



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

---

**THINKING SKILLS**

**9694/02**

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

**October/November 2008**

**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.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer **all** the questions.

Start each question on a new answer sheet.

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

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question.

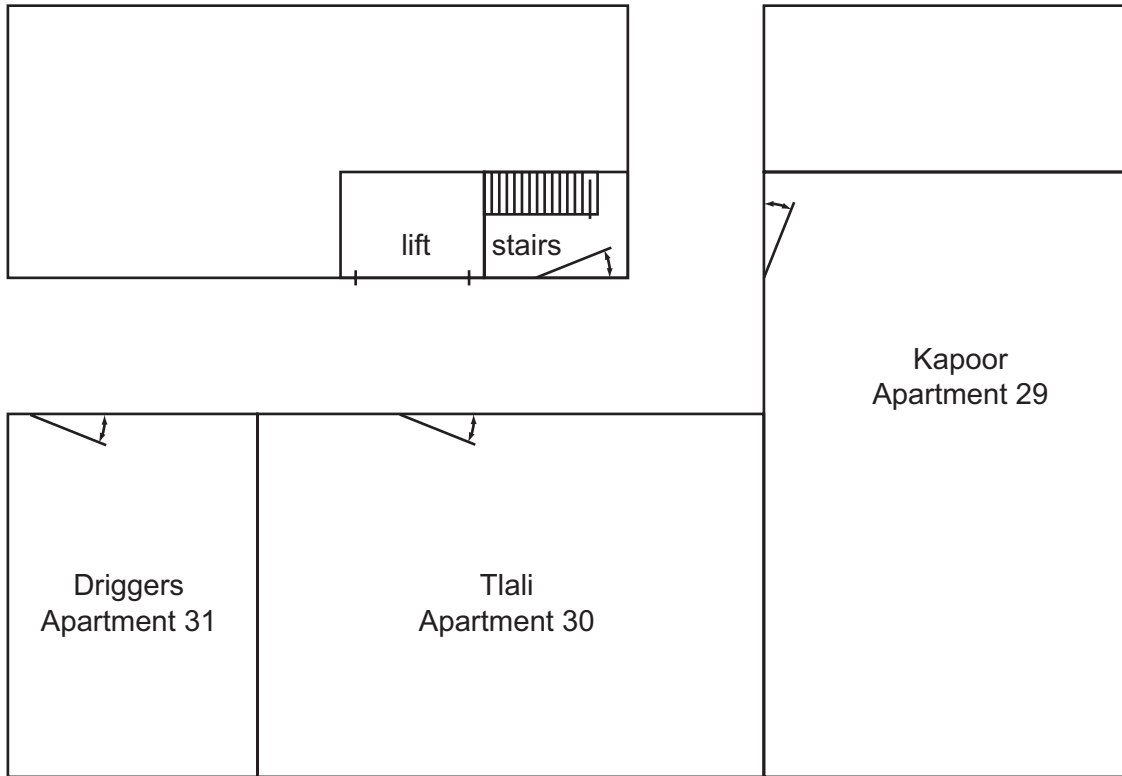
---

This document consists of **7** printed pages and **1** blank page.



1 Study the following evidence and answer the questions that follow.

On Tuesday, 16 October 2007, at 12.30pm, Mrs Driggers overheard a disturbance between her neighbours, Mr E.P. Tlali, Vaidhya Kapoor and Mrs Kapoor. She called the police, who took statements.



Damansara Apartments Floor 57

**Police Statements:**

**Mrs Driggers:** Mr Tlali is harmless. He gets confused sometimes. I don't think he can see very well. The Kapoor boys play jokes on him and he doesn't understand. They can be very noisy and rude.

**Hua-Ann Driggers** (age 13) (interviewed that evening when she came home from school): I quite like Vaidhya but I mostly talk to his oldest brother, Alok. Alok is very nice. Mom would prefer me not to talk to either of them. I will miss Alok when we go back to the States. I won't miss Mr Tlali, though. I don't like the way he looks at me.

**Mrs Kapoor:** Mr Tlali is always complaining about my sons. I think he is jealous of them because they are young. At 12.30 I was cooking, when I heard screaming, and Vaidhya, my youngest son, ran in crying that Mr Tlali had slapped him. I went out and told Mr Tlali what I thought of him. Then Mr Tlali started making accusations against my son Vaidhya. I became very angry. My son is not bad, just lively.

**Vaidhya Kapoor** (age 12): I had just come out of the lift and was walking to our door. Mr Tlali opened his door and walked into me. Then he shouted at me and said bad words. He took his walking stick and hit me. I don't know why. He makes things up. He doesn't know what day it is most of the time.

**Mr E.P. Tlali** (age 83): I was going out to the park to get my daily exercise. Vaidhya stood there, blocking my way, holding graffiti paint. Also, there is a big scratch on my front door. His headphones were making a very loud noise. I lifted my stick so that I could move and get my balance, and he shoved me back into my home and started calling me names and swearing at me. Of course I didn't hit Vaidhya. He is bigger than me. He screamed, ran towards his own apartment, banged the staircase door on his way, and cried for his mother. I was still standing by my door feeling shaky when Mrs Kapoor came and started shouting at me.

**Other evidence:**

A can of spray paint was found in the stairwell, but it did not have Vaidhya Kapoor's finger prints on it. Vaidhya's pockets were found to contain: one Swiss army knife, three stink bombs, seven elastic bands, one handkerchief with the initials V.K., four sticky sweets, one marker pen, and a cigarette lighter. Vaidhya had a bruise on his left cheek.

- (a) Comment on any vested interest that Mr Tlali might have. [2]
- (b) How relevant is the statement provided by Hua-Ann Driggers? [2]
- (c) How reliable are the statements provided by Mrs Kapoor and her son, Vaidhya? [4]
- (d) Whose story is more likely to be true, Vaidhya's or Mr Tlali's? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using the evidence provided. [5]

2 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

- 1 A world run by women would be more peaceful than our present world for many reasons. Women are essentially more social than men. (This is not just anecdotal; research shows that women's brains are better developed than men's in terms of social networks.) We see evidence of this in the way women maintain social networks and ensure that the social life of a community runs smoothly. It is women, for example, who send birthday cards, organise parties, remind their husbands to phone their mothers.
- 2 As a result of this women tend to negotiate - for instance, they look for solutions and persuade others to co-operate, keeping communities working harmoniously. In business, women managers are extremely effective at encouraging team work and ensuring that each individual is valued and working to their maximum. International negotiation would be better than war.
- 3 Men are made for solitary hunting. Their physical strength and brain mechanisms are ideally suited for knife edge survival and provision of meat. In a test of man against animal, a man's instincts, brain structures, single minded focus and competitive urge equip him well. Unfortunately, these instincts tend to lead to competitive stand off rather than peaceful solution.
- 4 Providing for the family by sitting at a boardroom table is therefore more likely to use characteristics women have evolved in their roles at the heart of the community than the skills men have evolved as lone hunters. It is simply not the same as spearing a mammoth for dinner. So men are not as suitable for business management or politics as women are.
- 5 Furthermore, women can multi-task, whereas men tend to focus on a single task. Running the modern world requires leaders to juggle several tasks in parallel. It would be far better to have women in these complex roles. For all these reasons, then, we need more women leaders.

(a) 'A world run by women would be more peaceful than our present world.'

Identify **two** reasons the author gives in paragraphs 1 and 2 to support this claim. [2]

(b) 'Some female leaders, for example Indira Gandhi and Margaret Thatcher, have male personality characteristics.'

Does this additional comment, if true, strengthen, weaken or have no effect on the argument? Justify your answer. [3]

(c) 'We need more women leaders.'

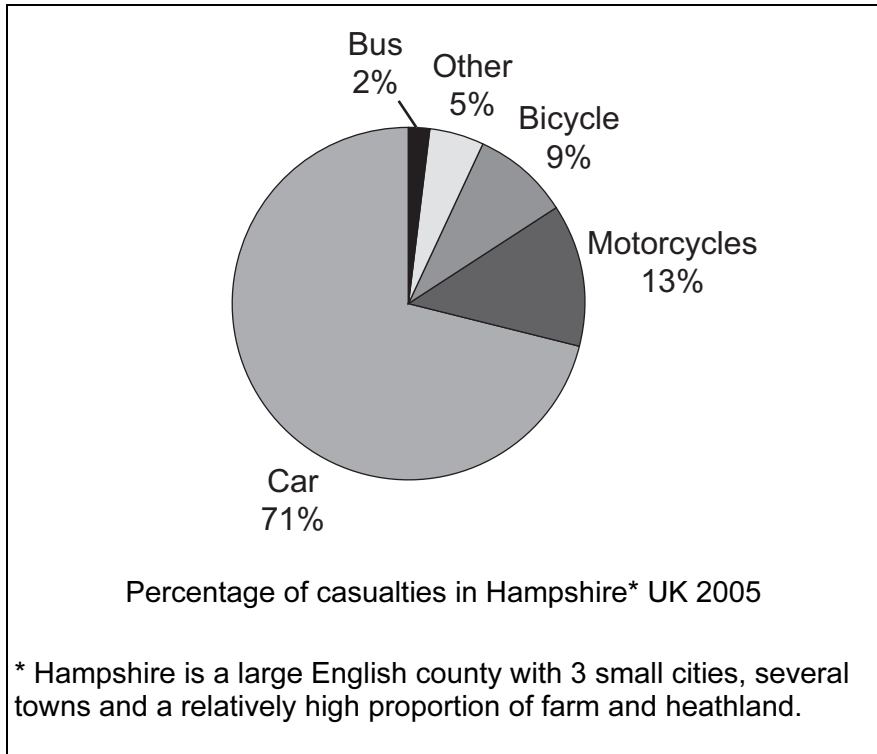
How far is it reasonable to use evidence about the business world to support this claim? [3]

(d) Write one further argument to support or challenge the claim that 'we need more women leaders.' You should state the conclusion clearly. [4]

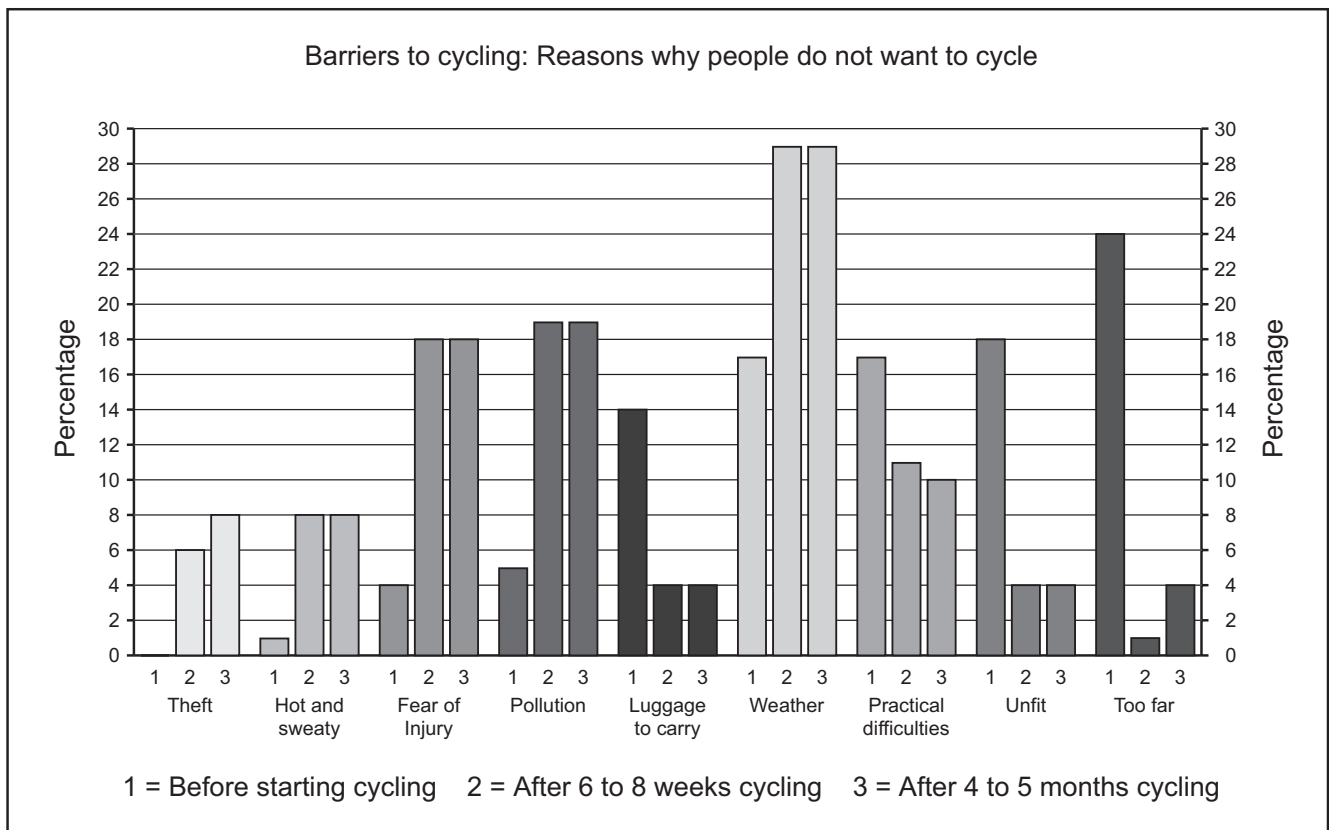
**BLANK PAGE**

3 Study the following evidence and answer the questions that follow.

**Box A**



**Box B**



**Box C**

One problem with comparing the safety of driving and cycling is that the population that cycles differs from that which drives. The average driver is trained, tested, will have about two decades of experience, and is to a degree regulated. The average cyclist is young, male, untutored, unregulated and riding a poorly equipped bicycle. Experienced cyclists, like experienced drivers, have far better accident rates. There are not enough skilful, experienced cyclists on the roads, however. A further problem, especially in the US, is that an entire generation of riders believes that the only safety responsibility of a cyclist is to wear a helmet. These riders run stop signs and red lights, cut across four-lane roads without any signal and ride without lights at night. Of course they crash.

**Box D****Why Cycle?**

A study in Copenhagen, Denmark, over 14.5 years found that cycling to work (an average of 3 hours' cycling per week) decreased risk of mortality by about 40% compared to a control group. This study involved 30 000 people and took into account age, health status, and socio-economic factors such as education. It also found that older people gained even more from cycling than younger people.



- (a) Can the following be reliably concluded from the evidence above?
- (i) People in Hampshire UK are 62% more likely to be injured in a car than on a bicycle. Briefly explain your answer with reference to Box A. [2]
- (ii) People's concerns about the disadvantages of cycling decrease when they cycle more. Explain your answer with reference to Box B. [3]
- (b) Identify **two** reasons given in Box C to show that it is difficult to compare the safety of driving and cycling. [2]
- (c) Would cycling or driving be the best way for most people to travel short distances? Write a short, reasoned case to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Boxes A-D. [5]

4 Critically evaluate the following argument. In your evaluation you should:

- (a) show that you have a clear understanding of the argument by identifying its main conclusion and the reasoning used to support it. [5]
- (b) evaluate the argument by identifying any unstated assumptions and discussing weaknesses and flaws. [5]
- (c) offer **one** further argument which could be used to support or challenge the conclusion. [3]

An addiction to loud music is leading to vast numbers of young people around the world damaging their hearing by turning their music up too loud. This is demonstrated by evidence from the British Royal National Institute for Deaf People, which claims that 90% of young people suffer damage to their hearing after going to a live concert. The World Health Organisation says that excessive noise is the main avoidable cause of permanent hearing loss.

Young people are not taking simple measures to prevent damage to their hearing because they are afraid of seeming uncool. They could turn their iPods down, or wear earplugs to concerts. However, anyone who uses public transport will know that young people have the volume on their iPods so high that it is painfully loud for everyone in the bus or train. Only 3% of young people wear earplugs to live concerts to prevent damage to their hearing.

Music is an important part of life which can be enjoyed from infancy until old age, so it does not make sense to allow immature, irresponsible youth to throw away their ability to hear music. Consequently we must take action to prevent young people from damaging their hearing. There should therefore be internationally agreed limits to sound volumes which must apply to the volume of music from all speakers and sound systems as well as to the volume of music at live concerts.

Some young people may argue that techno at very low volumes sounds like a child hitting a saucepan with a tent peg, but actually, all techno sounds like this, so turning the volume up does not improve the quality of the music that young people listen to. So we can see that young people are unable to appreciate music.