

## UNIT 12: READING

### **TEACHER'S NOTES**

**Aim:** to provide practice in reading for gist;

to encourage students to look at the effects of a piece of writing;

to provide practice in guessing meaning from context.

This worksheet is designed to be used after Lesson 12.1.

**Time:** 40 minutes maximum

**Materials:** photocopies of the worksheet for each student

- 1 These questions are aimed at helping students to gain a gist understanding of the letter and to connect it with the letter in the Course Book. It would be beneficial for students to discuss after reading and answer the questions.

**Answers:**

- 1 The writer is a secretary to the Prime Minister's Office (Dominic Fraser-Darling), notable because the original letter was written directly to the Prime Minister.
- 2 Yes, Michaela's two main points were in regard to media coverage of minority sports and government funding for these. Both of these are mentioned in the letter.
- 3 Probably not. Although the letter responds to her concerns, it makes no effective promises that will be beneficial to Michaela's cause. The suggestion in the letter is that minority sports will be ignored in favour of more popular ones and that there is nothing the government can do to influence the media.

- 2 Guide students towards finding clues in the text, and in their understanding of the subject, in order to guess at the meaning of these words.
- 3 These questions are aimed at encouraging students to think about what impact this piece of writing could have on the person it is addressed to, and also about the intention (or lack of it) of the writer. Again, it would be suitable to open these questions up for discussion once students have considered their answers individually.

**Answers:**

- 1 Possibly not, because the letter focuses mostly on ideas and processes that already exist, i.e. funding that is already being spent on other purposes, and not on things that deal specifically with the issues raised. It is a little bit off-hand, not perhaps taking the issue too seriously.
- 2 Possibly because the Prime Minister's office would prefer not to be troubled with this issue any more.
- 3 There are many possible responses to this. For instance, she could try to publicise the letter, criticise its inaction and use it in her campaign for more attention for minority sports. Alternatively, she could be made angry enough by this letter to campaign all the more, for example collecting a petition to show that enough people are involved in these sports.