TIME ALLOWED FOR THIS PAPER:

Reading time before commencing work: 10 minutes
Working time for this paper: 1 hour & 40 minutes

MATERIAL REQUIRED / RECOMMENDED FOR THIS PAPER:

To be provided by the supervisor
- Question booklet
- Answer booklet

To be provided by the candidate
- Pens, pencils, eraser and / or correction fluid

IMPORTANT NOTE TO CANDIDATES

No other items may be taken into the examination room.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor BEFORE reading any further. All iPads and mobile phones must be turned off and in your bag along with any other devices and notes. Bags are to be closed and placed under the desk.

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES:

1. Read through the paper to familiarise yourself with all of the questions.
2. Use a blue or black ballpoint / ink pen. DO NOT answer in pencil.
3. Write your answers in the answer booklet. DO NOT write in this booklet.

AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION:

- Any planning sheets or other pieces of paper MUST be handed in with this booklet.
- At the end of the examination make sure that your name is on your booklet and any other pieces of paper used.
Structure of this paper

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Instructions to candidates:

1. Make sure you write the number of the question being answered.

2. Write your answers to each section in the appropriate Answer Book.
   a. Section 1: Answer book
   b. Section 2: Circle the appropriate letter on the answer sheet.

3. You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instructions that are specific to a particular question. If you fail to comply you will be penalised.
Note: Do not turn the page until you are asked to do so.
SECTION ONE: WRITING

Allow 50 mins for this section (59 marks)

There are three questions in this section. You only need to complete ONE question.

You have 50 minutes to complete the task. You can write up to 600 words, although you may not need this many. You should leave yourself enough time to edit your work thoroughly. You can make as many changes as you would like to.

You will be marked on the following:

- the relationship you develop with your audience
- the organisation of your writing
- the selection of words and language
- the cohesiveness of your writing
- your demonstration of correct grammar, punctuation and spelling

1. Write a short story for the following: (in the answer booklet)

This well-known phrase implies that neither people nor objects should be judged by their outward appearance but by their actions or worth.

Think about what this saying means for you. Write about a situation that could be summarised by this saying. Your writing must take the form of a narrative.

2. Write a persuasive text for the following: (in the answer booklet)

Some people believe that watching television has negative effects on the viewer. Do you agree or disagree? Perhaps you can think of arguments for both sides of the topic. Write to persuade a reader of your opinion. Give reasons and explanations.
There is much debate about what constitutes an outstanding novel or film. Many people prefer a novel with relatable and engaging characters. Similarly, a film can be judged on an entertaining plot in addition to its use of technical elements such as music, camera angles and written codes.

Choose a novel or film that you have recently read or viewed. Think about the positive and negative aspects of the text and whether you would recommend it to a friend.

**Write a review** analysing the merits and weaknesses of the text.
SECTION TWO: READING

Allow 50 mins for this section (41 marks)

Read Totara Hill and answer questions 1 to 6.

For most of the year Totara Hill wore a blanket of mist. Walking up the hill under the large, moss-covered trees was a bit like being under the sea. Lichens and wild orchids grew like coral on the tree trunks and the water that dripped down through the leaves met the water that rose in a vapour from the earth. Everything smelled of growth and decay, which is the way of all things, but on Totara Hill the smell was stronger than other places.

No one much enjoyed going there, although for the spinners and weavers of the village, frequent trips were necessary. The forest of Totara Hill was an unending source of dyestuff. People gathered berries and bark, leaves, roots, flowers, lichens that grew like hair and lichens that grew like cabbages. These things were boiled in pots with hanks of woollen yarn and then the people made clothing that contained all the colours of the forest. Travellers would come long distances to buy the garments, which were said to be more beautiful than anything made elsewhere.

It was at night that no one dared to go on Totara Hill. The villagers believed no fate was worse than being lost on Totara Hill after sunset. That’s when the silver sheep came out, fabled creatures who lived in deep caves during the day and emerged to graze in the forest at night. The sheep had fleeces that looked like polished metal and there were many stories about the things that could happen to those who wore sweaters made from such fleece. Some said they could command the wealth of the world. Some said they could have the power to make themselves invisible. Others claimed they’d be able to fly. Still others said the fleece brought the gift of eternal life.

At the same time there were stories told in whispers about people who had gone up the mountain at night to catch and shear the sheep and had never been seen again.

Parents sang a warning to their children:

'O, Totara Hill is dark
And Totara Hill is steep,
Strange things happen on Totara Hill
When children are asleep.
But if the children wake up
When the night is still and deep,
They will hear the singing
Of the ghostly silver sheep.'
1. Some of the villagers have to go to Totara Hill to
   (A) shear the silver sheep.
   (B) gather food such as cabbages.
   (C) fetch plant material to make dyes.
   (D) collect wool to make beautiful garments.

2. 'Lichens and wild orchids grew like coral on the tree trunks' is an example of
   (A) a simile
   (B) alliteration.
   (C) exaggeration.
   (D) personification.

3. The purpose of the first paragraph is to
   (A) establish Totara Hill as a mysterious place.
   (B) give a geographical description of Totara Hill.
   (C) compare Totara Hill to an underwater kingdom.
   (D) describe the beauty of the plants growing on Totara Hill.

4. In paragraph three 'Others' probably refers to
   (A) the storytellers who travel to the village.
   (B) the children who hear the sheep calling at night.
   (C) the people who wear sweaters made from silver wool.
   (D) the people who believe in the stories about the sheep.

5. Why did the parents sing to their children?
   (A) to recount an adventure on Totara Hill
   (B) to accompany the shearing of the sheep
   (C) to encourage them to have happy dreams
   (D) to make them afraid of wandering at night

6. The literary genre from which this extract is taken is probably
   (A) crime.
   (B) fantasy.
   (C) science fiction.
   (D) historical fiction.
A fitting addition

Our daughter spent the weekend constructing our family tree—

phoning long distance cousins,

questioning close relations.

She wanted An Olde Worlde effect

chose cardboard, charred the edges, soil-smudged it, tea-stained it,

and spread it on the grass to dry

Our cat came by

She slowly extended a paw, gingerly tested resistance carefully stepped across branches

and fittingly claimed a position.

By Lesley Walter
7. What is this poem about?
   (A) a mother describing how her daughter drew up their family tree
   (B) a mother explaining what to do when researching a family tree
   (C) a girl explaining how she carried out the research for her family tree
   (D) a girl describing how difficult it was to draw up her family tree

8. What does the line ‘An Olde Worlde effect’ suggest?
   (A) The daughter wanted the family tree to look like an historical document.
   (B) The mother had chosen a special type of cardboard.
   (C) The daughter had forgotten the names of some of her relatives.
   (D) The mother wanted to trace the family history as far back as possible.

9. What does the poet suggest that the cat does to the family tree?
   (A) scratches it
   (B) smudges it
   (C) spills tea on it
   (D) sits down on it

10. Which of the following words describes how the cat moved?
    (A) awkwardly
    (B) erratically
    (C) cautiously
    (D) defensively

11. Which conclusion can be drawn from the title of the poem?
    (A) The girl will continue to work on her family tree.
    (B) The cat has not lived with the family for very long.
    (C) The cat is considered to be a member of the family.
    (D) The girl thinks that family history is important.

12. When the poet uses the word 'branches', she is describing the
    (A) branches on a tree in the family's garden.
    (B) lines that are drawn on the family tree.
    (C) complexity of the girl's family tree.
    (D) way the girl feels about her family.
When WWF was choosing its logo in the 1960s, it was an easy decision. The founders needed something recognisable across language barriers—a universally loved symbol. ‘We also wanted an animal that had an impact in black and white to save money on printing costs,’ co-founder Peter Scott said at the time.

The giant panda has since become the poster child for all endangered species. In the past 20 years, half its habitat has disappeared in its native China. Pandas’ sole food source, flowering bamboo, periodically collapses, and their pelts make them a target for poaching. Also, it sometimes seems that pandas are incapable of helping themselves: they are uniquely difficult to breed in captivity, and females give birth every other year at best.

But things are looking up for these cuddly bears. For starters, numbers of wild pandas may have been underestimated by half. The tried-and-tested way to gauge a panda population is to examine their faeces and identify individuals by bite marks on half-digested bamboo. The last survey, in 2003, suggested that 1596 bears remained in China. More recently researchers at the Chinese Academy of Science in Beijing doubled the estimate, basing it instead on DNA fingerprinting of panda faeces in a key nature reserve, and suggested that there may be up to 3000 wild pandas in China.

Populations in zoos are growing too. Recently the Chinese government announced a record number of 183 captive pandas. In one centre an unprecedented 16 cubs were born in 2005. Of course releasing bears back into the wild is the goal and in April 2006, China set free its first captive-bred panda.

‘These successes did not happen overnight,’ says Jo Gayle Howard, an animal reproduction specialist at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, where panda cub Tai Shan was born in 2005. US and Chinese scientists have been working together on pandas’ mating behaviour and biology for a decade. One of the trickiest obstacles has been pinpointing the timing of female ovulation, as it happens only once a year for 24 to 48 hours. Biologists have also had to learn how to handle sperm for artificial insemination and to design diets and enclosures to promote sexual behaviour, especially in erratic males.

If this progress continues, giant pandas could go from disaster story to new symbol of conservation success.

‘In 1996, only about four cubs were born in China,’ says Howard. ‘We’ve got nowhere to go but up.’
13. In the text the giant panda is described as a 'poster child'. This means that
   (A) its young are especially appealing,
   (B) it is an extremely interesting animal,
   (C) it is representative of other vulnerable animals,
   (D) its image is inexpensive to reproduce in black and white.

14. The 'pelts' of giant pandas are their
   (A) feet,
   (B) skins,
   (C) teeth,
   (D) heads.

15. The adjective ‘cuddly’ is used in this text to indicate
   (A) a scientific fact,
   (B) the writer’s opinion,
   (C) a biological category,
   (D) the animal classification.

16. In 2003 what method was used to estimate the number of giant pandas in the wild?
   (A) Unique bite marks on partially digested food were counted,
   (B) Information was gathered from poachers and forest workers,
   (C) Fingerprints left by the animals were collected and matched,
   (D) The DNA found in panda faeces in a nature reserve was analysed.

17. In paragraph four the word ‘unprecedented’ indicates that the birth of the 16 cubs
   (A) was the result of careful long-term planning,
   (B) exceeded the quota for animals born in captivity,
   (C) challenged previous theories about panda reproduction,
   (D) was an achievement which had not occurred previously.

18. The writer’s attitude towards the subject could best be described as
   (A) critical,
   (B) optimistic,
   (C) persuasive,
   (D) unsympathetic.
Lumps in the night

No one told us how magnificently beautiful they were. Not a soul in Iceland, or those back home who had visited the country, told us this spectacular sight should not be missed.

We almost dropped it from our itinerary in favour of a few more days in the capital, Reykjavik, given the exorbitant cost of a hire car. But when I first clapped eyes on the gleaming, blue-tinged icebergs I gasped. How could anyone come to Iceland and miss this?

We reversed, parked and climbed a small roadside mound, and our jaws dropped as we were transported into a cool, tranquil, panoramic postcard of icebergs quietly drifting. Beyond, the blinding white glacier Breidamerkurjokull appeared as if a spell had been cast upon it, freezing its river midstream as it oozed down the mountain from Vatnajokull, the third largest icecap in the world after Antarctica and Greenland.

The icecap, at places a kilometre thick, has finger-like glaciers dribbling down the sides, eventually hardening, before later breaking off into the glacial lagoon called Jokulsarlon.

We clambered down to the water’s edge, strewn with sharp volcanic rock, and grabbed a chunk of ice as it drifted out to the Atlantic Ocean (the ring road runs between the glacier and the ocean). It hurt to hold the solid piece, smooth and glass-like, for too long.

It was 10 pm, the landscape brightly lit by the midnight sun, and we were the only people there. It was eerie and surreal. Our excited voices were the only sound other than seals crying out and the gloop-gloop gurgling of the lagoon and creaking icebergs. An occasional thunderous crash marked an iceberg forming as the glacier’s resistance to the earth’s warmth relented.

The icebergs’ blue colour is an optical illusion, being the only shade they reflect. Some of them had dirty tiger stripes, the remnants of the mountain that the glacier had slowly sliced its way through, carving a valley that sits 300 metres below sea level.

It was difficult to comprehend such beauty, which came so unexpectedly, so quietly and so unassumingly. But that, in a way, is Iceland. An unassuming, romantic time warp where elves govern roadworks—a council must first seek their permission—and sheep graze by ancient turf-covered churches, their overgrown wool trailing like a scarf.
19. Choose the best word to complete this sentence.
The writer asks ‘How could anyone come to Iceland and miss this?’ in an ____________ tone.
(A) ironic
(B) inquisitive
(C) incredulous
(D) introspective

20. What is Breidamerkur-jokull?
(A) It is the third largest icecap in the world.
(B) It is a glacier that is floating in the Jokulsarlon.
(C) It is the mountain from which many glaciers form.
(D) It is a glacier on the slopes of the Vatnajokull icecap.

21. The icebergs are described as being ‘blue-tinged’ because
(A) they reflect the colour of the sea.
(B) blue is the only colour they reflect.
(C) debris in the icebergs affects their colour.
(D) the writer can only see blue in the sunlight.

22. According to the text, icebergs are formed when
(A) glaciers reach the Atlantic Ocean.
(B) volcanoes erupt and melt the glaciers.
(C) glaciers cut valleys through mountain ranges.
(D) parts of glaciers melt causing sections to break off.

23. Which word in the text is used as part of a verb?
(A) ‘hire’
(B) ‘strewn’
(C) ‘creaking’
(D) ‘overgrown’

24. Which of the following statements about the writer’s style is correct?
(A) She uses mythological references to add drama to her description.
(B) She uses local place names to boast about the places she has visited.
(C) She uses descriptive language to paint a picture of the country’s beauty.
(D) She uses the first person to emphasise that no one else has seen the glaciers before.
We are stuck in the middle of the driest summer on record in Cardigan. The water level in Lady Anne Lake has dropped one metre; the bank is a flat slope of cracked mud and dry scum. The ducks have disappeared, no-one knows where, and dead eels covered in noxious algae float to the surface. The sailing club postpones, then cancels, its summer season on the lake. Wind is as scarce as rain, and becalmed sailors do not wish to slip overboard into water that feels and smells like warm milk. An oppressive stillness lies over the city. The only movement is towards the bay. The pier has become the civic centre.

Even people who have no wish to bathe gravitate there, waiting for sea breezes that never come. The Cardigan Bay surfers have given up hoping for waves. The water around the pier and nearby beaches is flat and oily. Coconut oily. Avocado oily. Oily from all the fragrant additives in all the sun lotions smeared on the skin of all the good people of Cardigan, this sizzling city, as they bake on the sand or fan themselves with paperback novels under striped umbrellas before sliding into the sea. The sand is as crowded as the Esplanade running above it, where the land-locked surfers swerve on blades between pedestrians, who walk unwilling dogs along the hot concrete and cool them down with ice-creams. The strange lapping sound you hear is not water on the piles of the pier, for the water is barely moving, but all the doggy tongues slurping vanilla ice-cream cones.

There are few sunsets; there are no clouds to scatter the light of the sinking sun. Just the ever-present smudge of unwanted words sulking on the skyline. Afternoons turn to dusk with little easing in temperature and only a leaden light on the horizon to signal the passing of another day. It is a strange, still summer. Never another like it, say the old folk from the Golden Slumbers rest home who are brought by the busload to the pier and lined up in their wheelchairs along the Esplanade, like spectators on the boundary at a cricket ground where the match is yet to begin.
The writer says that 'The pier has become the civic centre' because

(A) everyone in Cardigan now congregates there.
(B) that is the only place where there is a sea breeze.
(C) cricket games are now being staged on the beach.
(D) the citizens of Cardigan have created new activities there.

A word from the text which is a synonym for 'aromatic' is

(A) 'becalmed'
(B) 'oppressive'
(C) 'fragrant'
(D) 'sizzling'

In the second paragraph the writer uses the pronoun 'you' to

(A) appeal to readers who own dogs.
(B) remind readers of their childhood.
(C) direct the reader to be aware of the tides.
(D) make the reader feel involved in the action.

Based on the information in the last paragraph, how might the people of Cardigan feel about the evenings?

(A) They dislike the evenings as there is no relief from the heat.
(B) They look forward to the evenings as the sunsets are beautiful.
(C) They dread the evenings as they signal the end of another day.
(D) They welcome the evenings as the day's end means that rain is likelier.

The mood of the text can be described as

(A) listless
(B) poignant
(C) introspective
(D) disenchanted

Which of the following is an example of a literal use of language?

(A) 'Wind is as scarce as rain'
(B) 'water that feels and smells like warm milk'
(C) 'the doggy tongues slurping vanilla ice-cream cones'
(D) 'unwanted words sulking on the skyline'