



Cambridge IGCSE™

CANDIDATE
NAME
CENTRE
NUMBER

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/23

Paper 2 Directed Writing and Composition

October/November 2023

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Read Text A and Text B in the insert and then answer **Section A, Question 1** on this question paper.

Section A: Directed Writing

Question 1

Imagine that your friend has an ambitious plan for their future and has asked for your views.

Write a letter to your friend offering your advice.

In your letter you should:

- evaluate the ideas, attitudes and opinions about ambition given in both texts
- based on what you have read, discuss the factors your friend needs to consider to decide if they should follow their ambition.

Base your letter on what you have read in **both** texts, but be careful to use your own words. Address both of the bullet points.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 25 marks for the quality of your writing.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of multiple rows of horizontal dashed lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The background is plain white, and there are no other markings or text present.

[Turn to page 6 for Section B]

Section B: Composition

Answer **one** question from Section B.

Write about 350 to 450 words on **one** of the following questions. Answer on this question paper.

Up to 16 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer, and up to 24 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER

Descriptive Writing

2 Describe the people waiting for an important visitor to arrive.

OR

Descriptive Writing

3 Describe the contents of a drawer or cupboard.

OR

Narrative Writing

4 Write a story about a time when you were in charge.

OR

Narrative Writing

5 Write a story with the title, 'Out of reach'.

Please write your chosen question number here (2, 3, 4, 5):

[illegible]

[illegible]

Additional page

If you use the following page to complete the answer to any question, the question number must be clearly shown.

This image shows a full page of a document template designed for handwriting practice or general note-taking. It consists of approximately 28 evenly spaced horizontal dotted lines across the entire width of the page. The background is plain white, and there are no margins, headers, footers, or other markings present.

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