



WESTMINSTER

International University in Tashkent

An Accredited Institution of
the University of Westminster (UK)

Westminster International University in Tashkent CAMBRIDGE A-LEVELS ENTRANCE EXAMINATION ENGLISH

Date: 12 August 2025

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN DETAIL, THE ANSWERS PROVIDED IN THE DRAFT PAGE OR IN SEPARATE SHEETS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS TO “ANSWER SHEET”

NO BOOKS, NOTES, DICTIONARIES OR ANY SORT OF ASSISTING MATERIAL ARE ALLOWED.

Surname	
Name	
Middle name	
Signature	

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PART: ENGLISH weights

Use of English (14 marks)	Reading (16 marks)	Writing (20 marks)	Total

Staff name and signature: _____

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THIS PAGE UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO

Use of English

Task I

Read the text. Think of the word which best fits each gap. Write the correct word in each gap
(1 mark for each correct answer. Total: 7 marks)

The Mystery of Ancient Inks

In recent years, researchers have been fascinated by the discovery of ancient inks used in manuscripts and artworks. These inks, some of which are over 2000 years old, have turned (1) _____ in various archaeological sites around the world. The composition of these inks often (2) _____ clues about the methods and materials used by ancient civilizations.

One particular ink found in an Egyptian tomb was made using a mixture of soot and gum. It had been blended with a unique metal, which (3) _____ that it was used for special documents or ceremonial purposes. "The complexity of the ink's composition is truly (4) _____," says Dr. Emily Carson, a chemist specializing in historical artifacts. "It shows a high level of skill and knowledge of materials."

These ancient inks have (5) _____ interest among historians and chemists alike. They provide (6) _____ not only into the writing practices of the past but also into the cultural and trade connections of the time. In some cases, the ink's resilience through the centuries is a (7) _____ of the advanced techniques used in its creation.

Interestingly, the ability of these inks to withstand the test of time has puzzled many researchers. Despite exposure to harsh environments, many of these inks have remained remarkably intact, preserving the history written with them.

1.	A) about	B) up	C) on	D) over
2.	A) gives	B) keeps	C) carries	D) brings
3.	A) advises	B) tells	C) points	D) suggests
4.	A) remarkable	B) surprising	C) shocking	D) unbelievable
5.	A) produced	B) created	C) sparked	D) generated
6.	A) insights	B) views	C) visions	D) glimpses
7.	A) verification	B) vision	C) light	D) sign

Task II

Read the text. Use the word on the right to form a word that fits in the gap. For each question, write your answer in the gap.

(1 mark for each correct answer. Total: 7 marks)

EXAMPLE: He has always shown great (0) dedication (DEDICATE) to the cause.

Do you know how to play an instrument? Some people think you need to be very (8) _____ (TALENT) to play well. While that may be true, the best musicians are people who have dedicated a lot of practice to developing their (9) _____ (ABLE). The first step is to choose an instrument you really like to play. Then, it's a good idea to find a good tutor who can show you the basic rules of music. Once you learn (10) _____ (MUSIC) theory, you can start to practice songs and pieces. It's important to remember that ninety percent of your (11) _____ (DEVELOP) is practice, so put aside time to play your instrument (12) _____ (REGULAR). If you have a difficult technical part, go very slowly and repeat that part several times until you have mastered it. Never despair, and remain (13) _____ (PERSIST)! Rome wasn't built in a day. Good musicians are (14) _____ (SIMPLE) people who love music so much that they devote their time and efforts to conquering the difficulty of playing an instrument.

Reading

Task III

Read the text below and match the information with the text.

You can use the same text more than once.

(1 mark for each correct answer. Total: 10 marks)

Following Dream

A. Harry

Just north of Fregate I met two manta rays. They were seven or eight feet wide with massive outstretched fins that seemed like rubberized wings. The water was murky, rich with plankton that attracted the giant rays that filtered it through their wide mouths. They treated me with caution, maintaining a constant distance if I turned towards them, but were content to let me swim on a parallel course, as if I, too, was feeding on the plankton. For a few minutes we were companions, until, circling and shifting shape against the depths, they became faint black shadows in the gloom and were gone. The deep blue of the Indian Ocean has captured my heart and drawn me back again and again to these pure shores. On Praslin there were dolphins offshore and a pair of octopus, sliding across the coral as they flashed signals to one another with changing skin tones as remarkable as – but much faster than – any chameleon. At Conception, close to Mahe, giant rocks formed an underwater cathedral beckoning me into its vaults where moray eels gaped at me, the strange visitor to their liquid world.

B. Gabriel

And so my first real trip to Asia unfolded in what seemed a series of dream-panels – adventures and faces and events so far removed from my day-to-day experience that I could not convert them into any tongue I knew. I revisited them again and again, sleepless, in my memories and notes and photographs, once home.

Almost every day of the three-week trip was so vivid that, upon returning, I gave a friend a nine-hour account of every moment. The motorbike ride through Sukhothai; the first long lazy evening in an expat's teak house in Sunkumvhit; the flight into the otherworldly charm of Rangoon and the Strand Hotel, and the pulse of warm activity around the Sule Pagoda at nightfall. Long hot days in the silence, 5,000 temples on every side; slow trips at dawn along Inle lake, seeing a bird-faced boat being led through the quiet water; a frenzied morning back in Bangkok, writing an article while monsoon rains pounded on the windows all around me.

C. Maya

As I stepped off the six-seater Cessna plane after a bumpy flight over the Okavango Delta and my feet touched the arid ground I knew this was what I'd been waiting for all my life – Africa. Our first day was at the Selinda Camp in one of the driest parts of the Delta and when we arrived I thought that nothing could possibly survive under the relentless sun. I was almost immediately proved wrong, as Selinda is near a small lagoon – home to a group of hippos. At night we could hear their bark-like call.

Our guides warned us that although hippos may seem harmless, if threatened, they could easily kill a man! We went on to stay in various other camps that were situated in different habitats. Jacana Camp was surrounded entirely by water and only accessible by boat. But my favourite place was the Kalahari Desert. Our final camp was located just on the edge of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, which are home to many rare species of animal, such as the brown hyena.

D. Tom

I'd been to New York three times in the past but not for long and I couldn't remember much of it.

This time I only had four days but I was on my own and this seems like a better way to get to know a city: less being sociable, more walking and visiting different places. Perfect. I liked New York even more than I expected and it's right up there on my list of foreign cities where I'd like to live. It's fighting for the top spot with San Francisco, with the next position occupied by Paris. I stayed at the Incentra Village House, which was lovely: reasonably priced, really friendly, comfortable rooms. I'd stay there again. I did a lot of walking and could easily have done a lot more. I rarely left Manhattan. One day I walked more than 12 miles, including the length of Central Park and on down Fifth Avenue. Fifth Avenue was the least pleasant place; it felt like London's Oxford Street. I also walked

along the High Line, which is very nicely done, although rather shorter than Paris's Promenade Plantee.

No	Information	Text (A,B,C,D)
15.	interacted closely with wild animals?	
16.	was participating in a water sport?	
17.	did not think he/she would like the place so much?	
18.	was in relatively close proximity to dangerous animals?	
19.	refers to documenting their travel experiences?	
20.	appreciated the advantages of travelling alone?	
21.	spent time near places of worship?	
22.	told someone all about his/her experience?	
23.	compared the place he/she visited with other places?	
24.	was shown around by a professional?	

Task IV

**Read the text and choose the correct answer
(1 mark for each correct answer. Total: 6 marks)**

A lawsuit against McDonald's

If Caesar Barber dreamed of winning fame, he probably didn't think it would be due to his obesity. However, since the 120kg maintenance worker filed a lawsuit against McDonald's, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Burger King last month – seeking damages for selling him food that made him obese – Barber's 15 minutes of fame are proving as painful as the two heart attacks he has already had.

“Does anyone really believe that Mr Barber was too dumb to know that eating saturated fat was less healthy than having, say, a fruit dish or a chef salad?” said Steve Dasbach, who is the executive director of the Libertarian party. Barber says that he was in the dark about the nutritional content of the fast food he was eating up to five times a week from the 1950s onwards. Incredibly, he didn't give up burgers and salty fries after he had his first heart attack in 1996. He is now a diabetic with high blood pressure.

In his lawsuit – the first of its kind in the United States – he contends that deceptive advertising misled him about the nutritional value of the food until a doctor pointed it out. “Those people in the advertisements don't tell you what's in the food,” he says. “Now I'm obese. The fast-food industry has ruined my life. They said 100% beef. I thought that meant it was good for you.”

Attacks on Barber's character and perceived IQ became a sport in the US media. Barber wasn't stupid, columnists and radio hosts joked, just out to make money by failing to take responsibility for his diet. More than 75 million Americans eat fast food every day. But who, the journalists asked, doesn't know that too much will make you overweight?

“Mr Barber honestly didn’t know what the dangers were when he started eating fast food in the 50s,” says his lawyer, Samuel Hirsch. “The fast-food chains made no effort then, and little today, to inform consumers about the dangerously high fat, cholesterol or salt content of their food.” Hirsch says that his client, who has now gone into hiding, is not trying to make money but to get the chains to inform customers that their food is guilty of expanding their waistlines.

Barber and his lawyer are following hard on the heels of a series of lawsuits win over some tobacco companies for the addictive nature of nicotine and subsequent diagnosis of cancer. It actually seems that Hirsh believes that there might be similarities between tobacco and fast food products as he claims that both nicotine and fast food products create a craving.

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine applauded the lawsuit. The committee’s research coordinator, Brie Turner-McGrivey, says that whether Barber wins or loses, the hype surrounding the case has been good for doctors, spotlighting America’s obesity epidemic and the role that fast food plays in it.

One might consider Mr. Barber’s case an act of stupidity or an attempt to make some quick money but Ceasar Barber definitely takes credit for initiating the discussion about whether obesity is a matter of personal responsibility or if fast food chains are also to blame for failure to inform consumers and fighting obesity has become a one of the priorities of American health organizations.

25. Why is Caesar Barber famous?

- A. Because he has serious health problems due to eating fast food.
- B. Because he has been eating fast food for more than 40 years.
- C. Because he is a top lawyer.
- D. Because he sued fast food chains for making him obese.

26. What does Caesar Barber say about fast food?

- A. He used to eat fast food five days a week.
- B. He started to eat fast food before 1950.
- C. He didn’t know what the content of fast food was.
- D. In the 50s fast food wasn’t fattening.

27. After the first heart attack, Caesar Barber

- A. became very ill.
- B. stopped eating all fast food except for burgers and fries.
- C. started to eat even more fast food.
- D. carried on eating fast food.

28. How did the American media react to this lawsuit?

- A. The media suggested that Caesar Barber should go on a diet.
- B. Barber was offered to host his own radio show.
- C. The media made fun of Caesar Barber.
- D. Some media started a sports campaign against eating hamburgers.

29. Caesar Barber's lawyer argues that

- A. Caesar Barber is in hiding because he is worried about his life.
- B. Caesar Barber is trying to force fast food chains to better inform their customers.
- C. fast food chains are expanding too quickly.
- D. he is only trying to make money just like other lawyers.

30. is meant by the expression "hard on the heels"?

- A. very persistently
- B. in a very difficult way
- C. with a lot of problems
- D. immediately after

Writing

Task V

Task Instructions:

Read the following text carefully.

Then, in your own words, write a **summary** of the key ideas from the text. Your summary should:

- Be between **120 and 150 words**
- Include only the **most important points**
- **Avoid copying phrases** directly from the text
- **Not include your own opinion, examples or extra information**
- Use **clear, concise English** in full sentences

Assessment Criteria:

You will be assessed on how well you:

- Identify and select relevant information
- Paraphrase using your own words
- Organise your ideas logically and clearly
- Use accurate grammar, spelling and punctuation

Total: 20 marks

Bees

A bee colony is populated by a queen, about 200 male drones and thousands of underdeveloped female workers. The queen is the largest member of the colony due to the workers having fed her a special diet.

The queen is the mother of all the workers and also the male drones in the hive. She remains inside, attended by the workers who groom and feed her. The sole purpose of the drone is to mate with her so that the hive continues.

Bees have different characteristics that make them suited to pollinating certain plants. For example, the early bumblebee's small size and agility allow it to enter plants with drooping flowers. The larger garden bumblebee is better at pollinating the deep flowers because its longer tongue can reach deep inside them.

Plants can only grow because of pollination. Bees' transference of pollen between flowering plants enables a plant to reproduce and produce food. The cycle of a plant's life keeps turning in this way.

So thanks to these small creatures, we enjoy a range of foods from orchard fruits to coffee and vanilla. And if you are wearing cotton, that's because a cotton plant was pollinated. Maybe in your lessons at school you have come across bees too. This would be because many poets, artists, authors and scientists have found them a fascinating subject to study.

But bees are in trouble. Nowadays, many of us are aware of how human decisions impact on bee populations. A few organisations try to educate the public on how the pesticides we use on crops to make our food safer and more prolific are toxic to bees, damaging their mental capacities and ability to reproduce. Bee habitats, such as ponds, trees and flowers, are wiped out by our need to urbanise and build houses and by intensive farming methods. We really need to ask ourselves how much our thoughtlessness and selfishness might be costing us all.

Answer sheet:

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