2.2 Contexts and Paper 2 source skills

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS context • source • perspective • data centre • electronic waste

Objective

Apply the content to the **contexts** of the course (cultural, economic, environmental, health, human knowledge, political, social) and build the **Paper 2** skills: read sources, compare them and use them with your own knowledge.

You must be able to:

- place a digital issue in one or more contexts
- identify the claim and perspective of a source
- compare two sources
- evaluate the origin and purpose of a source
- combine sources and own knowledge in an argument

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Contexts with examples

context	example issue
economic	gig work through apps; online shopping and local shops
environmental	energy use of data centres; electronic waste
health	fitness trackers; online medical records; screen time
political	election advertising; internet shutdowns
social	online communities; cyberbullying

Source A: an energy agency report (adapted)

Data centres used about 1–1.5 % of the world's electricity in 2022. Demand is expected to grow quickly because of artificial intelligence, but efficiency gains have so far kept the share fairly low.

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■ **Source B: a statement by a climate campaign group (written for practice)**

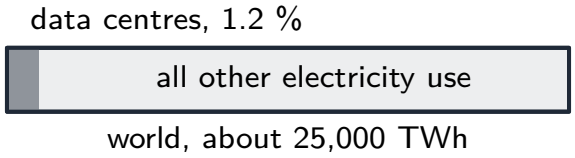
> Every AI query burns energy and water. Tech companies promise "net zero", but their emissions are rising. Governments must force them to publish the full energy cost of AI.

Worked comparison. Both sources say data centres use energy and that AI increases demand. A gives a figure and a balanced view (efficiency); B uses emotional language and calls for action. A comes from an expert body; B from a campaign whose purpose is to persuade.

2 Practice

2.1 State the **claim** of Source B, and **one** word or phrase that shows its perspective. [2]

2.2 If world electricity use is about 25,000 TWh a year and data centres use 1.2 % of it, calculate their use in TWh, and explain why a small percentage can still matter. [3]



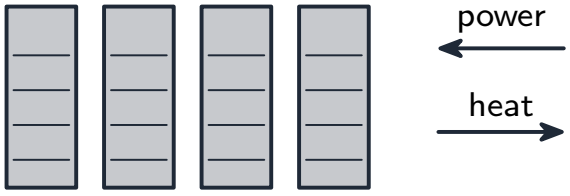
2.3 Compare and contrast Sources A and B. [4]

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2.4 Evaluate the **origin** and **purpose** of Source B for a student investigating the environmental impact of AI. [6]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Paper 2 style.)* Using Sources A and B and your own knowledge, discuss whether governments should regulate the environmental impact of data centres. [15]



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