

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
Advanced Extension Award

CRITICAL THINKING

9913

Friday

1 JULY 2005

Morning

3 hours

Additional materials:

Answer booklet

Reading Booklet 9913/RB1 – documents 1-3

Reading Booklet 9913/RB2 – documents 4-8

TIME 3 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided in the answer booklet.
- There are three sections to this paper. Answer **all** questions.
- Write **all** your answers including Section A Multiple Choice in the answer booklet.
- Read each section carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- You are advised to spend about 30 minutes reading Documents 4 to 8 before you begin to answer Section C.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- Section A comprises 30% of the available marks;
Section B comprises 30% of the available marks;
Section C comprises 40% of the available marks.

This question paper consists of 15 printed pages and 1 blank page.

Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section of the paper.

For each question there are five possible answers, **A, B, C, D** and **E**.

Choose the **one** you consider correct and **record the letter of your choice in the answer booklet**.

- 1** Expectation is everything when it comes to modern art. Some students in Brighton were told they were about to see an example of modern art and were then shown a photograph of a pile of discarded drinks containers. They took it quite seriously as the kind of thing that would be worthy of an award.

Which of the following is an **underlying assumption** of the short argument above?

- A** A pile of drinks containers is not art.
- B** If something is not worthy of an award it is not art.
- C** Anything whatsoever can be classified as art.
- D** If something is art it is worthy of an award.
- E** People will appreciate only what they are told is art.

[1]

2 Technological progress has merely.....

An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

An extract from The New Scientist about technological progress not necessarily being a good thing

.....and seriousness in it.

(Adapted from: Editorial. New Scientist. 6 November 2004)

(a) The main conclusion argued for in the passage is that:

- A there is an element of seriousness behind Huxley's remark.
- B technology takes us backwards not forwards.
- C in the case of military technology, Huxley has a point.
- D Huxley was not being facetious when he made his remark.
- E killing people more efficiently is not progress.

[1]

(b) Comment :

Before the Iraq War military advisers claimed that the new 'smart bombs' and guidance systems make for pinpoint targeting and minimal loss of civilian life. Like the bombs these claims have all too often been shown to be wide of the mark.

Which of the following best describes the impact of this comment on the main argument?

- A It strongly supports Aldous Huxley's claim.
- B It is further evidence in support of the argument.
- C It seriously weakens the argument.
- D It exposes a flaw in the reasoning.
- E It misses the point of the argument.

[1]

- 3 If American foreign policy since September 2001 had maintained or improved stability around the world, then it would have been reasonable to expect that the re-election of President Bush in 2004 would have pleased and reassured the international community. On the contrary, polls overwhelmingly show that outside the United States most people were deeply disappointed by Bush's re-election, making it clear that US foreign policy must instead have had a destabilising effect.

Which of the following exposes a **flaw** in the reasoning?

- A Bush's re-election may have been decided on domestic issues and not by foreign policy.
- B Changing the American president in the 2004 election might have had a more destabilising effect.
- C How people actually felt about Bush's re-election may have had nothing to do with their perceptions of world-wide stability.
- D The way people vote in elections may not always reflect how they feel.
- E What people outside the United States think makes no difference to the outcome of an American election. [1]

- 4 Whilst teachers' leaders and government ministers have welcomed the year-on-year rise in examination results, the rise in the pass rate has prompted the usual row over standards. This is not surprising, given the current system which allows the candidates to re-sit units as many times as they like. This absurd rule should be scrapped at once. After all, Olympic athletes don't get a second or third go at the 100 metres if they don't like the result, and the same logic should apply in education. When students sit down to take an exam they should know there are no second chances.

Which of the following, if true, presents the **most effective challenge** to the above argument?

- A When athletes line up for the start of a race they know it is all or nothing.
- B In a race there can be only one winner, whereas any number can pass an exam.
- C Continual rises in the pass rate can only mean that exams are getting easier.
- D Olympic qualifying standards have risen over the years, not fallen.
- E The success of the examination system depends on how fair it is. [1]

- 5 Programmes which describe themselves as ‘reality television’, such as *‘Big Brother’* and *‘I’m a Celebrity Get Me out of Here’*, grossly misuse the term ‘reality’. For whether or not you enjoy the genre, there is no escaping the fact that it is a contradiction in terms. Television requires the presence of cameras, and, as anyone who has been behind or in front of one knows, cameras inevitably influence the behaviour of those captured in the frame, unless they happen to be unaware that they are being filmed. The inmates of the *Big Brother* house and the celebrity camp in the jungle not only know they are being filmed, they revel in it. They may provide entertainment, but they are certainly not being spontaneous.

Which of the following is the **main conclusion** of the above argument?

- A The participants in so-called reality television do not act spontaneously.
- B So-called reality television is a contradiction in terms.
- C The presence of cameras inevitably influences people’s behaviour.
- D The participants in reality television are well aware that they are being filmed.
- E ‘Reality television’ is an abuse of the word ‘reality’.

[1]

6 Living arrangements of 16 to 24 year olds: by religion, April 2001, UK

A graph has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

A graph showing the living arrangements of 16 to 24 year olds by religion it shows the percentage of people living with a married partner and the percentage of people cohabiting

Percentage of 16 to 24 year olds who were married: by religion, April 2001, UK

A graph has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

A graph showing the percentage of 16 to 24 year olds who were married by religion

(Source: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=960>)

Which of the following cannot be inferred from the above data?

Within the 16–24 age-group in 2001:

- A Not all married people were living with their husband or wife.
- B There were fewer married Christians in the UK than there were married Hindus, Sikhs or Muslims.
- C People with no religion were the most likely to be cohabiting without being married.
- D Christians were no more likely to be married than those with no religion at all.
- E Muslims were the most likely to be living as part of a married couple.

[1]

7 When our Stone Age.....

**An extract has been removed due to third party
copyright restrictions**

Details:

An extract from the New Scientist about Stone Age
ancestors adopting farming instead of foraging for food

.....left them worse off?

(New Scientist: Bob Holmes. 8 September, 2004, p.29)

- (a) Which of the following best captures the author's use of 'fateful' in the first paragraph?

It suggests that ...

- A the decision to begin farming was ultimately beneficial.
- B the decision changed the course of history.
- C the switch from foraging to farming was inevitable.
- D humans were pre-ordained to become farmers.
- E cultivating food was essential to human survival.

[1]

- (b) Which of the following, if true, would offer plausible answers to the question in the third paragraph?

- I The switch from foraging to farming did not happen overnight, or even within a few generations.
- II Overpopulation or climate change often strained existing food supplies to breaking point.
- III Cultivating food is incompatible with the nomadic lifestyle of hunter-gatherers.
- IV The production of crops may have given added status to dominant individuals or families.

- A I and II
- B II and III
- C III and IV
- D I and III
- E II and IV

[1]

- 8 Sir – The pro-hunt lobbyists have become very fond of telling us that the ban on hunting has as much to do with class prejudice as with animal welfare. Even if there is some truth in this they are quite wrong to consider it a defence. For a start it is not surprising. As other depraved and antisocial entertainments have vanished over the years, it is the working-class versions which have invariably been outlawed first: dog-fighting, cock-fighting, bare-knuckle boxing, etc. Fox hunting has survived not because it is any less objectionable or antisocial but because it has had the energetic support of the upper classes, and their wealth and influence to go with it. What is now simply a move towards consistency is bound to look like a class issue.

Which of the following best expresses the **main conclusion** of the argument?

- A A claim that the hunting ban is motivated by class prejudice does not strengthen the hunt supporters' case.
- B Fox hunting has survived because it is an activity which has the support of the upper classes.
- C It is inevitable that moves to make hunting legislation consistent will look like class prejudice.
- D There is no real substance in the claim that the hunting ban is a class issue.
- E Fox hunting is no less objectionable than the working class entertainments which have already been outlawed.

[1]

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Details:

An image of some Russian Dolls

Chaotic systems create patterns.....

An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

An extract from 'Consciousness' by Rita Carter. ISBN: 978-1841882376

.....consciousness – a universal mind.

(Rita Carter, *Consciousness* . Publ. Weidenfeld and Nicholson 2002. p.124 – verbatim)

Which of the following, regardless of whether or not it is true, is a conclusion which can be drawn from the above passage?

- A The brain is a chaotic system.
- B Neurons are capable of thought.
- C Groups can think in the same way as their individual members.
- D Colonies are analogous in their behaviour to individual brains.
- E Groups of minds think collectively.

[1]

- 10 X: It is impossible to give an accurate description of any human action unless you can get inside the person's mind to know what their intention is. Even if you ask them, you cannot be sure they will tell you the truth, especially if they are affecting to do one thing whilst actually doing another. For example, if a film actor holds a gun to someone's head he is not threatening to kill that person, he is playing a part, and those are two completely different actions. Similarly if a burglar pretends to be a painter and decorator in order to gain access to a building, the thing he appears to be doing does not describe what he is really doing at all.
- Y: If the burglar starts putting paint on a wall, for whatever reason, then what he is doing is painting a wall, end of story. He can't be pretending to do it at the same time as actually doing it.

Which of the following is the fairest assessment of the impact of Y's comment on the argument presented by X?

- A It completely discredits X's argument.
- B It exposes a logical flaw in X's reasoning.
- C It shows that the concept of an action may have two competing interpretations.
- D It establishes that two actions can be performed at the same time.
- E It provides a further example to support X's claims.

[1]

- 11 An English merchant ship....

An extract has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions

Details:

An extract adapted from an article in the Independent by David Keys about an English Merchant ship recovered off the Kent coast

.....conscripted as galley slaves.

(Adapted from article by David Keys, Independent, 18 November, 2004. Page 9)

Which of the following best describes the passage as a whole?

- A It uses the example of the ship found in the Thames to support the theory that many ships traded secretly and illegally with Spain during Elizabethan times.
- B It provides evidence for the theory that many merchant ships and sailors were lost to the Spanish before and during the Armada.
- C It uses the archaeological evidence and general historical fact to argue that the ship found in the Thames estuary was probably trading illegally.
- D It uses the discovery of the merchant ship to emphasise the importance of archaeology to our understanding of history.
- E It offers an explanation as to why English merchant ships, in Elizabethan times, had to trade illegally with their Spanish enemy.

[1]

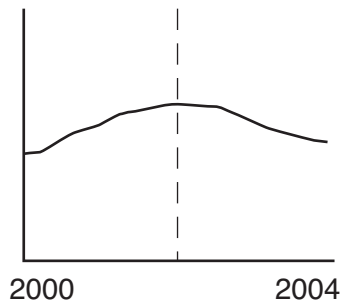
- 12 London's 'Theatreland' is a thriving industry and a big tourist attraction. Even with many seat prices as high as £60, theatres are typically sold out night after night, and big blockbusters, especially musicals, can run for years and still play to a full house. It is therefore very surprising to learn that 90% of London shows in fact lose money.

The above facts seem to be at odds. Which of the following provides a **plausible explanation**?

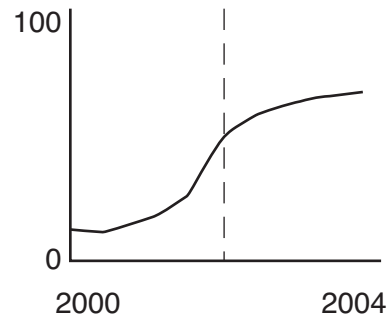
- A The numbers of tourists coming to London has declined since September 2001.
- B The theatrical business would not survive unless it was profitable.
- C Not everyone can afford the high ticket prices.
- D Unsuccessful shows are taken off within a few days.
- E The average Londoner goes to the theatre less than once a year. [1]

- 13 The government of Bolandia is conducting a five year campaign to encourage voluntary restrictions on smoking in public places, whilst considering whether or not to impose an outright ban. After four years the following patterns were evident:

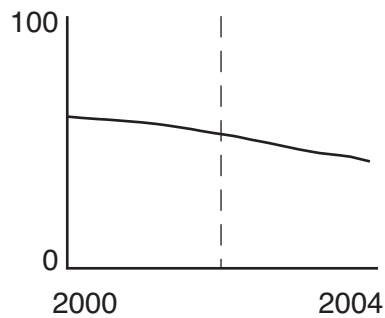
Expenditure on government anti-smoking campaigns



% of public premises prohibiting smoking



% of adult population who smoke



Which of the following can reliably be concluded?

- A From the evidence available the government should continue with its campaign of persuasion rather than compulsion.
- B The reduction of government spending after its peak in 2002 has resulted in a slow down in the number of new no-smoking premises.
- C As one might expect, many people have given up smoking because there are fewer places where they can smoke.
- D The anti-smoking campaign has been accompanied by a steady decline in the proportion of Bolandians who smoke.
- E An outright ban on smoking in public places would accelerate the decline in smoking. [1]

Section B

Answer **all** questions in this section.

Refer to Reading Booklet 1. Use Documents 1, 2 and 3 to answer questions in this Section.

1 Consider the Orange advertisement in **Document 1**.

'With Orange, you won't be left clicking your heels.'

State the implication of this assertion. Suggest how this could be challenged. [2]

2 Consider the text message argument and photograph in **Document 2**.

(a) Identify the conclusion of the argument and the **two** paragraphs that are **irrelevant** to drawing it. [3]

(b) Identify the **assertion** which the author seeks to counter. Construct a statement which, if true, would **weaken** the author's response. [2]

(c) Assuming the photograph is being used to suggest the negative consequences of texting, give **two** reasons why it is **not** successful. [2]

(d) Identify the **analogy** used in the passage and explain why it is **inappropriate**. [2]

(e) Explain **three** points of weakness in the reasoning from the statistics. [3]

(f) Explain **four** additional points of weakness in the reasoning. [4]

3 Consider the views raised in **Document 3**.

Use **Document 3** to justify the NICE recommendations that three free IVF cycles should be provided by the NHS.

In your answer you should:

- identify **two** key dilemmas
- select **two** points of reasoning, one to support and one to counter your argument
- construct **two** points of counter-reasoning
- evaluate **two** points of reasoning or data or sources
- use **two principles** to strengthen your argument. [12]

[Total: 30]

Section C

Documents 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in Reading Booklet 2 relate to views on parenting and to recent developments in technology which allow children to be tracked.

You should spend about 30 minutes studying these.

Construct a REASONED CASE for rejecting the view that parents should use technology to track their children.

Refer to Documents 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 to:

- clarify the parameters of the question
- assess the credibility of the documents or sources within them
- identify **three** key issues to direct the reasoned case and use textual examples to illustrate the conflicting perspectives
- evaluate the reasoning and data offered
- develop further reasoning on both sides of the argument.

Combine these into a well structured, clear and logical argument.

[40]

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