
AQA GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives

SET K

Insert

The two sources that follows are:

Source A: 20th Century non-fiction

Teenager dies after shark attack in Western Australia by Calla Wahlquist

An extract from a newspaper

Source B: 19th Century non-fiction

False Creek shark

An extract from a newspaper

Source A

Source A is taken from an online newspaper article about a shark attack in Western Australia. A boy was spear fishing when attacked in deep water by what was believed to have been a great white shark off Cheynes beach, Albany.

5 A 17-year-old boy has died after being
attacked by a shark off a beach near
Albany, on the West Australian south
coast. The teenager was in an area off
Cheynes beach at 12.20pm on Monday
when he was bitten. "Based on
information we have been able to gather
so far, it appears the deceased was
diving and/or spear fishing in the area,
10 with another person nearby," a police
spokesman said. "It is believed a shark
approached both of them, and at that
time the deceased appears to have
received a shark bite injury."



15 Department of Fisheries acting director general, Dr Rick Fletcher, told a later press
conference that initial reports indicated that the shark swam past one of the fishermen
and bit the other on the leg, causing fatal injuries. He said the two divers had already
caught some fish, which may have attracted the shark.

20 "This is obviously an extremely tragic event for all the families involved and our
sympathies go out to those particular families," he said. "We're not looking to speculate
at this stage on any of the details."

Fletcher said Fisheries staff had been unable to confirm reports from another
fisherman that he had seen a white shark in the area, but he said the description
provided by the surviving diver, coupled with the size of the bite on the deceased boy's
25 leg, indicated it was a white shark.

"From the reports and the advice we have about the injuries it appears it was a very
large shark, probably four to five metres, and probably a white shark," he said. "It was
a large part of his leg and he was a large person, therefore it was a large shark."
Fletcher said it was possible the shark had been speared by one of the divers during
30 the attack, and may be injured.

Two fisheries boats were searching the area for the shark on Monday afternoon and
drumlines were deployed. They are also scouring the beach for signs of an injured or
deceased shark. Wellington responded to a question about criticisms of WA's
controversial catch and kill policy, which allows the culling of any shark considered to
35 be a "serious threat", by saying "we're not going to discuss policy at this stage."
Wellington said the two fishermen were 40 metres off shore, in an area that is already
38 metres deep, and were fishing while free diving. "There was a report of a white
pointer around that place earlier and one fisherman tried to warn the others," he said.
"Unfortunately it appears he was too late."

- 40 An employee at Cheynes Beach Caravan Park told Guardian Australia the only shark sighting in the area had been of a bronze whaler in the week before Christmas. The sighting was reported at the general store, which is operated at the caravan park. But the employee, who did not wish to be named, said Cheynes beach was “not a great shark area”. “We have had two dead whales that washed up on the beach this year or
- 45 last year and Fisheries were trying to use them to lure sharks to the area to tag them – they went away empty handed,” she said. The park is full to capacity for the week leading up to New Year’s Eve, and the employee, who did not wish to be named, said most people would have been at the beach today. Cheynes beach is a popular camping spot on West Australia’s south coast. It is about 480km from Esperance
- 50 where 23-year-old Sean Pollard was attacked by what were believed to have been two great white sharks on 2 October. Pollard survived the attack but lost an arm and a hand.

Source B

Source B is taken from a newspaper article that appeared in Daily World in 1905. It describes an encounter with a shark in Vancouver, Canada.

Eight-year-old Harry Menzies was wading in the water just below Cotton's Mill near the mouth of False Creek on the evening of 5 July 1905. A friend was on the shore skipping rocks, but not paying attention to Harry. Fortunately, a Mr Dusenberry was nearby and noticed a wave approaching Harry, getting faster and faster. When he saw a dorsal fin emerge from the muddy water, Dusenberry shouted for the boy to get out of the water, grabbed a pike pole, and raced down to the beach. Harry Menzies scurried out of the water with an 11' 4" shark close behind. Dusenberry plunged the pike pole into the grounded shark, but this only angered it, according to the Daily World:

"Enraged by the pain the shark opened its mouth and showed the most formidable set of dentistry he had ever seen — something like a man would expect in a horrible nightmare. Without hesitation, Mr Dusenberry jammed the pike pole down the animal's throat and into its entrails. Afterward, when measurements were taken, it was found that the pike pole had gone eight feet down the shark's throat."

Dusenberry struggled to pull the shark out of the water, but to no avail. The boys, meanwhile, ran to get help. A few other men soon arrived, but they only managed to disembowel the "vicious monster" with the pike pole. The shark writhed at the water's edge for another hour and a half before finally expiring. Witnesses said "it must have bled nearly a barrel of gore."



The next day, a crew of 20 men were recruited to haul the 1100 lb shark carcass out of the water. The enterprising Dusenberry "recognized the Barnum possibilities" of the situation and used old sails to fabricate a tent with a sign that read "10 cents to see the big shark." A local exhibitor offered to buy the shark for \$50, but Dusenberry decided to wait and see if the Art, Historical and Scientific Association would make a similar offer.

The World reporter spoke with Captain Anderson, who was sure the shark was of the "genuine man-eating Hawaiian variety," 3400 miles from its home turf. Anderson figured it must have followed some vessel all the way from the south seas.

End of sources