

## Second board pulls US writers from list

A SECOND exam board has ditched American authors from its list of GCSE English set texts, leading to more claims that education secretary Michael Gove had influenced the decision. The AQA's suggested reading includes the likes of British comedian Meera Syal and Stephen Kelman's debut *Pigeon English*. However, works from US writers of the ilk of Arthur Miller and Maya Angelou failed to make the cut, just as they did with OCR's shortlist. The department for education insisted it had 'not banned any authors, books or genres'.

## The Green Room

by Neil Sean



Celebrities behind closed doors

Corrie actress Samia Ghadie worries about her looks. 'I can see myself looking a lot older on screen but it is late nights and being a mum,' she says.

Lindsay Lohan is a big fan of Alan Carr. 'I would have him live with me,' she says. 'He is a real tonic and always makes me smile.'

Danny Dyer is known on the set of *EastEnders* as Ronsel – for his love of fake tan.

Fellow *EastEnders* Ben Hardy says posing for a gay mag was 'liberating'. He adds: 'My fans have a diverse taste and I am thrilled with the response.'

Justin Bieber and Seth Rogen's war of words could be over after Biebs asked the actor to appear in his next video as his 'grumpy dad'.

Harry Styles is determined to get a buzz cut after saying he's too hot under his mop – but his label won't let him get the scissors out just yet.

The stars of *Hollyoaks* are waiting to hear if they will get to do a calendar this year after last year's was scrapped because of poor sales.

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## We've got great drawl of China...

VOICES of two British students will soon be heard on an underground system in China. Announcements by Dan Barber and Alex Farguharson will be played in stations and on trains of the new Ningbo Metro network. The Nottingham university students won a competition to find international voices after it was approached by bosses from the Chinese underground system. Ben Jiang, from Ningbo's planning department, said the voices of the two students were authoritative, natural and easy for non-native English speakers to understand.

# Angry fans head in One Direction to sell tickets



Wee dram: The duchess enjoys a single malt PICTURES: SWNS/REUTERS

## 'Weighty' Katy wraps up to avoid royal flush

AFTER a series of skirt malfunctions in Australia the 'derri-heir to the throne' played it safe yesterday.

While the German newspaper *Bild* and the Sydney Daily Telegraph published photos of the Duchess of Cambridge's bottom exposed by a gust of wind, speculation grew that she has become a secret user of hem weights. She kept

herself under wraps in a £1,435 crimson coat in Perthshire as she and Prince William opened the new-look Famous Grouse Experience visitor attraction.

After touring the distillery, Kate sipped from a glass of Snow Goose whisky.

Next stop was the Fonteviot village fete in the Highlands where she pulled funny faces to amuse her younger fans.



Funny face: The duchess poses for a photo at the fete



DISILLUSIONED One Direction fans are snubbing the boyband by selling tickets to gigs they no longer want to attend in the wake of the drug scandal.

Some Directioners, as their fans are known, are flogging tickets to the *Where We Are* tour for as little as £15 – less than half their face value.

Online ticket marketplace viagogo reported a 79 per cent rise in ticket sales since 21-year-old Zayn Malik and Louis Tomlinson, 22, were seen in a video apparently smoking drugs.

Angry fans and parents have turned on the pair since the leaked video, which was filmed in Peru.

But some Directioners have defended the boys and hit out at those criticising them. Filipino news service the GMA 7 network found its Twitter feed flooded by angry fans after they used the headline 'Bad Direction' in a report.

Obsessive fans began harassing the sta-

by SEAMUS DUFF

tion, bombarding it with facts about good deeds 1D stars Harry Styles and Niall Horan, both 20, have achieved.

'Remember when Harry spend 3k on pizza to a homeless – Zayn donated 500k – Niall raised 300k for charity,' commented one fan, while the hashtag #Biggest-LiesGMA began trending. The furore surrounding the video might have one silver lining, however, as industry analysts believe the controversy could help the band begin to appeal to a wider audience.

Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber saw their popularity boosted once they began to shake their squeaky clean image.

Public relations consultant Mark Borkowski said: 'It's a good career move considering the sell-by stamp date on One Direction's arse. Surprise, surprise, a band of young pop stars smoke dope. It helps them with the credibility factor.'

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