

PAPER 1: READING

Test 2 Part 1 (questions 1–2)

Part 1

You are going to read three extracts which are all concerned in some way with communication. For questions 1 – 6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

What's it like being a reporter on a student newspaper? Student reporter Darren Benton tells us

Being a reporter on a student newspaper can be a daunting task - you are, after all, faced with ensuring that students on the college campus are aware of everything they need to know, especially the stuff that others would rather they didn't. All this, as well as keeping a social life, a circle of friends, and, of course, doing the degree.

It's in the uncovering and investigative bits that student hackery really comes into its own. We have no budget, very little time and no library of resources at our disposal. But then, all you really need is a hunch, a telephone and an abundance of

patience. The more people who know you're a reporter the better. Everyone has a story, whether they know it or not. One little off-the-cuff comment can lead to all manner of revelations, maybe even a real scoop.

There is one piece of advice that someone once gave me which has proved pretty useful. Always, always make a backup of your work and carry it round with you 24/7. I have never known computers to crash as much as the ones in student newspaper offices.

1 What is the writer emphasising in the first paragraph?

- A what a responsible job a student reporter has
- B things that a student reporter needs to bear in mind
- C how mundane much of the work of a student reporter is
- D things that prevent a student reporter from doing a good job

2 Which word or phrase from the text is used to express the goal of the investigative journalist?

- A hackery (line 12)
- B a hunch (line 16)
- C off-the-cuff comment (line 21)
- D a real scoop (line 23)

Turn over ►

PAPER 1: READING

Answer keys

Test 1

PART ONE

- 1 C
- 2 C
- 3 A
- 4 B
- 5 D
- 6 B

PART TWO

- 7 D
- 8 F
- 9 A
- 10 G
- 11 E
- 12 B

PART THREE

- 13 C
- 14 B
- 15 A
- 16 D
- 17 B
- 18 A
- 19 B

PART FOUR

- 20 B
- 21 E
- 22 C
- 23 D
- 24 F
- 25 B
- 26 C
- 27 E
- 28 E
- 29 B
- 30 A
- 31 F
- 32 E
- 33 D
- 34 D

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 1: CANDIDATE G

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **proposal** must:

- describe the two venues
- recommend one of the venues
- give reasons for choice.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised, possibly with headings.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal to unmarked. Must be consistent.

■ Range

Language of description, recommendation and persuasion.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate G

The aim of this proposal is to suggest a suitable venue for the weekend trip the social committee is organising.

The people taking part of this weekend activity attend college, therefore the activities involved should be proper.

One of the first suggestions given was mainly about physical exercise. It would be a great opportunity for them to keep fit and relax doing a sport. Second, the students expressed their wish for quiet and peace, are also concerned about the food they will receive and also about going shopping for presents. The last comment was related to entertainment, either a film or a concert.

Regarding the students' opinions and wishes for the trip but also taking into consideration the two choices of locations, I recommend that the 'Briar Park Hotel'. Although 'Lakeside Activity Centre offers a peaceful setting in woodland and opportunities for walking, canoeing and sailing, 'Briar Park Hotel' best meets all the demandings. It has beautiful grounds outside Leightonbury, a swimming pool and also tennis courts for sports. The free bus to and from city centre is perfect for going shopping and the international menu has good food.

As a conclusion, I believe that Briar Park Hotel is a good option which the social committee should choose for the weekend trip

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points addressed, though last paragraph needs more expansion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Well organised into paragraphs but weaker internal cohesion e.g. 'also ... also' in the third paragraph. The proposal would benefit from a title and headings.

■ Range

Reasonable range of vocabulary but good range of structure.

■ Accuracy

Several non-intrusive errors.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Generally consistent.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 3.

PAPER 1: READING
Answer keys

Test 2

PART ONE

- 1 A
- 2 D
- 3 D
- 4 D
- 5 A
- 6 C

PART TWO

- 7 D
- 8 F
- 9 A
- 10 C
- 11 G
- 12 B

PART THREE

- 13 C
- 14 D
- 15 B
- 16 B
- 17 D
- 18 A
- 19 C

PART FOUR

- 20 C
- 21 F
- 22 D
- 23 B
- 24 E
- 25 G
- 26 E
- 27 A
- 28 C
- 29 A
- 30 G
- 31 F
- 32 D
- 33 F
- 34 C

Candidate answer sheet



This sheet is available from www.cambridgeenglish.org

Centre No. _____

Candidate No. _____

Examination Details _____

Examination Title _____

Centre _____

Supervisor _____

If the candidate is ABSENT or has WITHDRAWN from the test

Candidate Answer Sheet

Instructions

Use a **PENCIL** (B or HB)

Mark **ONE** letter for each question.

For example, if you think B is the right answer to the question, mark your answer sheet like this:

0 A B B C D E F G H

Rub out any answer you wish to change using an eraser.

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
2	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
3	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
4	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
5	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
6	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
7	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
8	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
9	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
10	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
11	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
12	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
13	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
14	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
15	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
16	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
17	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
18	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
19	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
20	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
21	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
22	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
23	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
24	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
25	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
26	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
27	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
28	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
29	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
30	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
31	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
32	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
33	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
34	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
35	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
36	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
37	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
38	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
39	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
40	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

PAPER 3: USE OF ENGLISH

Answer keys

Test 1

PART ONE	PART TWO	PART THREE	PART FOUR	PART FIVE
1 C	13 followed	28 increasingly	38 point	43 were obliged to][take into
2 B	14 little	29 sufficient	39 fair	44 was wondering if/whether][you could/would/might lend/give
3 B	15 the	30 undoubtedly/ doubtlessly	40 engaged	45 not have raised][my voice
4 D	16 for	31 maintenance	41 working	46 don't/do not hesitate][to call
5 A	17 to	32 stability	42 charge	47 slightly less][than it
6 D	18 Though/Although/ While/Whilst	33 intentions		48 (any) better][it will mean
7 A	19 why	34 readily		49 make any/much difference][to me
8 A	20 their	35 diversity		50 have broken][into
9 C	21 another	36 removal][shows where the answer is split into two parts for marking purposes.
10 B	22 may/might/will	37 unattractive		
11 A	23 not/never			
12 D	24 out			
	25 off			
	26 so			
	27 being			

PAPER 3: USE OF ENGLISH

Answer keys

Test 2

PART ONE

- 1 A
2 C
3 D
4 B
5 A
6 A
7 C
8 C
9 A
10 B
11 D
12 B

PART TWO

- 13 as
14 every/any
15 for/by/from/through
16 who/that
17 over
18 to
19 yet/but/although/
though
20 in
21 are
22 what
23 How/how
24 than
25 whether/either
26 your/an
27 which

PART THREE

- 28 worldwide/
world-wide
29 infancy
30 beginnings
31 increasingly
32 unimaginable
33 consequently
34 archaeologists/
archeologists
35 expansion
36 accuracy
37 influential

PART FOUR

- 38 common
39 field
40 torn
41 favour/favor
42 gathered

PART FIVE

- 43 can be **reserved**][by calling/
if you call
44 little/not any/no **point** (in)][
(our/us) staying
45 what/which **method**][Mark
adopts to/follows to/employs
to/uses to
46 buying/having bought
the/a/his car][**without**
getting/having
47 has **taken** everyone/
everybody/us (all)/people][
by
48 **any** taller][he would
not/wouldn't
49 though he + (had)][**turned**
up
50 **have** a discussion][about
when

][shows where the answer is
split into two parts for marking
purposes.

PAPER 4: LISTENING

Answer keys

Test 1

PART ONE

- 1 C
- 2 B
- 3 B
- 4 A
- 5 A
- 6 C

PART TWO

- 7 planning
- 8 drawings
- 9 equipment
- 10 creative
- 11 permission
- 12 storms
- 13 food
- 14 magazines

PART THREE

- 15 B
- 16 D
- 17 C
- 18 B
- 19 C
- 20 A

PART FOUR

- 21 B
- 22 G
- 23 C
- 24 A
- 25 E
- 26 C
- 27 H
- 28 F
- 29 D
- 30 B

PAPER 4: LISTENING
Answer keys

Test 2

PART ONE

- 1 C
- 2 C
- 3 C
- 4 A
- 5 B
- 6 C

PART TWO

- 7 newsagent(')s (shop)
- 8 botany
- 9 management/managerial
- 10 landowners
- 11 (visible) benefits
- 12 (farmland) birds
- 13 forest areas/forests
- 14 seasonal

PART THREE

- 15 B
- 16 D
- 17 A
- 18 D
- 19 A
- 20 C

PART FOUR

- 21 E
- 22 H
- 23 C
- 24 A
- 25 F
- 26 E
- 27 F
- 28 D
- 29 H
- 30 A

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 1: CANDIDATE A

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **letter** must:

- describe the job
- say whether or not they would recommend it
- give reasons for their opinion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently informal to unmarked.

■ Range

Language of description, evaluation and recommendation.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate A

Dear Jan,

I was happy to hear from you again after such a long period of time. So I send you the information you wanted.

First, the job with this international company organizing music festivals has two sides.

I had days where I sat behind a desk in an unfriendly office giving information to people who called. I had to do nothing important except making coffee for the organising committee during their long hours of talk. But, those few days were soon forgotten, because after I had shown my ability to work hard I was responsible for more important tasks. I worked as an interpreter several times, but also had to advise and help English visitors. So I improved my English skills and learned a lot about official and politically correct language.

The next important point is that you will be able to make a really extraordinary journey. Really, there is not need to worry about money.

As I know your interest in music I especially point out the fact that one gets free entry to several festivals and sometimes even the chance to meet one of the performing stars face to face.

I believe this job to be perfect for you and might even affect your future career.

Cheers,

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points covered with some expansion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs, with attention paid to use of cohesive devices.

■ Range

Evidence of a range of appropriate vocabulary.

■ Accuracy

Generally accurate with occasional awkwardness in choice of structure (e.g. 'I send you').

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently informal with successful attempt at a friendly tone appropriate for the target reader.

■ Target reader

Would be fully informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 4.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 1 Question 2 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments**QUESTION 2: CANDIDATE B****■ Content**

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **reference** must:

- describe character/qualities and skills
- describe previous experience
- explain why the person should be selected.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently formal to unmarked.

■ Range

Language of description, explanation and recommendation.

Vocabulary related to personality.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate B

To whom it may concern:

Michelle Wong

Michelle and I have been working for seven years for ACB Ltd, an international company specialised in the use of plastics engineering.

During the time we have worked together she proved herself to be a very competent and efficient receptionist. She is undoubtedly a trustworthy and punctual person, rarely absent from work. She has a level-headed approach to problems and is never daunted when things go wrong, remaining self-possessed. She is extremely dedicated to her job and she is known to be a hard-worker, working overtime should the need arise.

As a colleague, she is a friendly person who is always on hand to help. Therefore, she is liked and respected by everyone.

Regarding dealing with customers, she has a great deal of experience, and her polite and tactful manner is vital in customer relations.

When she started work in the company, due to her organised manner, she used to get a little nervous when she was under stain. Nevertheless, she soon changed drastically and became more self-assured.

It is undeniable that Michelle has a talent for foreign languages, and she is fluent in English, French and Chinese. This is a great advantage when working in an English language college. Despite being such an intelligent person she keeps a low-profile.

For all these reasons, I strongly believe that Michelle would have much to contribute, and therefore I have no hesitation in supporting her application wholeheartedly.

Examiner comments

■ Content

Good realisation of the task.

■ Organisation and cohesion

The task is well organised and there is evidence of use of a range of cohesive devices.

■ Range

A very good range of vocabulary and structure.

■ Accuracy

Minimal errors; controlled and natural use of language.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently appropriate.

■ Target reader

Very positive effect on target reader, who would consider Ms Wong's application.

■ Marks awarded

Band 5.

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 3: CANDIDATE C

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **competition entry** must:

- nominate a scientist
- describe their achievement(s)
- justify their nomination.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

May mix registers if appropriate to approach taken by candidate.

■ Range

Language of description, explanation and justification.

Vocabulary related to science.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate C

Dear to whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to express my delightness about the planned series of TV programmes about science, and paralelly I do so, because I would like to nominate one person, who is in my opinion, the most important scientist of all times – Albert Einstein.

I am convinced about this because of three main reasons: the impact of his discoveries on our lives, the effect of his theories on a modern science and finally the extraordinary charisma and attitude of Einstein, who became an eternal symbol of free-thinking.

Firstly, the discoveries of this man changed our lives more than we think. His work led to constructing such devices as nuclear bomb or laser. Today we know that all history of human mankind from 1940s is deformed by the threat of nuclear war. A technological progress of mankind is based on abilities that laser offer to us. This man influenced the way of our lives more than anybody else, beyond the shadow of a doubt.

What is more, the ideas of Einstein are somehow even more powerful than their application in our life. The three papers on photoelectric effect he published in 1920's shaped science in every aspect. E-mc² has become the symbol of a modern science and despite the fact that only few people are able to understand to it, we have it all of us in our minds. I think that the level of our understanding of phenomenons and questions as a speed of light, how the time works, what is space, what are black holes about, and so on, still haven't reached the level of Einstein's mind.

The last reason of my nomination lies in the charisma of Einstein's personality. He is the father of free-thinking. 'The rebel', who was almost all his life refused by "science authorities" He is the one who opened the gates of that, what we know now as a 'NEW-AGE'. But he managed to prove to everyone that he is the biggest genius ever born and I think that he would definetly deserve the highest position in your ranking.

Yours faithfully

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points covered with some expansion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs. Letter format is natural for competition entry.

■ Range

A good range of appropriate vocabulary and structure.

■ Accuracy

Ambitious attempt at task with some errors, particularly with word choice (e.g. 'delightness', 'deformed', 'refused'), which, however, do not impede communication.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistent and appropriate.

■ Target reader

Achieves the desired effect.

■ Marks awarded

Band 3.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 1 Question 4 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments**QUESTION 4: CANDIDATE D****■ Content**

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **letter of application** must:

- outline the advantages of staying in a host family rather than in college accommodation
- describe what qualities are necessary to be a host family
- explain why they are interested in hosting students.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal to unmarked.

■ Range

Language of description, comparison and explanation.

■ Target reader

Would be informed and consider application.

Candidate D

Dear Mr S. Martin,

My name is Holly Parker and I'm writing this letter as a response to your latest add in the 'Student International Magazine'.

We are a family of four: my husband Gregory, forty-five, working as a consultant manager for a tourist agency; our two sons Eric, 18 years old, and John, 16 years old; both students; and of course myself, 43 years old and working as an account manager. We have a 5 bedroom and 4 bathroom cottage and we live at a short distance from the best tourist attractions in the region and within walking distance from the nearest bus and rail-way station.

We would be more than happy to wellcome amongst us a male foreign student, to live with us as a part of our family, for the duration of two years.

Besides lodging we offer three meals per day and he would be more than wellcome to any family outings and activities.

We are making this application because we would like to experience living with someone coming from another culture and also because my boys are going to leave soon to France as exchange students and I would like to know what would be the best option for us as parents, to send them to college accomodation or to families like us.

I sincerely hope my letter of application will be accepted and that we are found suitable to host an international student.

Best regards

Examiner comments

■ Content

Some attempt at task but with notable omissions in the response. The candidate has not explained the advantages to students of host family accommodation, nor described the qualities a host family needs to have.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Slightly over paragraphed.

■ Range

Satisfactory for the task.

■ Accuracy

Mostly accurate with very few errors.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Satisfactory.

■ Target reader

Would be partially informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 2.

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 5A: CANDIDATE E

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **review** must:

- briefly describe the plot of *The Pelican Brief*
- say whether or not they would recommend it
- give reasons for their opinion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

May mix registers if appropriate to approach taken by candidate.

■ Range

Language of description, recommendation and explanation.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate E

Pelican Brief is very exciting story. It is written by John Grisham, who wrote lot of thrillers. The book begins when two judges are murdered. Darby Shaw is heroine of book and she tries to find reasons of the murders. She believes that oil tycoon Victor Mattiese guilty, because he want to get oil on land where live special pelicans. He has to make legal process for permission to work on that land. Two murdered judges protected the environment. Darby understands that Mattiese, who made business before with President of USA thinks President can now make new judges who will let him to use land. Darby tells to her boyfriend her idea that tycoon is corrupt and he tells other person. Boyfriend and that other also murdered. Darby knows she correct. Journalist, Gray Grantham, helps to Darby to prove she is right. The bad guys try to kill Darby and Gray. Of course, all well that ends well. Darby is not murdered and falls in love again.

I liked very much this book and recomend to read it to other readers on your website. Is very good film too but book is better, from my point of view. I bit my nails when I read the book because it so exciting and thrilling.

Examiner comments

■ Content

Content points are addressed, though there is a lack of balance between description of the plot and opinion/recommendation.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Broadly organised into two paragraphs though there is little attention to cohesion.

■ Range

Attempt to use a range of vocabulary (e.g. 'I bit my nails'). However, little evidence of successful use of a range of structure.

■ Accuracy

Lack of control of basic structure.

Language issues obscure message in places (e.g. 'Boyfriend and that other also murdered.').

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Not inappropriate though little discernible adaptation to audience.

■ Target reader

Very negative effect.

■ Marks awarded

Band 1.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 1 Question 5b (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments**QUESTION 5B: CANDIDATE F****■ Content**

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's essay must:

- describe the most interesting character in Lucky Jim
- give reasons for their opinion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently formal to unmarked.

■ Range

Language of description and opinion.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate F

There are many interesting characters in Lucky Jim but as for me the most of these is the protagonist Jim Dixon.

Jim is a young professor at university in England just after the WW2. He says that he became it because he doesn't know what to do in his life and is not at all happy to work there. He doesn't like teaching and he doesn't like his boss the professor Welch. Instead he imagines to work for a rich man to help him not to be bored and this happens in the end of the story. In fact Jim doesn't like a lot of the other personages in the book and the story is mainly about his life in battle with them.

Another reason Jim is the most interesting is that funny things happen to him, especially when he had drunk. For example at Welch's house he runs away from singing and goes to the pub. When he returns he by accident burns down his bed. Also he drinks to give him courage before his speech and finishes by mocking the university stuff.

Though Jim is not always a good man I find him interesting and am very happy when in the end of the story he gets a good job and Christine at the same time.

Examiner comments

■ Content

The content of the task is covered.

■ Range

Attempts to use a range of language are not always entirely successful (e.g. 'burns down').

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised and paragraphed with some attention paid to cohesion.

■ Accuracy

A number of non-impeding errors.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistent and appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 3.

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 1: CANDIDATE G

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **proposal** must:

- describe the two venues
- recommend one of the venues
- give reasons for choice.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised, possibly with headings.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal to unmarked. Must be consistent.

■ Range

Language of description, recommendation and persuasion.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate G

The aim of this proposal is to suggest a suitable venue for the weekend trip the social committee is organising.

The people taking part of this weekend activity attend college, therefore the activities involved should be proper.

One of the first suggestions given was mainly about physical exercise. It would be a great opportunity for them to keep fit and relax doing a sport. Second, the students expressed their wish for quiet and peace, are also concerned about the food they will receive and also about going shopping for presents. The last comment was related to entertainment, either a film or a concert.

Regarding the students' opinions and wishes for the trip but also taking into consideration the two choices of locations, I recommend that the 'Briar Park Hotel'. Although 'Lakeside Activity Centre offers a peaceful setting in woodland and opportunities for walking, canoeing and sailing, 'Briar Park Hotel' best meets all the demandings. It has beautiful grounds outside Leightonbury, a swimming pool and also tennis courts for sports. The free bus to and from city centre is perfect for going shopping and the international menu has good food.

As a conclusion, I believe that Briar Park Hotel is a good option which the social committee should choose for the weekend trip

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points addressed, though last paragraph needs more expansion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Well organised into paragraphs but weaker internal cohesion e.g. 'also ... also' in the third paragraph. The proposal would benefit from a title and headings.

■ Range

Reasonable range of vocabulary but good range of structure.

■ Accuracy

Several non-intrusive errors.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Generally consistent.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 3.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 2 Question 2 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments**QUESTION 2: CANDIDATE H****■ Content**

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **article** must:

- describe essential ingredients of good science fiction film
- explain why science fiction films are popular.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with suitable linking.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

May mix registers if appropriate to the approach taken by candidate.

■ Range

Language of description and opinion.

Film-related vocabulary.

■ Target reader

Would be informed and consider publishing the article.

Candidate H

X-Files, Men in Black, Starship Troopers, Gattaca and Co

Everybody knows about these names. You don't? Then ask a teenager and you will quickly get the answer. They are all titles of famous science fiction films or series.

All science fiction movies share several characteristics, the necessary ingredients which will draw the viewer's attention. One of them is the presence of real characters, normal people in an unreal environment. It allows the viewer to identify himself/herself to his/her hero. It is not by chance that the main character is always a human. It is only the world which he/she evolves in that is strange, either completely futuristic or crowded with aliens or giant insects. That way, the person who watches the film can imagine that he/she is actually saving the world from an alien invasion or fighting enormous spiders.

Another essential feature of a good science fiction movie is mystery. Have you noticed that, after watching any science fiction film, there is always something that you don't completely understand? It is done on purpose to let your imagination run wild. The fact that there is no answer makes you think that, after all, what you have seen is not totally impossible to happen one day or another.

And that is why this kind of movies is so popular among young people. Their imagination is generally much bigger than the imagination of older people. They are often less reluctant to saying "this is impossible, it can't happen", compared with adults whose rational mind is an obstacle to enjoying this type of movies.

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points covered with suitable development.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised with attention paid to cohesion.

■ Range

Good range of vocabulary and structure.

■ Accuracy

Generally accurate with occasional slips (e.g. 'impossible to happen', 'reluctant to saying') where more complex language attempted.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Appropriately engaging.

■ Target reader

Would be informed and interested.

■ Marks awarded

Band 4.

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 3: CANDIDATE I

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **contribution** must:

- identify and describe one specific place/area
- explain what visitors could learn about traditional ways of life
- suggest why they are an important part of local or national culture. (May be embedded in previous points.)

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised with suitable paragraphing.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Any as long as consistent.

■ Range

Language of description and speculation.
Vocabulary related to places and lifestyles.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate I

COME TO SPAIN, YOU WON'T REGRET THAT!

If you come to Spain, you will discover so many interesting things about different topics: music, sport, dance, food, holidays in the beach

You will realize all these experiences just by the mere fact of living during ten days in July in Pamplona. We have a lot of Hotels, Residences, Hostels which you can book for the summer from now. You can make your reservations in www.spainhotel.es.

The 7th of July is the typical day of Pamplona: Sanfermin, and you can see the bulls running in the streets. There are so many events programmed around that day: the Pablo Sarasate's Orchestra plays a very emotive performance which consists on Spanish Composers, there is a football match between Real Madrid and Barcelona every year, the Government of Navarra organises a festival where dancers from every cities of Spain are invited to dance with the 'regional' music of each city, restaurants have their best cooks and they prepare delicious typical menus for people from other countries....

You can learn costumes from all different places of Spain if you come to Pamplona in July!

It is possible also to rent a car and to go to San Sebastian just for a day. It is wonderful! You will be able to swim in the sea while seeing the snow in the Pyrenees Mountains.

These ways of life in Pamplona are very important because it is known in all the World. People from America, Europe, Asia everywhere use to come, and Pamplona becomes the 'centre point' in the news.

Don't forget to be dressed in white and red colours.

You will enjoy yourself so much at the same time as you will learn our costumes, history, etc

(For further information www.navarrasummer.com)

Examiner comments

■ Content

The points are addressed but there is notable irrelevance in content (e.g. trip to San Sebastian).

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised.

■ Range

Limited.

■ Accuracy

A number of errors, some of which impede.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

More appropriate to advertising than to required genre.

■ Target reader

Would be partially informed.

■ Marks awarded

Band 2.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 2 Question 4 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 4: CANDIDATE J

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's report must:

- outline positive aspects of airport
- describe problems
- suggest improvements.

N.B. personal aspect may be implicit.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clear organisation with appropriate paragraphing. Headings may be an advantage.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal or unmarked.

■ Range

Language of description and recommendation.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate J

AIRPORT SURVEY: AIRPORT OF OSLO, NORWAY

The aim of this report is to evaluate the facilities and services of Oslo Airport, Gardemoen.

The history of Oslo Airport Gardemoen:

Oslo Airport Gardemoen was first open in 1996 and was and still are the main airport of Norway. It is located about half an hour north of the capital and can easily be reached by the airport-train from the city centre. You will find a large number of different aircraft-companies, which can take you to any parts of the world.

The silent, clean airport:

In addition to many other airports Gardemoen is known as a silent airport. The idea is not to make the travellers stressed, so you will therefore never hear a voice speaking over the speaking system. However, information can easily be found on the information screens.

The airport is also clean at any time of the day, because of the large number of cleaners who look after the buildings.

The weather of the North can make trouble:

Norway is located up in the North so snow and cold temperatures do often appear. That is Gardemoen's main problem. As a traveller be always aware of this and do not become angry if your plane is delayed because of the snow.

What can be done?

It is difficult to handle the weather because of the fact that we are just human. Anyways, it is important to always be aware of snow and cold temperatures and have a staff which take action at the first sign of snow.

Conclusion:

Oslo Airport Gardemoen is a nice place to start or end your journey. It is a peaceful, clean airport, but be prepared that the weather can give you some trouble.

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points addressed.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Organised in report format with good use of headings.

■ Range

Sufficient range of language (e.g. '... information can easily be found on the information screens.').

■ Accuracy

Some basic but non-impeding errors (e.g. 'Oslo airport was first open ... and still are the main airport ...', '... an silent airport.').

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would be informed and the report achieves the required effect.

■ Marks awarded

Band 3.

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 5A: CANDIDATE K

■ Content

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's essay must:

- outline the main strengths of Darby Shaw's personality
- say which aspect of her personality the candidate most admires
- explain why this aspect of her personality is the one they most admire.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal to unmarked. Must be consistent.

■ Range

Language of description, opinion and explanation.

Vocabulary related to commenting on character.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate K

The main character in The Pelican Brief is Darby Shaw. At the beginning of the novel she is studying law and having a relation with Thomas Callahan, one of her professors. Together they become interested in the suspicious deaths of two Supreme Court judges. Darby writes a report about it and this document leads to Callahan's violent death. Darby knows she is in great danger but this does not prevent her to continue the investigation.

As this brief description suggests, Darby is a very brave person. She was very lucky that she did not die with Callahan. She knows that her actions are making dangerous men become angry, she tries to hide from them but she does not stop her investigation. She is afraid but she still wants to find the truth.

Darby also possesses many other strengths. She is a very intelligent person, for example she is able to work out the connection between the two judges. In addition, she has very deep principles. She realises that very important people are involved in the situation but she is still determined to make the truth public. She knows that the environment is in threat and this is very important for her.

So, I hope I showed that Darby has many strengths. The aspect of her personality that I most admire is her braveness. However this does not mean that she is not afraid. Instead, it means that she acts with courage despite her fear.

Examiner comments

■ Content

All the points are fully covered and suitably expanded.

■ Organisation and cohesion

The essay is well organised in clearly connected paragraphs.

■ Range

The candidate uses a good range of relevant vocabulary effectively.

■ Accuracy

The language is generally very accurate. The few errors (e.g. 'prevent her to continue', 'in threat' and 'environement') do not in any way impede the reader's understanding.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Consistently appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would be fully informed about Darby's character and what the writer admires about her.

■ Marks awarded

Band 5.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Test 2 Question 5b (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments**QUESTION 5B: CANDIDATE L****■ Content**

For Band 3 or above, the candidate's **review** must:

- briefly outline the plot
- explain why the book is called Lucky Jim
- say whether the candidate would or would not recommend the book to other students.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs with appropriate linking devices.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Formal to unmarked. Must be consistent.

■ Range

Language of description, explanation and opinion.

Vocabulary related to description of plot, comment on character and recommendation of a book.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate L

Lucky Jim is the story of a university professor. Lucky Jim is Jim Dixon. He teaches history and he doesn't like very much his job. He doesn't like the another teachers, especially the chief professor, and even he doesn't like very much his girlfriend Margaret. Sometimes she is his girlfriend and sometimes she isn't. She teaches also history in the university. He particularly not like Bertrand the chief professor's son and he try to steal his girlfriend. He does a lot of stupid and embarasing things and he has often drank very much. When he stays at the professor's house one weekend he smokes in bed and makes fire. He burns his bed. Then he has to make a very important lecture called Merrie England and he nervous about it so he becomes too drunk. He looses his job. Then he also gets another job in London and the girlfriend of the son of the chief professor. One day they see that same professor and his wife and Bertrand in London and they can just laugh at them.

This story is quiet funny. The people are all too stupid and not one is nice or kind but the book make me laugh. It make a good film. I certainly recommend the story to the other students.

Examiner comments

■ Content

The candidate devotes too much space to outlining the plot and omits to say anything about the reason for the novel's title.

■ Organisation and cohesion

The review is not well organised as it has one very long and one very short paragraph. The summary of the plot is not very coherent as it provides too much irrelevant detail.

■ Range

The candidate displays a slightly narrow range of language here.

■ Accuracy

There are a number of errors in the writing (e.g. 'the another', word order in 'he doesn't like very much his job', 'looses' rather than loses, 'quiet' instead of quite and so on). Although some errors are quite basic for the level ('try' instead of tries, for example), they do not prevent the reader from understanding the writer's intention.

■ Appropriacy of register and format

Not consistent.

■ Target reader

Would be informed about the plot of the play but would not be informed about the reason for the title.

■ Marks awarded

Band 2.