



# Cambridge IGCSE™

CANDIDATE  
NAME

CENTRE  
NUMBER

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## FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/23

Paper 2 Directed Writing and Composition

May/June 2020

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

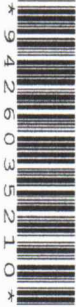
### INSTRUCTIONS

- 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. 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

**Write a speech** to give to an audience of young people about what they need to consider when taking part in an extreme sport.

In your speech you should:

- evaluate the benefits and risks outlined in both texts
- give your own views, based on what you have read, about whether participating in an extreme sport is worthwhile.

Base your speech 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.

Good morning everyone. Today I want to talk about extreme sports such as white-water kayaking, ice climbing, skateboarding and many others. I shall give some of the benefits and risks of extreme sports.

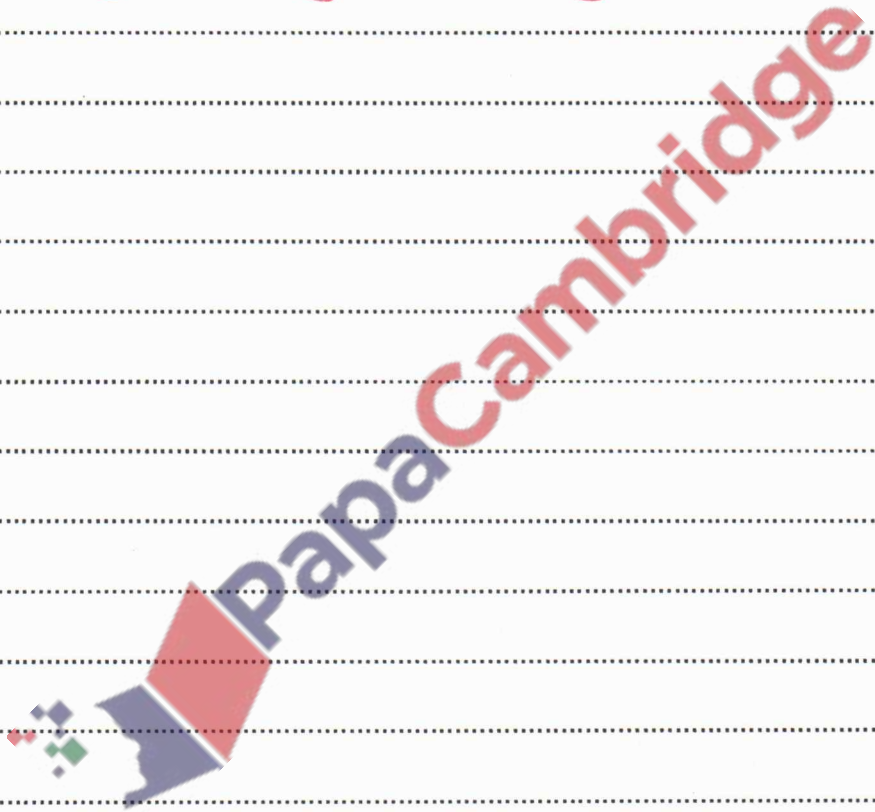
Some of the benefits according to research include mental boost. Participating in the said sports helps people to face their fears. One can learn to identify irrational fear and helps people to face other kinds of real life difficulties. There are physical benefits also. It is a form of exercise and helps us keep fit. It helps people feel alive through the adrenaline rush that you experience while participating in the sports. Another benefit is becoming resilient and learning to be humble while facing the

powerful nature.

However, there are risks involved too. Extreme sports can be addictive. The adrenaline rush we experience is so powerful one might want to experience it every time, just like any other form of addiction. These types usually escalate quickly. It can start off not as dangerous but then nature takes its course and one can find themselves in a very dangerous spot. A very small mistake can mean having a very bad injury or even dying. You can put other people in danger too, for example, if you are injured and unable to move in an unstable cave, someone has to come get you. This may put them at risk of getting injured too. Statistics show that between 2000 and 2011, over four million injuries have occurred due to extreme sports. Young people are more susceptible to the lure of extreme sports due to pressure of gaining fame on the internet.

I would advise those who want to take part in extreme sports to think twice before doing so because clearly the risks outweigh the rewards. You can always find other ways of boosting your mind but you cannot find another spine if you break yours. They may seem like fun and I'm sure

they are but it is never that serious. If you have to participate in one, look for least risky and make sure you are as careful as possible. but that is just my opinion. Anyway, thank you for listening and have a good day all of you.



**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 what you see, hear and feel as you board a crowded bus.

**OR**

**Descriptive Writing**

**3** Write a description of an object you own which is important to you.

**OR**

**Narrative Writing**

**4** Write a narrative about preparing for an important event.

**OR**

**Narrative Writing**

**5** Write a narrative with the title, 'The Spiral'.



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

While boarding a crowded bus there is so much one can observe. There are so many people you can hardly see an empty seat if there is. Some people are standing because there is nowhere to sit and <sup>probably</sup> didn't want to wait for the next bus because they are late to go somewhere. There are people who carry so much luggage they are almost sitting on the person next to them. You see people angrily shifting in their chairs to create space for themselves if whoever is sitting next to them is making them uncomfortable.

Windows are all probably opened except for a few stubborn people who usually claim that it is too windy. There is a mixture of different smells and scents in the air. You can smell sweet floral scents of perfume and you can also smell bad odours like sweat from some dirty people. The heavy air mixed with the smell of petrol is enough to give anyone a migraine. Speaking of migraine, the bus can get so noisy you regret boarding it. There is a child crying at a corner nonstop, another one nagging the parent, the conductor shouting the next stop, people shouting to alight and the engine of the bus going. When you come off the bus, you feel like you have stepped into another world. One can easily get so

confused because of the different activities going on.

The conductor usually finds it difficult to manoeuvre to collect money from everyone, even the ones at the back. As he/she is moving, people have to move closer to each other. You feel people's bodies bump into you as they're creating space for the conductor or they are moving in or out of the bus. Some might even have loud music which adds on to the confusion. One would be lucky if it is during the day. If it is at night when you cannot see anything outside you might even miss your stop. Some of the buses don't have proper lighting. You might find a light that keeps flickering which can be very annoying. You feel every pothole and roughness on the road too. Crowded buses are usually too chaotic.

