Candidate Name

International General Certificate of Secondary Education UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS SYNDICATE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PAPER 2 Reading and Writing MAY/JUNE SESSION 2001 2 hours

Candidates answer on the question paper. No additional materials are required.

TIME 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page. Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided on the question paper.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question. Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

FOR EXAMINER'S USE	
Part 1	
Part 2	
Part 3	
TOTAL	

Part 1: Exercise 1

Read the notice below which appears on the noticeboard at a school in the USA. Then answer the questions on the opposite page.



(a)	What is the job of the lookout?
	[1]
(b)	How will students know when to take cover?
	[1]
(c)	What is the job of the teacher when everyone has reached the shelter area?
	[1]
(d)	What should a student do if she is wearing a loose jacket?
	[1]
(e)	Where must students not sit?
	[1]
(f)	What happens if students are on a bus about to start out for home when the lookout reports an approaching tornado?
	[1]
	[Total: 6]

Read the following article, and then answer the questions opposite.

WATER TENDER DEADLINE PUT BACK

It's starting to cloud over......

People in Cyprus will 'have to tolerate great cuts in water, greater than now,' if winter rains do not replenish the island's disappearing dam water, Christos Marcoullis, acting director of the Water Development Department, warned yesterday.

Marcoullis also said the deadline for accepting tenders on either 'mobile' desalination plants or imported water, to see the island through the coming summer, had been postponed until November 17 at noon. It had originally been set for noon yesterday.

'Quite a lot of requests for extension of the deadline prompted the move,' he said, adding that 'more than fifty' businesses or individuals had already obtained application forms to submit their bids.

On Monday, the Agriculture Minister said he expected the island's reservoirs to run dry by December 31, if the rains fail to refill them as they failed last winter.

With reservoirs only 5.9 per cent full, and falling, the government is drilling more bore holes to help it make up for the expected shortfall if the dams do dry up, Marcoullis said.

Cyprus already gets 80 per cent of its water from underground lakes, but experts warn that this supply is already dangerously overpumped. Many underground lakes are bone dry, or too tainted by sea salt to be used for farming or drinking.

Besides the underground lakes, the island's only other current source of drinking water is the Dhekelia desalination plant, whose total daily output of 4000 cubic metres of water is equivalent to the amount consumed by the city of Nicosia alone.

Government red tape has brought construction of the island's second desalination plant to a halt. It was expected to start providing water early in 2000, but some experts say it will not be ready before 2001.

This has forced the government to investigate the possibility of buying either imported water, or two 'mobile' desalination plants – one to hook up to Limassol's city water supply, the other to be sited in Larnaca and emptied into the island's water pipelines. Despite his boss's gloomy forecast, Marcoullis was optimistic that winter rains would provide the island with enough water to get through next summer.

(a)	What is the basic problem affecting the island's supply of dam water?
(b)	Three new sources of water are being tried. What are they?
	[3]
(c)	Why can't people in Cyprus rely on underground water supplies to solve the problem?
	[1]
	[Total: 5]

Read the following article, and then answer the questions on the opposite page.

A FAMOUS ATHLETE TALKS ABOUT THE PROBLEMS OF TRAINING

People never believe me when I tell them that being a top athlete is a full-time occupation that is often every bit as boring as any 9-5 job – but it's absolutely true.

There are times during the long winter months when the monotony of that sevendays-a-week training routine really brings me down. There aren't many competitions in the winter and so it becomes that much harder to motivate yourself.

The public only see the glamorous side of it when you're racing to a glorious victory in front of a packed crowd or hitting the headlines as you break another record. What they don't see is the shivering athlete standing in the middle of the frozen wastes on a winter afternoon trying to summon the enthusiasm to throw a shot that is so cold it sticks to the skin of your neck – unless you have had the foresight to ring up the groundsman in advance and get him to soak it in a bucket of hot water before you arrive.

And, of course, my trainer is always there cracking the whip behind me and making sure that I'm not slacking. Morale boosting is one of his duties. I must admit that every now and again I do play truant and sneak a day off when I should be training. The only time I can do that is when he is out of town and even then I have to be careful because he is always checking up on me. He phones up every now and again just to make sure I'm where I ought to be. Occasionally we have big rows – more often than not when he has called in the morning and found me still in bed when I should be ready to start my first run of the day.

Of course I'm being unfair. You do need somebody watching you all the time because a lot of the training involves technical rather than physical factors. Very often it takes an expert outsider to spot what you are doing wrong and how you could alter your technique slightly to achieve a better result.

The fact that I do ten events instead of one doesn't mean that I train ten times harder than other athletes. But I do probably train more consistently. The idea is not to drive myself into the ground or past the pain barrier as footballers and some middle distance and long distance runners do. The kind of allround strength, fitness, speed, power and technique demanded of an athlete who does ten events requires a completely different kind of training programme from that followed by, for instance, a 1500-metre runner. Those guys do things that make me tired just to think about them. Like running 'reps' – repetitions – of 200 to 800 metres with just a few seconds rest in between. That's how they build up the kind of fitness and stamina that enables them to put in a sprint finish at the end of a fast 1500-metre race. There's no point in me driving myself to that point of exhaustion every day when it's just as important for me to perfect my long jump take-off or my pole vault run-up or my javelin throwing action.

(a)	Why does the athlete find it hard to train in the winter?
	[1]
(b)	Explain why the athlete asks the groundsman to put the shot in a bucket of hot water.
	[1]
(c)	Why does the writer have big arguments with his trainer?
	[1]
(d)	Why is this athlete's training routine different from the training routine of an athlete who runs the 1500 metres?
	[2]
(e)	What is important about the trainer's job? Give two points.
	(i)
	(ii)[2]
	[Total: 7]

Part 2: Exercise 1

Read the article below and then answer the questions on the opposite page.

MUDDY WATERS

Bangladesh has embarked on one of the most complex water management programmes ever launched. It wants to exert greater control over the huge delta of the Ganges, Meghna and Brahmaputra rivers, to make life more secure for the 110 million people crowded onto the floodplain. However, many outside observers fear the consequences of human intervention in a country where the flow of rivers defines the landscape.

Nazra Parvian Shah is an expert on floods and their devastating effects. Born in North Western Bangladesh in 1972, she moved house regularly when she was a child, because of the annual monsoon downpour. "When the monsoon floods became too deep, we loaded our belongings onto a boat and went to stay with my mother's uncle," she remembers. When she was 10, her father was electrocuted by power cables brought down by a storm. From then on the family had to live with the uncle, who had 11 children of his own.

However, nothing she had experienced before could compare with the storm that hit the family in 1987. "The rains came, but they never seemed to stop. It was very frightening. All my uncle's cows drowned and his summer rice crop was totally destroyed. He could no longer afford to help my mother and her family. When the flood was over we took a boat to Dhaka to be with other relations."

The following year, even Dhaka, the country's capital, was severely flooded. On 30 August, the

Brahmaputra river at Bahadurabad in the north of the country reached a record flow. Just three days later, the Ganges peaked at its highest level. As the rivers poured across the floodplain, 62 per cent of Bangladesh was flooded. Dhaka airport was closed for five days and the country was brought to a standstill for over a month.

As pictures of the devastation were beamed across the world, Nazra's family coped as best they could in their flooded hut. Her plight and that of millions in a similar predicament prompted a generous response from people all over the world. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Japan, China, the US, and France put together teams of engineers to search for a long term solution to Bangladesh's continuing flood problem. French engineers explored the idea of building continuous embankments to confine the rivers and to channel floodwater through the country to the sea. Despite a projected cost of US\$10 billion, their 30 year programme was well received by some engineers and officials in Bangladesh. However, other groups recommended a more cautious approach.

After an intense debate between the multitude of academic groups and aid agencies, a Flood Action Plan (FAP) was finally approved.



Bangladesh's Flood Action Plan

Answer the following questions.

(a) What part did the storms play in Nazra's father's death?[1] (b) Give two things that were special about the monsoon rains of 1987.[2] (c) Which two rivers in Bangladesh caused real problems in 1988?[2] (d) Where did French engineers propose to build embankments?[1] (e) Give four important events in the life of Nazra Parvian Shah.[4] [Total: 10]

Part 2: Exercise 2

Read the following article about the beautiful fish, the koi carp.

Write a summary on the opposite page explaining:

- why the koi is important
- how it is threatened.

Your summary should be about 100 words long, and you should use your own words as far as possible.



To the Chinese, the koi is the symbol of a young hard-working person who is ambitious, able to achieve anything he wants and who will do good for the world. Even now, the custom of giving these carp to students as an encouragement to pass their exams is still practised in China.

Whatever the origin of the belief, the koi is today seen as a symbol of strength, hope and perseverance, bringing its owner prestige and luck. The awe in which the koi is held is understandable, for, like the salmon, it travels upstream to spawn. Only, unlike the salmon, it does not die at the end of its journey.

Called by people in the Far East the king of all fish, the koi was greatly prized by the Chinese and Japanese emperors of old. Although it originated from China and was later exported to Japan, it was the Japanese who perfected the art of koi rearing. In fact, in modern times, it was made popular by Emperor Hirohito of Japan, who encouraged the Japanese to regard it as a national pet. An added charm is the fact that, because it has been domesticated for centuries, it can be so docile as to allow its owner to pick it up and feed it by hand.

Such is the value placed on it that the rearing and sale of koi has become a huge industry, especially among the Chinese and Japanese.

Depending on its beauty and size (it can grow up to almost a metre long and weigh as much as two kilogrammes) the koi can fetch a high price.

However, the great days of the koi may soon end. It is one of the species of fish that are threatened by a deadly herpes virus that dulls its skin and eats into its flesh, transforming its fabulous beauty into revolting ugliness, before slowly killing the koi.

The virus has affected koi in many countries. In China, for instance, it is known to cause almost inevitable death among affected fish populations and, in Europe, the first reports on it were made as early as 1900. We believe the incidence of fish mortality from this virus in Malaysia is also high.

8]]

Read the article below, and complete the exercise on the opposite page.

HOW TO SAVE A SICK DAM: SLICE IT UP

A dam in the French Alps which is crumbling because of concrete 'cancer' will undergo surgery this month, in an operation which is the first of its kind to be performed in Europe. It will be a crucial part of the final phase of a five-year programme to save the dam.

When engineers found that the 60-year-old Chambon dam, 90m high, had grown 8cm higher because of swelling in the 'sick' concrete, they at first considered abandoning it and building a new one. But the dam's owner, the French Electricity Authority, had second thoughts when experts said new techniques of controlling concrete 'cancer' could prolong the life of the structure, which dams the Romanche river.

'The trouble is usually caused by an alkaline reaction in certain types of concrete,' said Bernard Blache, an engineer at France's building research establishment, the Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment, in Paris. 'But it appears only in certain precise conditions: there have to be reactive cells in the aggregate, high alkalinity and a damp environment.' The Chambon dam has all three.

Concrete is a mixture of aggregate (broken stone or gravel) sand and cement. The rogue alkalis are mineral salts in the concrete which, in the presence of water, react with silica in the aggregate. The concrete expands into large swellings, stresses build up, cracks form – and the 'cancer' spreads fast. This defect was first noticed in French dams in the 1970s, but only now have the authorities become concerned.

Jacques Lemarchand, the Chambon project director, said: 'There were cracks in the surface of the dam. We pressure-injected them with very fine liquid cement, to penetrate throughout the structure and consolidate it.

'This prevented the dam from

disintegrating but did not stop the concrete continuing to expand and create new cracks. So we put a waterproof plastic coating on the upstream side of the dam to stop water flowing into these new cracks.' A trickier problem was expansion caused by the swelling concrete, which built up dangerous stresses in the dam and in the rock bearing its load.

Lemarchand explained: 'We are going to saw a vertical cut, 20 to 30 metres high, through the entire thickness of the dam, using a diamond coated cable 13mm in diameter. This will create a 13mm-wide gap, which will then close up, reducing the stresses.' Between now and 2000, eight such cuts are planned.

How successful the technique will be in the long term remains to be seen. In many concrete structures 'cancer' has advanced so far that there is no way of saving them. In recent years four French bridges have become dangerous because of the problem and have been demolished. In the Ile de France, lorries made one vibrate badly; chunks of concrete kept dropping off another on to a motorway below. The Térénez suspension bridge near Brest is still deteriorating, despite great efforts to repair it.

Most of France's afflicted bridges were built in the 1970s and Blache suspects a change in the composition of cement may be responsible. Cement's alkali content was changed between 1970 and 1976 to meet new environmental standards aimed at saving energy and reducing dust.

Given the number of concrete structures built in those years, French engineers are going to be busy. The Nord-Pas-De-Calais region alone is estimated to have 150 'sick' bridges. The good news is that the problem has led to the development of denser concrete, which resists humidity and is four times stronger in compression. You are Jacques Lemarchand, the Director of the Chambon project, and you have been asked to speak for a few minutes to a group of visitors. Using the information in the article, write your notes for your speech.

Make two points under each heading.

BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE CHAMBON DAM

•

THE PROBLEMS WITH THE CONCRETE

- •
- •

WORK WHICH HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT

•

.....

RESULTS OF SIMILAR PROBLEMS WITH FRENCH BRIDGES

•

[8]

Part 3



It is late on Wednesday, and you have just got back from the party. You have decided to write about it in your diary.

Write a diary entry in which you

- describe what happened at the party
- say what gift you took along and why you chose it
- say what gift you received and whether you are pleased with it
- describe how you are feeling at the end of the evening.

Your diary entry should be about 150 words long.

 [12]

Part 3: Exercise 2

Your teacher is arranging a special activity weekend for members of your class. During the weekend you will take part in sporting activities out of doors that you are not able to do during school.

He/she has asked you for ideas about what activities might be offered.

Write a letter to your teacher about the activity you would like to take part in. (Some members of the class have suggested rock climbing, horse riding, and mountain biking. You could choose one of these, or make your own suggestion.)

In your letter say

- what the activity involves
- why you want to take part in it
- why it is suitable for other members of your class.

Your letter should be about 200 words long.

 [12]

Part 3: Exercise 3

There has been some argument in your local community about tourists and tourism.

Here are some comments from some people you know:

'If it wasn't for tourists, everyone here would be much poorer.'

'I don't mind the tourists being here, but I wish they were here ALL the year, not just the holiday season. When they aren't here I lose my job in the hotel.'

'Tourists may bring lots of money into the area, but this leads to more crime and a less safe community.'

'It used to be lovely here before the tourists came. Now it's just tall buildings and expensive shops everywhere.'

'I love living in this tourist area – there are always lots of things going on, and interesting new people to meet.'

Write an article for your local newspaper in which you state your views about tourists.

The comments above may give you some ideas, but you are free to use any ideas of your own.

Your article should be about 200 words long.

[16]

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