

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced Subsidiary GCE

CRITICAL THINKING

2870/2

PAPER 2

Monday

10 JANUARY 2005

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:
Answer booklet

TIME 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.
- There are **three** questions on this paper. You must answer **all** questions.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **60**.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of your written communication in question 3, which requires a piece of extended writing.
- You should spend no more than 30 minutes answering each question.

This question paper consists of 5 printed pages and 3 blank pages.

1 In the following passage you are given information about a dispute.

Write a reasoned case in which you divide your answer as follows:

(a) Assess the credibility of the evidence given by each participant/source.

Make clear: • How far this is influenced by any relevant factors
e.g. what they could have seen, and any assumptions that need to be made. [12]

(b) Come to a reasoned judgement as to who caused the seafood to become a health hazard.

You should: • Identify where there is corroboration and/or conflicting evidence.
Outline the balance of evidence.
• Justify your judgement by discussing the weight and quality of the supporting evidence. [8]

[Total Marks: 20]

Several guests became ill with food poisoning after a wedding reception held in a garden with a marquee, during exceptionally hot weather. The Environmental Health Officer's initial enquiry isolated the cause of the food poisoning to the seafood and attributed this to lack of refrigeration. A dispute has consequently arisen as to who left the tureen of seafood out of the refrigerator.

The caterer (C) explained, "I insisted that the host (H) hired a generator and two industrial fridges for the buffet, despite his complaints that his budget was tight. He had no idea about the food risks. I can only think that he took the large tureen out of the fridge to give him space to chill his champagne, and that the seafood was affected by the high temperature. As I encourage all my staff to take the Basic Food Hygiene Certificate, I am confident that the waitress (W) knew the risks of food poisoning associated with unrefrigerated seafood. In fact, when I checked the buffet immediately before the guests arrived to sit down for the meal, (W) had just completed the final touches and was about to take the tureen out of the fridge at that point."

(C)'s van driver (V) claimed, "(H) oversaw the delivery into the fridges at 8 am. The tureen took up a whole shelf, so it was difficult to get everything in. I did notice that (H)'s champagne was standing in a container of water. Presumably the ice had already melted. It is obvious that (H) replaced the tureen with the champagne bottles to keep them chilled in the fridge until his drinks reception at 11.30 am."

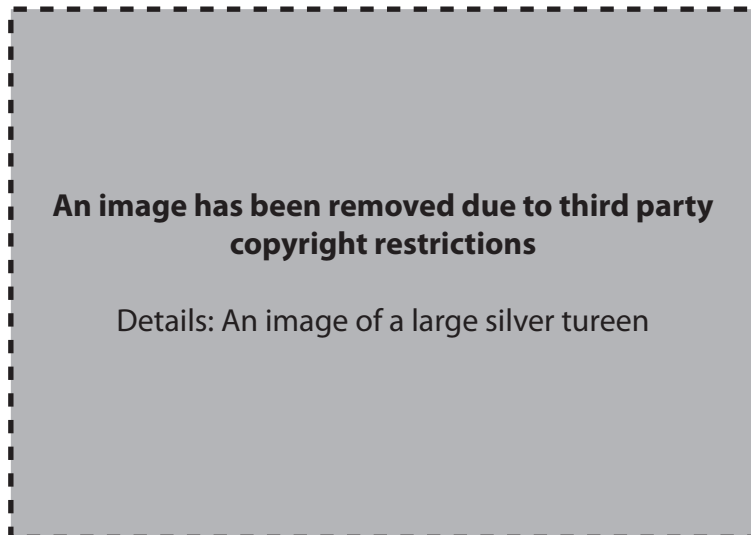
However, the photographer (P) accused (W) of taking the food out of the fridges too early. He identified the tureen on a table, in the background of his photograph of the wedding cake.

(W) protested, "When I arrived at midday the marquee was like a sauna. I had to hang around for more than an hour before I could take anything out of the fridges, as the schedule was running late because the photographs in the garden were taking longer than expected. (C) reassured me that the EHO initial report supports our good practice, confirming, '... a continuous programme of staff training over the past six years'. Also that our restaurant '... complied with the Food Safety Regulations in its preparation, storage and service of food'. Even (H) on the day complimented us on the freshness on the food."

(H) complained, "I spent good money to ensure that the food was properly refrigerated. There is no way that I would have risked the health of my family and friends by cutting down on the refrigeration of the seafood. When I popped into the marquee to tell (W) that the photographs were almost completed, I was surprised, considering the high temperature, to find that the buffet had already been set out."

Background

- Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) advise, educate and have prosecution powers in matters of food safety.
- Caterers by law must assess food safety hazards and take steps to combat them.
- Bacteria that cause food poisoning can multiply very rapidly in temperatures above 5 °C and cannot be detected by smell or taste.



The caterer prepared the food and had it delivered to the host. He supplied the waitress, free of charge from his restaurant as a goodwill gesture, to serve the food later in the day.

The seafood was to be served in the host's large silver tureen (see above), which would act as the buffet's centrepiece. It formed part of a larger batch which had been prepared for the restaurant's general use. The EHO report indicated that the batch as a whole had not been a health hazard.

The hired refrigerators and their set temperatures complied with food safety regulations.

The host's plan

- 8.00 am Delivery of the food
- 10.00 am Wedding
- 11.30 am Champagne reception and photographs in the garden
- 1.00 pm Buffet

2 Critically evaluate the argument below. Ensure that you divide your answer as follows:

- (a) **Identify** the overall conclusion of the argument. [1]
- (b) **State** the five main reasons that are given to support the conclusion. [5]
- (c) **Assess** the argument by
- giving **three assumptions** and
 - explaining **three flaws** in the reasoning. [6]
- (d) **Construct** two further arguments which may challenge and/or support the conclusion. [8]

[Total Marks: 20]

The use of health supplements such as multivitamin tablets has increased greatly in the western world. People take these supplements because advertising suggests they prevent a range of medical conditions from developing. However, there is concern that people are consuming worryingly high doses of these supplements and the European Union (EU) has issued a directive that will ban the sale of a wide range of them. This EU directive ought to be supported.

Research suggests that people who take Vitamin C supplements of over 500 milligrams a day are more likely to develop cancer. This shows how much damage these health supplements do to people's health. If people want high doses of Vitamin C they should be encouraged to get it through natural means such as eating oranges. A spokesman for the health supplement industry has argued that other research shows that Vitamin C supplements help prevent heart disease but we can dismiss evidence from such a biased source.

Science fiction of the 1960s and 70s predicted that pills would replace meals as the way in which people get the 'fuel' they need. This, it was argued, would mean a more efficient use of time as people wouldn't have to waste it eating meals. The EU directive would help to prevent this nightmare of pills replacing food becoming a reality.

People already take too many pills instead of adopting a healthier lifestyle. For example, the consumption of painkillers in Britain in 1998 was 21 tablets per year for every man, woman and child in the country. People don't need all these pills.

Some might argue that the EU directive is an infringement of the right to freedom of choice. However, there are many legal precedents for such intervention when it is in the individual's best interests. We now *make* people wear seatbelts rather than allowing them to choose to do so. It is not therefore possible for people to argue against the EU directive on civil liberties grounds. Opposing the EU directive would mean beneficial measures like this would be threatened.

If people cannot buy these banned health supplements then sales of fruit and vegetables will increase. This will be good for the British economy and good for the people. After all, one cannot get too much of the vitamins and minerals that fruit and vegetables have to offer, which is why health professionals encourage us to eat at least 5 portions of fruit or vegetables per day.

3 Write a critical evaluation of the following argument. Ensure that in your answer you:

- Explicitly identify the **structure** of the argument, that is conclusions drawn, reasons given and counter-assertions made. [5]
- Assess the argument by explaining the **flaws** in the reasoning, and giving the assumptions that must be made. [6]
- Present **two further arguments** that challenge and/or support the conclusion. [6]
(Three marks are available for quality of written communication.)

[Total Marks: 20]

It is a good thing that many towns and cities have developed 'out of town' shopping centres. The Association of Small Businesses may argue that this is killing off the town centre because shops there get reduced trade. The ASB is mainly interested in protecting their members' interests, whereas the out of town shopping centre is a development with a number of beneficial effects for society.

By removing the harmful pollution caused by traffic, out of town shopping centres make a significant contribution to the preservation of ancient buildings. Mediaeval cathedrals, such as Wells, that have always been well away from traffic, require less restoration than those such as York which are exposed to traffic pollution.

Florence is considered one of the finest tourist attractions in the world. The authorities there are proposing to remove all commercial activity from the centre to cater for tourists more effectively. If one of the finest tourist attractions is doing this, it must be a good policy. By removing the shoppers to an out of town location, city centres become pleasanter places for tourists.

Out of town shopping centres solve the problem of traffic congestion. For example, they have large car parks and are built adjacent to good roads.

These out of town shopping centres make an important contribution to providing full employment. For example, women who live in housing estates on the outskirts of the city find that they are conveniently located. Such shopping centres also provide ample part-time job opportunities for young people and pensioners in the area.

Total Marks [60]

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