injured than killed on 21 March 1960.

☐ True ☐ False

Reason:

_____

_____

(1 mark)

c) The crowd waited outside the police station for a few hours.

☐ True ☐ False

Reason:

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 4

What does the writer mean when he says that what happened on 21 March 1960 was the PAC's **first major attack** on apartheid?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

IEB Copyright © June 2002

Question 5

a) What day of the week was 21 March 1960? How do you know? Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) The writer says that there was **whispered fear** (para. 2) that morning. What does he mean by this?

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 6

a) Were the workers in Sharpeville able to get to work on 21 March 1960? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) Did all the people of Sharpeville want to take part in the stay-away? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 7

In the morning, did the people of Sharpeville think that the police would attack them? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 8

How did the police feel while the crowd was gathering? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 9

Tick the correct box and give a reason for each choice

a) We know for sure that the police were ordered to shoot.

☐ True ☐ False

Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) The people who were close to the police could not get away when the police started shooting.

☐ True ☐ False

Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 10

The writer tells us that most of the dead people had been **shot in the back**. What does this information tell us about what the people were doing when they were shot?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 11

The writer says, *"Little children ran like rabbits."* Why does he describe the children as rabbits?

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 12

The writer says, *"The people of Sharpeville had learned that flesh and blood were **no match for** guns and bullets."*

12.1 What does he mean by *"no match for"*? Tick the correct answer

- ☐ Could not fight against
- ☐ Could not light up against
- ☐ Could not play against

(1 mark)

12.2 Why does the writer compare *"flesh and blood"* with *"guns and bullets"*?

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 13

Read this paragraph. Insert the missing words. Write only **one** word in each space.

I ran towards the shooting. I _____ a woman who had been hit _____ the arm. Her hand was swollen _____ she wore no shoes. She walked _____ fast. I asked her, "Hei Mama, what happened?"

(2 marks)

IEB Copyright © June 2002

Question 14

There is a **dash (–)** before and after the phrase "*a campaign against the Pass Laws*" in this sentence:

"The new organisation launched its first major attack on apartheid – a campaign against the Pass Laws – on 21 March 1960."

What other punctuation mark could be used here instead of the dashes?

_____

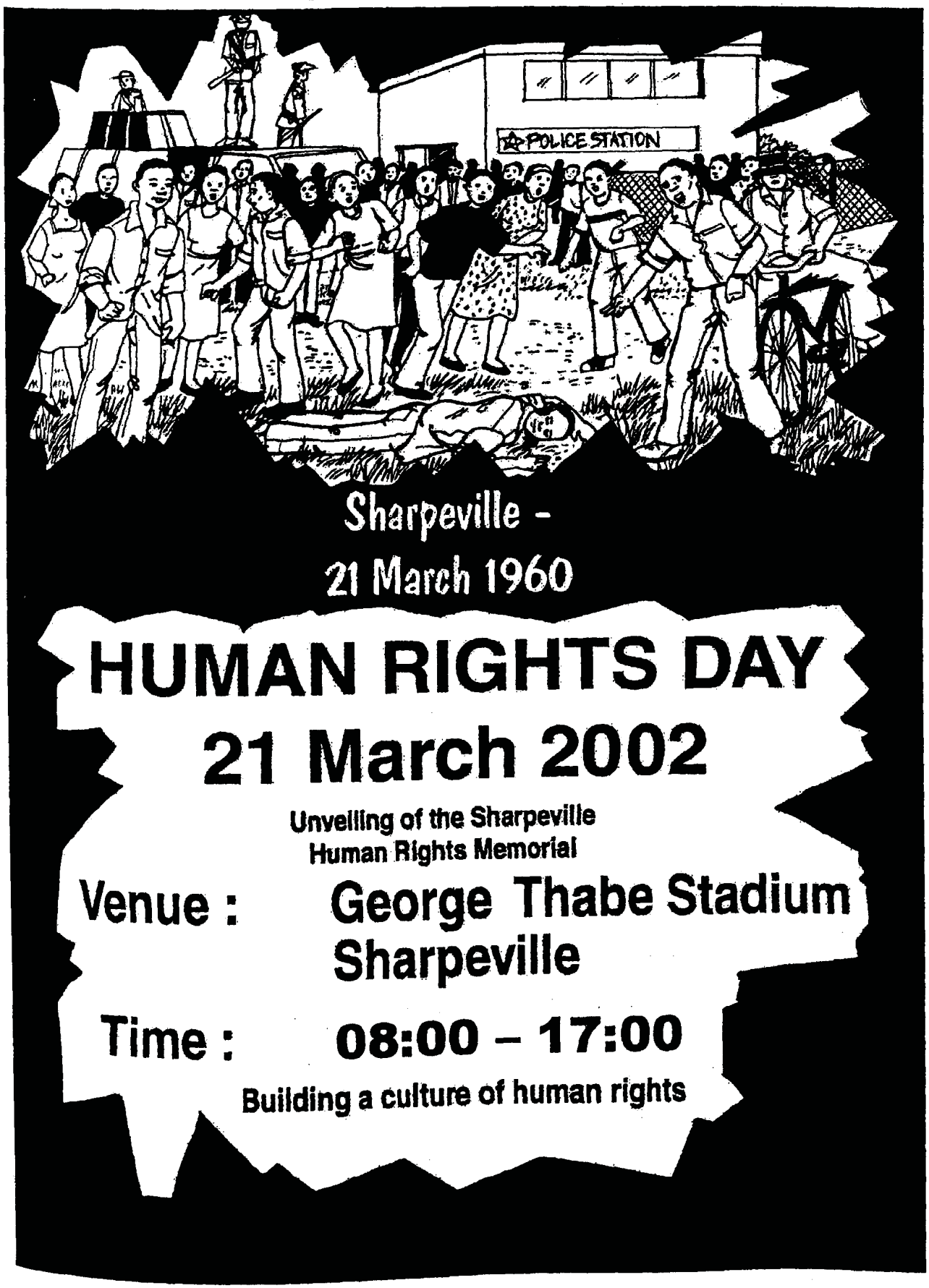
(1 mark)

[Total for Text 1: 29 marks]

IEB Copyright © June 2002

Text 2

Read this notice and answer the questions



IEB Copyright © June 2002

Question 15

What is the purpose of this notice?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 16

There are two dates in this notice. What happened on each date?

21 March 1960 _____

21 March 2002 _____

(2 marks)

Question 17

Look at the picture carefully

a) How can you tell the people are afraid?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) Why do you think the policemen are standing on top of their vehicles?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

IEB Copyright © June 2002

Question 18

A memorial is built to remind us of something or somebody. Do you think that the government should build a Human Rights Memorial in Sharpeville? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3 marks)

[Total for Text 2: 8 marks]

IEB Copyright © June 2002

PLEASE TURN OVER

IEB Copyright © June 2002

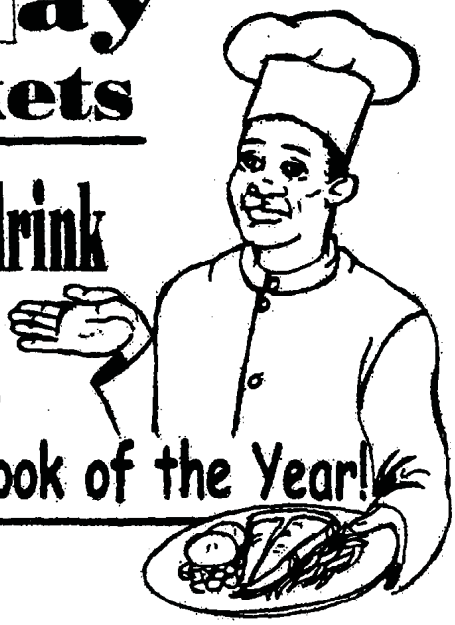
Text 3

Read the advertisement and answer the questions



Pick 'n Pay Supermarkets

Festival of food and drink



The search is on for

South Africa's Personality Cook of the Year!

Calling all professional cooks!

Pick'n Pay and the South African Cooks' Association are holding a competition at this festival to find the most entertaining and the most skilled cook!



If you are a charming, amusing, skilled and talented cook, ENTER NOW!

Call Erica on 082 451 2934

[redacted]

South Africa's first festival of food, drink and entertainment.
Come and see clowns, dancers, cooks, barmen, traditional cooking.

Free entry
Bring the whole family

[redacted]

Question 19

a) What is being advertised?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) Who can enter the competition?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

c) Who can come to the festival?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 20

Tick the correct box and give a reason for each choice

a) You have to pay to get into the festival.

☐ True ☐ False

Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

b) You can go to the festival in the evening.

☐ True ☐ False

Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

c) You can learn how to cook at the festival.

☐ True ☐ False

Quote from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 21

You want to go to the festival, but something is missing from the advertisement. What important information is missing?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 22

What kind of cook has the best chance of winning the competition? Tick the best answer.

☐ Someone who is learning how to cook and likes to be on stage and in front of cameras and people.

☐ Someone who has worked on cooking shows all over the world and has written books about cooking.

☐ Someone who has cooked in hotels all over the world and has written books but hates to work in front of people.

Give a reason for your answer

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 23

The festival is mostly about food and cooking. What other kind of fun can you have at this festival?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 24

Why are the words **Pick 'n Pay** written in the biggest letters in this advertisement?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

Question 25

Rewrite these sentences in the **past tense**

My friend is at the Festival. She has lots of fun talking to South Africa's own Shebeen Queen who gives her wonderful food to taste. She also enjoys watching the other cooks.

_____

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

[Total for Text 3: 13 marks]

TOTAL FOR SECTION A: 50 MARKS

IEB Copyright © June 2002

SECTION B

Choose **ONE** of the following topics.

Question 26

People often say that life today is very different. Compare the way children were brought up in the old days with the way parents bring up children today.

Give your essay a title.
Your essay should be at least 2 pages long.

[50 marks]

OR

Question 27

Should people who have not paid their electricity and water accounts have their supply cut off? Give reasons for and against cutting the supply of electricity. Also give your own opinion.

Give your essay a title.
Your essay should be at least 2 pages long.

[50 marks]

OR

Question 28

You went shopping at the weekend and you saw a group of men with guns going into a bank. You heard people screaming. Write a story about what happened next.

Give your story a title.
Your story should be at least 2 pages long.

[50 marks]

IEB Copyright © June 2002

SECTION B: Rough Work

IEB Copyright © June 2002

SECTION B: Final Draft

IEB Copyright © June 2002

For Office Use Only:

Content:
Organisation:
Language:
Vocabulary:
Total:

APPENDIX 3

A PAGE FROM LETTIE'S JOURNAL

Wednesday 13-11-2002

I had lots of work to do and I tried very ~~hard~~ hard to finish everything that I wanted to do. I read the article Alison gave to me I think that is very great I started to count when was John Langa born, he was born in 19-25 he came in Johannesburg when he was 15 years old in 19-40. When you think about this article then is lots of things that you could do when young or old. I started the adult classes in 19-99 - on the 4-3 that was March. I was 47 years old.

Thursday 14-11-2002

It was a very nice day I done the washin and iron, then I ~~went~~ headed to my classes It was nice, Alison bought the sewing machine and we learn about how you use the machine.

Friday 15-11-2002

On friday I always try to do a springcleanings, wich I do it all the time but I always think on friday do more then the next other day. You feel good if I do that make me feel ta weenked is here I can go to the Shops.

Saturday 16-11-2002

My happynes day I'm going to Eastgate Shopping Centre. I watch people walking up and down happys and dressed nice was very nice. to see different people ~~and~~ in the different plays.

Sunday 17-11-2002

In this morning I get up and do everythings that I want to do. Then in the afternoon I went to church It was a very nice to be at the church again. We sang and clap hands talk about the Bible.

Monday 18-11-2002

I have a lovely day today I enjoyed myday from Mondays, at 2 Oclock I watch Ricki lane this time was about a girls want to get married when the are 15-16 years old. There Mother says know, and one girl run away and got married with out ~~pamition~~ permission of her parents. She's back home because she had ~~pr~~ problem with her husband. His not letting her to do anything for herself.

Tuesday 19-11-2002

What a beautiful days hot and windy I can said a cool day. It is nice morning day Dudu is ready to go to School. Other happy day for me thanks to God.

Tom —

APPENDIX 4

A PAGE FROM FLORENCE'S JOURNAL

Blastwel I was not home all day
I Came lait half past 5

13 October 2002 Sunday

I was take my mothe to the going
Lates She went home to day I mising
her I wish she come back to stay with me

14 October 2002 Monday

My Sster phoned me she said if Can
we make a big party for my mother on
December?

15 October 2002 Tuesday
I think what I will do on December
about my grandChildren for the School
book and every thing the School need.

16 October 2002 Wednesday

My niece Phillisiwe She she is with
me She got day off on Wednesday's.

17 October 2002 Thursday

Thursday I was very Cros because
I didn't go to School other lady ask me
to come and help here her lady Works
her She is Sick

APPENDIX 5

QUESTIONNAIRE

Student questionnaire

Please answer these questions as fully as you can. Remember that there are no right or wrong answers. I would like to know what **you** thought, what you found helpful and also what you didn't like.

Using a diary

How did you find writing in a diary every day? Did you enjoy it? Was it a nuisance? Why?

Did you find it easier as you went on?

Would you like to carry on writing in your diary afterwards? Why? Why not?

Making a book with students' writing

Did you show the book to anyone? Who did you show it to?

What did you feel about having your writing printed?

Did you enjoy reading each other's writing? Why?

Memories and life stories

How did you feel about putting your memories down on paper? Was it enjoyable, helpful, or difficult?

How was it to listen to other people's life stories?

_____

Did they bring up other memories of your own? _____

Remembering children's stories
Who told you stories when you were little?

_____

When did she/he tell them to you?

_____

Did you ever hear them, or read them, at school?_____
Do you tell these stories to anyone? Who do you tell them to?

_____

Why do you think that adults tell these stories to children?

_____

Do you think these stories are important for children? Why?

_____

There is sometimes a song in the middle of a story. Why do you think this is?

_____

_____

Did you remember more stories after you heard other people's stories?

_____

How did you find it to write about these things? Please say if you enjoyed it, found it useful or interesting. Please tell me if you didn't enjoy it or find it helpful.

Reading and explaining a recipe_____

Making excuses_____

Thinking about proverbs (izaga) and sayings in Zulu and talking about them in English.

_____

Listening to someone telling a children's story.

Telling a children's story.

Talking about your family.

Introducing a friend after talking to her.

Making a list quickly: for example, things that make me cross, or what I would do if I won the Lotto.

Drawing a picture from a written description.

Looking at comics, and deciding what words the people might be saying, from the expressions on their faces.

If there was something that you didn't enjoy, or thought was a waste of time, can you say something more about it here? Why didn't you like it?

Your thoughts about writing.

What do you use writing for?

Is there anything else you would like to use writing for?

Has writing become any easier for you? In what ways?

_____

_____

What do you find most difficult when you must write something?

_____

How can a student improve her writing? What sort of things can she do?

_____

_____

_____

What should a teacher do, to help his/her students get better at writing?

_____

_____

What can stop people from learning, or make it difficult for them?

_____

_____

What makes it easier for people to learn?

_____

_____

Do people learn more easily when they are relaxed? Why or why not?

_____

Do you think that anybody can learn to write? Why or why not?

_____

Do you feel you have more things to write about now?_____
What sort of things will you write about?

_____

_____

APPENDIX 6

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Background information

For how long did you attend school when you were children?
What do you remember learning in your English classes at school?
Could you speak much English when you came to Johannesburg?

Reading and writing outside the literacy class

How long have you been coming to adult classes?
When you write at home, where do you write? Do you always write in the same place?
What did you write today?
When do you usually read?
What did you read today?

Responses to the classes

You both wrote exams. What was most useful to you from the year's work, in getting ready for the exam?
Was there anything you learned in class that was useful in your daily lives? If so, what was it?
Does talking about things before you write help you to write? If so, how?
Which class activities do you enjoy the most?
Does reading help you to write? If so, in what ways?

Using the journals

If you feel strongly about something, do you write about it in your journal?

Growth in confidence. Attitudes to writing.

Are there things that you can do now that you couldn't do before you came to adult classes? If so, what sort of things?
Is there anything that you have learned this year that has made your life easier or better? If so, what was it?
Has writing got any easier for you this year? If so, in what ways?
Is writing important in your life? Or is it just something you have to do?
Are you writing in a different way now from the way you used to write? If so, in what ways has your writing changed?
Do you have any advice for people who are thinking about coming to an adult class? If so, what is it?