

Common internal assessment 2025 — Phase 2

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Stimulus book

# Essential English

## General instruction

- Work in this book will not be marked.



Queensland  
Government

**QCAA**

Queensland Curriculum  
& Assessment Authority

# Stimulus 1

## Context

This is the transcript of a talkback radio show.

**Host:** Welcome to *Roaming on the Road*. Today, we're doing something different. Our sound engineer has swapped the headphones for the steering wheel. As we drive through our vast, ever-changing state, I'm sitting in the passenger seat eagerly taking calls. I figure it's fitting to be *in* the country at the same time we talk *about* our country. Today's topic? Country living — the heart and soul of our nation.

Red earth, spinifex and waving Queensland bluegrass surround me in a stunning mosaic! Occasionally, a rusty windmill flashes by, as do small dams, some sighing in the heat.

Bitumen stretches into the distance in a shimmering haze and there's barely a tree in sight, but it's beautiful.

Childhood memories swirl real and large for me, listeners — the smell of rain hitting freshly broken dirt, the taste of milk straight from cows, the sprawling gum tree instantly reminding me of Grandma's house, startling stars in inky skies, silvery orbs for moons.

Oh! Here's our first caller — Jaimie from Channel Country. Over to you, Jaimie!

**Jaimie:** Hi. Thanks for having me! At 16, I had to move away from our family property to attend boarding school, but I missed the open spaces, the endless blue skies ... even the clouds of dust!

Before I left, we'd rise with the sun, check that the animals hadn't escaped and feed the working dogs. School came next, followed by ending the day working with my siblings. One day we'd be mustering cattle on quad bikes. The next we'd be in the middle of harvest. They were long, long days ... looooooong days. But I wouldn't change it for anything. After Year 12, my heart called me home. There's literally nowhere I'd rather be.

**Host:** Thanks Jaimie. Next is Joe, a miner in the central region. What is country living to you?

**Joe:** Mate, I've been working the land for most of my life, as did my father and his father before him. But when my kids moved away, I decided to take a job in the mining sector. I enjoy it because I love being out in the country. But my heart belongs to the land.

**Host:** Country feelings run deep. On to our next caller, Chan.

**Chan:** Only 10% of Australians live in rural Australia, but it's *the* life for me. On the one hand, the land floods, but then it bursts with colour. Deliveries take a billion years to arrive, but we don't lock anything up. Distances are long, but everyone is connected. We don't have shops everywhere, but we have the brightest stars in the darkest of skies. Lying on trampolines at night is like being drawn into outer space and floating alongside stars. We have rodeos and music festivals. And we can judge the size of towns by the number of hotels. I was born here and I'll never leave!

**Host:** Thanks Chan. Now, over to Sam.

**Sam:** I was the kid who couldn't wait to get away. Back then, I felt as if there was nothing to do and nowhere to go. *Also*, everyone knew what you did, and when. It was *so* annoying. But now I understand that they'd been looking out for me, like mares protecting their foals. *Also*, sharing or trading with neighbours, like, exchanging eggs for veggies, is an inborn reflex, an imprint on our genes. I only realised what I'd lost after I left.

**Host:** So, that's country living, listeners. Thank you, callers. Until next week ...

# Stimulus 2

## Context

This magazine cover is for a publication in a rural town in Queensland.

Issue 518 | Summer 2025

# Sunburnt

Three past students  
return to local schools  
as teachers



Rain forecast  
hopeful for summer

## GOLDEN MOMENTS

**UPCOMING**  
Candlelit concert  
fundraiser

Canape cooking  
on an open fire

Local footy star  
makes Qld team

Livestock prices  
on the rise

Heaps of  
competitions  
Something for  
everyone



**SHOW DATES: 22–24 February**

Equestrian • Demolition derby • Goat races  
Street parade and live music ... *See inside for details*

## References

### Stimulus 2

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Photo of rain gauge: Rawpixel free photo, <https://www.rawpixel.com/image/9647793/rain-gauges-precipitation-measurement-tool>

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