



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level
Advanced International Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

8693/21

Paper 2 Composition

October/November 2009

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **2** printed pages.



Answer one question from Section A and one question from Section B.

Write between 600 and 900 words for each composition.

Section A: Narrative/Descriptive/Imaginative Writing

- 1 Write two contrasting descriptive pieces (between 300-450 words each) about different shopping trips. One of them is about an enjoyable experience; the other is about an experience which is not enjoyable. In your writing you should bring out clear contrasts in setting and atmosphere.
- 2 Write the opening chapter of a novel entitled *The Soldier's Story*. In it you should create a sense of mood and character.
- 3 Write a short story in which the thoughts of a famous figure from the past are revealed at a crucial point in her or his life.
- 4 "There was rustling, a faint groaning in the distance, an icy air all around ... "

Continue the story (although it does not have to be a complete one). In your writing you should bring out a sense of tension and the unknown.

Section B: Discursive/Argumentative Writing

- 5 'These days there is too much state control.'

'We need as much protection by the state as possible.'

What do you think — and why?
- 6 A luxury hotel, which is proud of its facilities and standards, produces a glossy brochure in which it describes itself. However, a hotel inspector on a secret visit is far from impressed by its claims, and writes a severely critical report. Write the text for the brochure and the text for the report (between 300-450 words each).
- 7 You have been asked to write an article entitled *Life in 2025* for a magazine. In it you describe your vision of the future. Write the article.
- 8 A national newspaper receives two strongly contrasting letters. The first one carries the heading 'There has never been a better time to be alive', and the other one 'It is a terrifying time to be young.' Write the two letters (between 300–450 words each).

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