



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

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**8693/21**

Paper 2 Composition

**October/November 2012**

**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.**

You should write between 600 and 900 words for each composition.

**Section A: Narrative/Descriptive/Imaginative Writing**

- 1 Write two pieces (between 300–450 words each) that contrast with each other: the first about a teacher at the start of her or his career, and the second about the same teacher at the end of this career. The person you write about can be real or imagined. In your writing create a sense of character and motivation.
- 2 Write the short opening chapter to a novel called *A Summer Romance*. In your writing create a sense of mood and place.
- 3 Write a descriptive piece called *Mist*. In your writing create an atmosphere of tension and suspense.
- 4 Write a short story which ends with these words:  
  
‘... and, slowly, the doors opened, revealing what they had been told all those years ago.’

**Section B: Discursive/Argumentative Writing**

- 5 ‘A university should provide an education for students who were born in the same country, rather than students from abroad.’  
  
What do you think – and why?
- 6 An article has appeared in your local newspaper, arguing that the driving age for teenagers should be substantially raised. Two readers write letters to the newspaper, one agreeing with the article, the other disagreeing. Write the two letters (between 300–450 words each).
- 7 ‘Cosmetic surgery does more harm than good.’  
  
What do you think – and why?
- 8 Write a magazine article called ‘Living Within Your Means’. In it you offer advice to families on how to manage their income, giving reasons why they should do so.

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