BioMedical Admissions Test   4500/13

SECTION 3   Writing Task

Instructions to Candidates

Please read this page carefully, but do not open the question paper until you are told that you may do so.

A separate answer sheet is provided for this section. Please check you have one.

Please complete the answer sheet with your name, BMAT candidate number, centre number and initials. **Your answer sheet should be completed in black ink.**

This question paper contains a choice of four tasks, of which you must answer only **one**. There is space on the question paper for preliminary notes. **Your answer must be written on the answer sheet provided and in English**. No additional answer sheets may be used. **Candidates with permission to use a word processor must not exceed 550 words.**

The tasks each provide an opportunity for you to show how well you can select, develop and organise ideas and communicate them effectively in writing.

Before you begin writing, take time to think carefully about what you need to say and the ways in which the organisation and layout of your response might help convey your message. Diagrams etc. may be used if they enhance communication.

Take care to show how well you can write and be concise, clear and accurate.

Any rough work should be done on this question paper.

Remember that when you are told that you may begin you will have only 30 minutes to choose and complete your task, and that your complete response must be contained on the single page provided for your answer. The disciplines involved in this are regarded as key features of the task.

Dictionaries and calculators may NOT be used.

Please wait to be told you may begin before turning this page.

This paper consists of 2 printed pages and 2 blank pages.

Use this space and the back page for notes *etc.* if you wish. Remember that your response must be written on the single page answer sheet provided.

YOU MUST ANSWER ONLY <u>ONE</u> OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1   **"Computers are useless. They can only give you answers." (Pablo Picasso)**

Explain what is meant by this statement. Argue to the contrary. What are the real limits of technology?

2   **"That which can be asserted without evidence, can be dismissed without evidence." (Christopher Hitchens)**

Explain what you think Christopher Hitchens means. Argue to the contrary that some assertions do not require evidence. To what extent do you agree with the statement?

3   **When treating an individual patient, a physician must also think of the wider society.**

Explain the reasoning behind this statement. Argue that a doctor should only consider the individual that he or she is treating at the time. With respect to medical treatment, to what extent can a patient's interests differ from those of the wider population?

4   **Just because a behaviour occurs amongst animals in the wild does not mean it should be allowed within domesticated populations of the same species.**

Explain what you think is meant by this statement. Argue to the contrary. To what extent should humans interfere with the natural behaviours of animals?

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