

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/03**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition

May/June 2005

**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 on both sides of the paper.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.  
Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

Answer **two** questions: Question 1 (Section 1) and one question from Section 2.  
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
All questions carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.



## Section 1: Directed Writing

- 1 Charities nowadays are using a new type of fundraising idea. They plan an attractive expedition or trip and ask participants to pay to join in. Some of this money pays for the trip itself but some is kept by the charity to support its other work.

Imagine that you have seen the advertisement printed on the following page and have decided that you would like to take part in 'Bike the Nile'.

**Write the script of a conversation between you and your parents in which you ask their permission to go on the trip and also ask them to help you raise the £1000 payment required.**

**In your script you should:**

- briefly explain what 'Bike the Nile' involves
- persuade your parents that it is both a safe and worthwhile activity for you to take part in and for them to support.

Base your ideas on the material found in the advertisement. Add your own details and opinions to make the conversation more persuasive.

You should write about 1 ½ – 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

Start your script:

Me: Mum, Dad I've just seen an advertisement for the most amazing trip.

Dad: Oh no, not another one of your crazy, expensive plans.

(Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing.)

[25]

## BIKE THE NILE!

Enjoy an eight day cycling adventure, see the beauties of Egypt, and raise money for Elders First.

### *What is Bike the Nile?*

Bike the Nile is an annual eight-day cycling trip for 99 people down the River Nile in Egypt. We provide:

- flights and a bicycle
- all meals / bottled water
- a boat which will carry luggage and provide sleeping facilities at night
- mechanics, medics and guides.



All for £1000 (or the equivalent in local currency).

### *What do previous Bike the Nile cyclists say about it?*

"I did *Bike the Nile* last year and it was something I will never forget. I don't think I would ever have done something like it on my own. Later this year I'm meeting up with some of the others who were on the trip, which will be great as I've missed them. I saw so much of the Egyptian way of life and it got me really interested in the history of the country. I did a talk about it to my class when I got back."  
Berti, 17.

"It's four years since I did *Bike the Nile* but I've been on two similar expeditions since and raised over £4000 for charity. I don't mind asking people for contributions when I know it's for a good cause. My Grandmother goes to one of the Elders First Day Centres and I'm proud to know that I helped to get it started. I now belong to a cycling club and bike regularly. I got quite fit on the trip although I had really aching muscles at the start."  
Anka, 20

### *How will this help the elderly?*

Part of the money you contribute will be used by Elders First to support all people aged over 60 who are in need, ensuring that they get the most from life.

Services we provide:

- Transport – minibuses, taxis, wheelchairs
- Day centres – lunches, activities, hairdressing, social contact
- Home visits – social contact, medical assessment
- Advice on benefits – pensions, health care, support
- We also campaign on issues such as age discrimination and pensions.

STAY ON IN EGYPT AFTER THE CYCLE RIDE FOR A SMALL FEE

## Section 2: Composition

Write about 350 – 450 words on **one** of the following:

### 2 Argumentative/discursive writing

**Either (a)** “In ancient Rome, people enjoyed watching gladiators fight to the death. Two thousand years later what we enjoy watching hasn’t really changed.” Using examples of modern entertainment you are familiar with (e.g. television, playstation and computer games, video, sport) discuss this statement.

[25]

or

**(b)** “If ‘we are what we eat’ then teenagers are sure to become unhealthy, overweight, junk food addicts.” What do **you** think of young people’s eating habits today?

[25]

### 3 Descriptive writing

**Either (a)** A song or piece of music comes on the radio. Immediately the tune reminds you of a particularly happy **or** sad occasion. Describe *in detail* the scene you remember (real or imaginary) and your feelings at that time.

[25]

or

**(b)** Describe a person (real or imaginary) who immediately appears to be **either** sinister **or** kind and trustworthy. Pay particular attention to her/his physical features and mannerisms.

[25]

### 4 Narrative writing

**Either (a)** You discover an old photograph at home. You ask your parents who the person in the photograph is, and when and where it was taken. There is a tense silence... Make this mystery an important part of a story.

[25]

or

**(b)** You are writing a story set in the future. Your main character is a successful businesswoman who has been invited to go to her high school reunion. It is twenty-five years since she attended ‘Marsh Academy’ but curiosity compels her to go.

Write the **beginning** of the story.

Start your story: As soon as the door opened, a familiar face...

[25]

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is part of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.