UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE ESOL EXAMINATIONS

English for Speakers of Other Languages

Cambridge ESOL Entry 3 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life [Reading]

SAMPLE PAPER

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this paper until your teacher tells you to.

Write clearly in **pen**, not pencil.
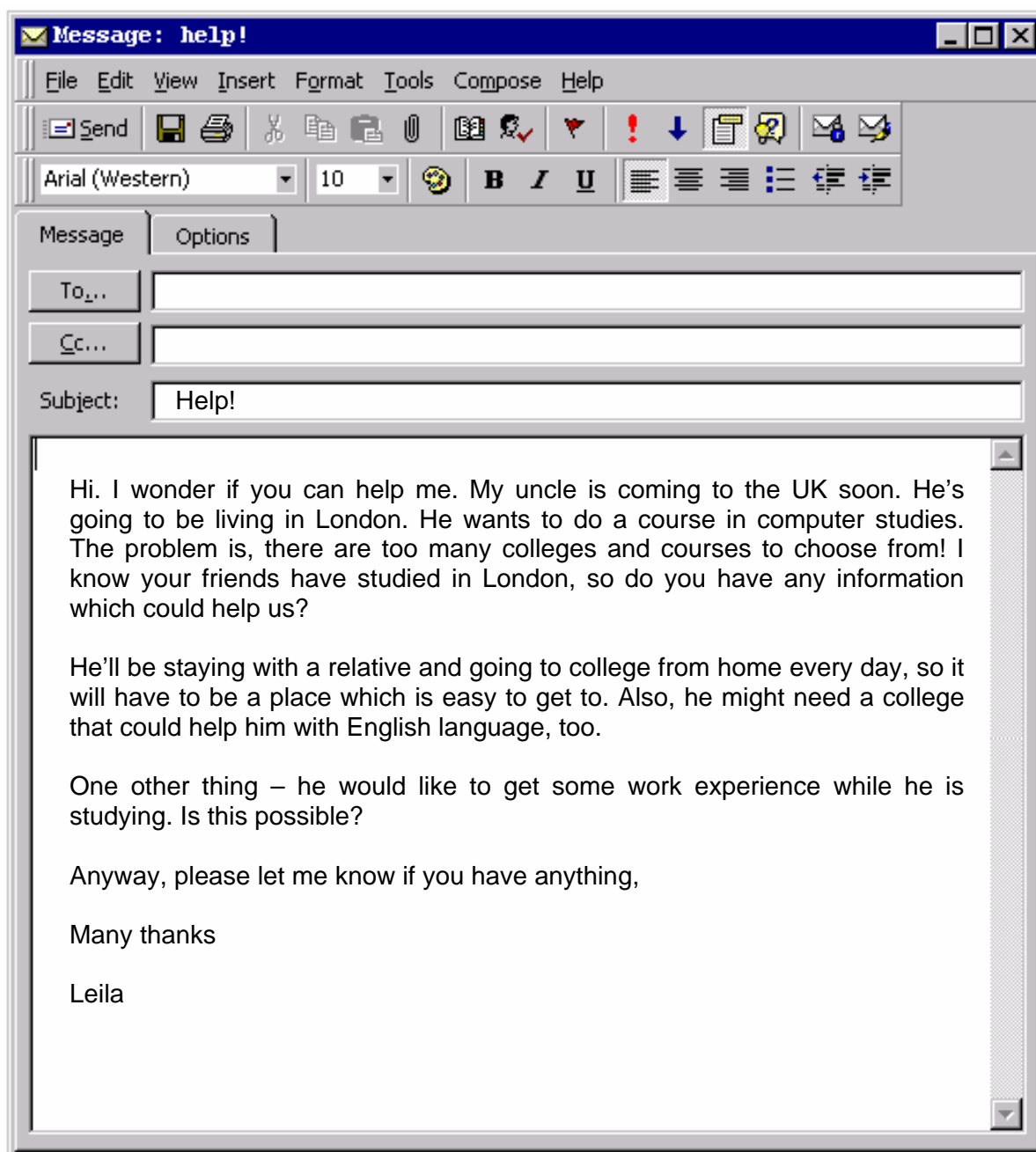
Write on the question paper.

Each task tells you:

- how much to write
- how much time to spend
- how many marks you can get.

Part 1 (About 20 minutes)

Look at this message from your friend Leila.

File   Edit   View   Insert   Format   Tools   Compose   Help

Arial (Western)   10

Message   Options

To...

Cc...

Subject: Help!

Hi. I wonder if you can help me. My uncle is coming to the UK soon. He's going to be living in London. He wants to do a course in computer studies. The problem is, there are too many colleges and courses to choose from! I know your friends have studied in London, so do you have any information which could help us?

He'll be staying with a relative and going to college from home every day, so it will have to be a place which is easy to get to. Also, he might need a college that could help him with English language, too.

One other thing – he would like to get some work experience while he is studying. Is this possible?

Anyway, please let me know if you have anything,

Many thanks

Leila

Question 1   **2 marks**

Why did Leila send this email?

……………………………………………………………………….……………

Question 2   **1 mark**

Where will Leila's uncle live? Tick [✓] one box.

      A   at the university   [ ]

      B   with Leila   [ ]

      C   with a member of his family   [ ]

Question 3   **3 marks**

What is important for Leila's uncle? Tick [✓] three boxes.

      A   A big college   [ ]

      B   Easy transport to the college   [ ]

      C   A lively social life   [ ]

      D   The chance to get some work experience   [ ]

      E   Language support   [ ]

Now look at the information you have found for Leila:

Riverside College

The College
This is a modern, dynamic college at the forefront of academic innovation. With approximately 2,000 students, this is a lively place to study, and our campus in Docklands is within quick and easy reach of central London.

Innovation and Enterprise
Many of our programmes offer you the chance to work in a relevant job for a period of time –invaluable experience when it comes to getting the job you want when you graduate. All of our programmes give you the opportunity to develop IT, research and communications skills which we know employers are looking for.

Languages
One of the great opportunities we offer is our language provision. Students can take a language as part of their course of study, and even if you do not have any language qualifications or experience, you can take language courses. We can offer courses in English for academic purposes from intermediate to fluency level. These courses will be of great help to you if you are not a native speaker of English.

Sport
If you like sports, you're coming to the right place. We have football, basketball, netball and hockey teams which play in inter-college matches. You can also take up a range of other sports - jujitsu, horse riding, sub-aqua, and tennis for example, or circuit training, body pump, or boxercise. London is also home to many football clubs and as a student you can buy discounted tickets for games at West Ham United, whose grounds at Upton Park are not far from our Stratford Campus.

Wood Hill College

Location
Studying in the London and Kent area offers a great opportunity to enjoy the cultural and social activities of the region. Students can travel from the centre of London by a combination of bus and train. The campuses have the added advantage of being close to the countryside.

The support you need
As for study support or moral support, if you speak to our students when you visit us, you'll find that our student support services are second to none and that the college is an exciting and welcoming place to study.

Computing Services
Computing facilities are available on all sites. A wide range of software is available to all users on all sites.

Sports
Being a multi-campus institution means that we are able to offer a greater range of sports activities, plus we have links with other organisations outside the college. If team sports are your thing, you can get involved with football, hockey, netball, rugby union and rugby league as well as team skiing.

Question 4   **2 marks**

Which college is best for Leila's uncle? Tick [✓] one box:

       Riverside College   [   ]
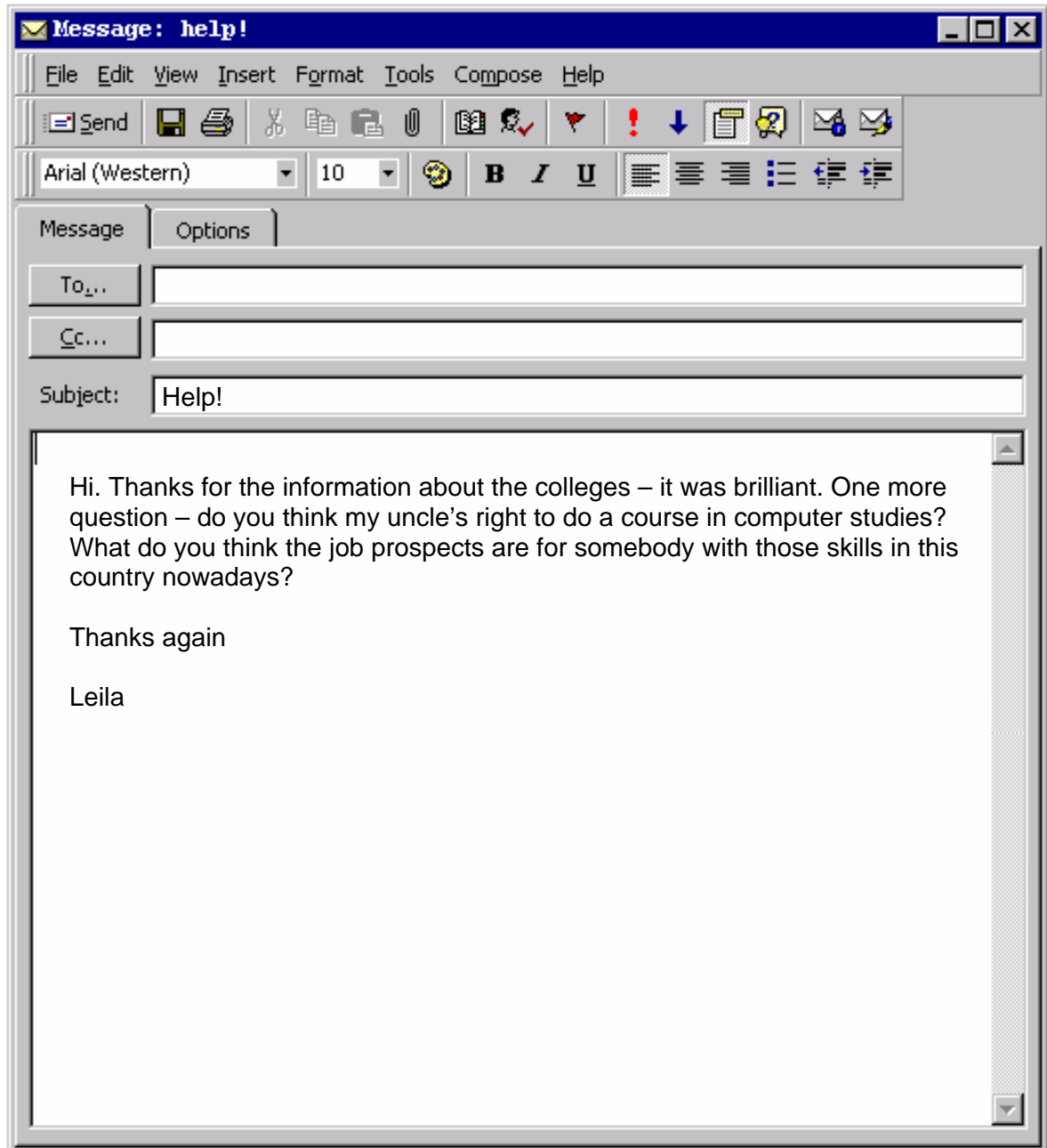
       Wood Hill College   [   ]

Question 5   **6 marks**

Why? Give three reasons. (Use sentences.)

_____

_____

_____

Part 2   (About 30 minutes)

You receive another email from your friend Leila.

```
Message: help!                                                    _ □ ✕

 File  Edit  View  Insert  Format  Tools  Compose  Help

 ▣ Send   🖫 🖨   ✂ 🗈 🗎 📎   📖 ℘   ▼   ❗ ↓   📑 🗗   ✉ ✉

 Arial (Western)        ▼   10  ▼   🎨   B  I  U   ▤ ▤ ▤ ▤ ▤ ▤ ▤

 ┌ Message ┐ ┌ Options ┐
 │ To... │
 │ Cc... │
 Subject: │ Help! │
```

Hi. Thanks for the information about the colleges – it was brilliant. One more
question – do you think my uncle's right to do a course in computer studies?
What do you think the job prospects are for somebody with those skills in this
country nowadays?

Thanks again

Leila

You decide to send Leila 2 articles you have found. Look at the first article.

Paragraph 1	You don't have to be a genius to work with computers. The growth of IT, or Information Technology, has created millions of new job opportunities for people with a wide variety of skills. There are IT careers available in Britain's offices, shops and call centres - in fact wherever people use computers in everyday work. Whatever your level of skills, IT can offer a well-paid career.
Paragraph 2	People working with computers can be divided into two groups - users and experts. Experts are people with a high level of technical knowledge who work on the computers themselves in IT departments or in specialist IT companies. Their jobs may involve writing new computer programmes, designing new systems, or providing technical help to users.
Paragraph 3	Users include most of the rest of us - people who simply use computers for everyday work. Again, users can have a range of skills, from basic typing to word processing, spreadsheets and the internet.
Paragraph 4	The government has recently stated that IT proficiency is an essential skill. With reading and writing it is one of the most basic abilities required in finding employment. The Department for Education and Skills said that demand for trained staff will increase over the next ten years.
Paragraph 5	There are many ways to gain computer skills. *UK online centres* have been set up in places such as community centres, libraries and internet cafes across the country to help people learn basic computer skills and find out how to work online. Find out about taster sessions taking place near you by calling Learndirect on 0800 100 900. Find out more about Learndirect courses by ringing 0800 101 901 or exploring the website at www.learndirect.co.uk.

Question 6   **1 mark**

Where would you find an article like this?

      A   in a specialist computer magazine

      B   in a careers magazine for students

      C   in a job advertisement

Question 7   **1 mark**

What would be the best title for the article?

      A   How IT training can help your career

      B   Make a new career as a computer specialist

      C   Find out how good your IT skills are

Question 8   **1 mark**

Look at the paragraph 1 of the article. What point is it making?

      A   Almost everyone has IT skills these days.

      B   People with IT skills have a wide choice of career.

      C   Everyone should test their IT skills.

Question 9   **4 marks**

Look at paragraphs 2-5 of the article. Choose a topic for each paragraph from the list A-D below. Put the correct letter into the boxes.

      A   specialist users of computers

      B   how to find a course

      C   what most people need IT skills for

      D   the importance of IT skills for everyone

Paragraph 2   [   ]

Paragraph 3   [   ]

Paragraph 4   [   ]

Paragraph 5   [   ]

Question 10 **1 mark**

The word 'their' in paragraph 2 refers to

      A   experts.

      B   IT departments.

      C   specialist IT companies.

Question 11 **1 mark**

What does 'IT proficiency' in paragraph 4 mean?

      A   opportunity to study IT

      B   ability in IT

      C   getting a job in IT

Question 12 **4 marks**

Give two advantages of working in IT from the article.

_____

_____

Now look at the second article.

Nishma Shah became bored with her job as a teacher at a local college. She decided to look for another job. 'One day I saw an advertisement for distance-learning specialists, *Computeach International.* When I read it, I decided to look for a job in IT. I only had basic IT skills and some general knowledge of the industry. The reason I chose to study by distance-learning was that I could organise my study hours for my own convenience,' she says.

Computeach also trains students in job-seeking skills such as interview techniques. Nishma says: 'They also produced a high quality CV for me, and gave me lots of help and training for interviews.' Before she had even completed her course, Nishma got a job as a computer technician for IBM. Her new role involves providing IT support to the company's staff.

Nishma is now planning to train further in order to work as a computer programmer. She offers this advice to anyone else thinking about a change of career. 'The training is hard, but it can open doors to a new career.' So what are you waiting for?

Question 13   **1 mark**

This article

      A   gives an example of someone who has changed her job.

      B   shows the benefits of teaching computer studies.

      C   explains the advantages of working in IT.

Question 14   **6 marks**

What job was Nishma doing before her IT training?

....…………………………………

What job is Nishma doing now?

…………………………………………………………………..

What type of work would Nishma like to do in the future?

…………………………………………………………………..

Question 15   **1 mark**

The phrase 'distance learning' describes

      A   Nishma's method of studying.

      B   how far Nishma travelled to college.

      C   the content of Nishma's course.

Question 16   **6 marks**

List 3 things that *Computeach International* does.

_____

_____

_____

Question 17   **1 mark**

Look at what Nishma says at the end of the article. What point is she making?

      A   Not everyone is suited to working with computers.

      B   You don't have to do a course to improve your IT skills.

      C   Although it's not easy, computer training is worth doing.