Candidates are allowed 10 minutes to read through the paper before starting to write. This 10-minute period is in addition to the 2 \( \frac{1}{2} \) hours allowed for the examination.

Candidates MAY write during the time allowed for reading through the paper.
Candidates MUST answer questions from ALL FOUR sections of this paper: ALL of Section ONE; ALL of Section TWO; ONE from Section THREE; and ONE from Section FOUR.

SECTION ONE

(Suggested time: 35 minutes)

You MUST answer the question in this section.

1. Examine the information presented on this page about Alphasoft. Write a SUMMARY to a friend about the features and uses of Alphasoft. Your response should not be more than 150 words.

What is Alphasoft?

Alphasoft is an integrated collection of software tools designed for use at home, at school, and in the workplace:

- **The Word Processor.** Use this tool to write letters, school essays, memos and business proposals.
- **The Spreadsheet with Charting.** Use this tool to prepare, analyze and present personal or business budgets, project cost estimates, and mathematical or scientific calculations.
- **The Database and Reporting.** Use this tool to organize and print mailing lists, membership rosters, inventories, and schedules.
- **Communications.** Use this tool to connect to online information services and to exchange information with other computers.

Alphasoft is more than merely the sum of its separate tools. You can exchange information among tools; for example, you can use names and addresses from a database in a form letter, or spreadsheet calculations in an inventory database. You can look at information from different tools at the same time on your screen. And the tools work in similar ways, so you can apply what you learn about one tool when you use another tool.

In addition to the tools, Alphasoft includes some helpful accessories. You can use the alarm clock, calculator, telephone dialer, and file-management system to simplify your work. And you can use Alphasoft's macros to automate tasks you perform frequently.

Alphasoft also includes several built-in learning aids. The online tutorial. Learning Alphasoft is like a personal coach who gives lessons in using Alphasoft. An online Help system provides more detailed step-by-step assistance. You can use a tutorial lesson or Help at any time while you are using Alphasoft.

(25 marks)

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
SECTION TWO
(Suggested time: 40 minutes)

Answer ALL the questions in this section.

2. Read the extract below and then answer the questions that follow.

Truck pushers and cyclists were out again on the road. The earth smelled strongly of
the rain but the human flood could not be held back. It now flowed riotously again on the streets.
She circled the King Road and went behind the bank, past the publishing house and arrived at
the outskirts of the market. The market flowed with people and red water. The gutters
separating the stalls were filled to the brim with filth and decay and what with the heavy
rain, some of the dirt and filth and decay surrounded the stalls. the people and their wares. But
people marched on them, even barefooted as they were. It was difficult to tell what the filth
actually was: the people, their stalls and wares or the decay. All were so thoroughly mixed, so
completely part of each other!

Adisa went past the stalls stacked with clothes, shoes. Then came the stalls stacked
high with plates, cutlery, cookers and beverages. Adisa went past all these. She was
impelled forward by the increasing hunger within her. She didn't stop until she came to the
stalls that displayed various items of food. Here, she bought one bonga fish, three milk tins
of garri, a bunch of bitter leaves and half a bottle of palm oil. She had some salt and pepper at
home. She looked round now. What else did she need? No, she needed everything. She looked
round to see what else the money she had could buy. There was nothing else.

All around her, people bargained in hard impersonal voices. Dollar bills changed
hands. Numbers of coins were handed back. There was so much that could have been
bought and yet there was little or no money. The majority of the people left the market, the
disappointment clearly written in their eyes. The prices were up and soaring.

From a novel by F Iyayi

(a) To what does the phrase 'the human flood' (line 2) refer? (2 marks)

(b) Give one word to describe the scene outside the market. (1 mark)

(c) What does the writer suggest when he says 'the market flowed with people and red
water' (line 4)? (2 marks)

(d) According to the passage, why was it difficult to tell what the filth actually was
(lines 7 - 8)? (2 marks)

(e) Quote the sentences which reflect the thoughts going on in Adisa's head. (2 marks)

(f) What does the sentence 'There was nothing else' (line 16) mean? (2 marks)

(g) Why was 'disappointment clearly written in their eyes' (line 20)? (2 marks)

Total 13 marks

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
Read the passage below and then answer the questions set on it.

The notion of royalty as a symbol of maximum leadership sticks in my craw. So it is with a degree of trepidation I report that I have been hobnobbing with a king. Yes, a real king, ermine, sceptre and orb for all I know, certainly a crown - well, now he’s exiled. Yet when I try to find words to describe him, “humble” and “man of the people” come to mind.

I knew nothing of his past when I met King Simeon as we sailed down Europe’s River Danube, participants in a shipboard symposium organised by the Orthodox Church, bringing religious leaders, scientists and environmentalists together to develop mutual responses to the river’s environmental problems.

We’d both been swept up in the remarkable renaissance in the Danube where, despite cyanide spills, cruise missiles and political intransigence, the unstoppable force of ordinary people has been released and demands the river’s protection.

Old foes, who used to glare at each other from opposite banks of the river, are now working together to address the legacy of environmental damage from decades of destructive human activity. The King has become an unofficial ambassador for the activities; I’m involved in making a documentary film about them.

*Adapted from ‘The King and I’ in BWIA Caribbean Beat*

(a) Quote one phrase which shows the writer’s attitude to royalty. (1 mark)

(b) What does the writer mean when he says that he was “hobnobbing with a king” (line 2)? (2 marks)

(c) Explain the comparison suggested by “yet” (line 3). (2 marks)

(d) What was the occasion for the meeting of the King and the writer? (1 mark)

(e) What does “swept up” (line 9) tell us about the way in which the King and the writer had become involved in the renaissance of the Danube? (2 marks)

(f) What examples of environmental damage are presented by the writer? (2 marks)

(g) Why is the renaissance described as “remarkable” (line 9)? (2 marks)

Total 12 marks
SECTION THREE
(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

Answer ONE question.

Your answer in this section should be approximately 400 to 450 words in length.

You must write in Standard English. However, dialect may be used in conversation.

4. Write a story based on the picture above. (25 marks)

5. "No one would really believe me, but sometimes fact is stranger than fiction."
Write a story that begins with these words. (25 marks)

6. "It was a most important turning point in my life. I was never the same person again."
Write a story which includes the statement above. (25 marks)

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
SECTION FOUR
(Suggested time: 30 minutes)

Answer ONE question.

Your answer in this section should be approximately 250 to 300 words in length.

You must write in Standard English.

7. "We rush too quickly to honour entertainers, while giving too little or no recognition to our teachers and scientists."

Write an essay supporting or opposing this view. (25 marks)

8. Richard Gore was arrested, charged and sentenced to two years in jail for possession of three ounces of marijuana. He pleaded his own case, probably thinking that his innocence was obvious to all. Next door, in the High Court, Mr Laddy, a well known broker, from whom bales of marijuana had been seized, walked out of the court scot-free after his lawyer made a no-case submission on his behalf.

Write an essay stating your views on the statement above. (25 marks)

END OF TEST