Candidates are allowed 10 minutes to read through the paper before starting to write. This 10-minute period is in addition to the 2 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: 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. You have just come across the advertisement below. Write a letter to a relative who is diabetic, concisely setting out the facts about Enterex Diabetic and the claims made about it. The body of the letter MUST be in continuous prose and it must not be more than 120 words in length.
SECTION TWO
(Suggested time: 40 minutes)

Answer ALL the questions in this section.

2. Read the following extract carefully and then answer all the questions set on it.

There are waiting rooms everywhere — at hospitals reeking of disinfectant and cold methylated smell of sickness; at prisons stinking of urine, sweat and human despair; at government offices humid with the thick moisture of bureaucratic boredom punctuated by the click-click of typewriters and chewing gum; at police stations rank with violence; at bus stations; ... everywhere. And then there is this one.

Its walls are pristine, painted a brilliant white, the benches inside arranged like pews in a church. No plants or flowers relieve the glare. No paintings on the wall welcome the faithful believers.

To this place come the hopeful, the hopeless, the meek, the proud, the rich, the poor, the intelligent, the dull, the hustlers, the pimps, the educated and the unschooled, and the dreamers, especially the dreamers.

To this place came Elisa Barker, a creole, light brown, with good hair (her mother was Mestizo with some Welsh blood somewhere). She was temporarily huffed by the guard at the gate who apologetically asked her to open her expensive white leather handbag before he cruised something that looked to her like a gun detector over her body. He had not touched her. In fact, he had acted with utmost propriety, but still Elisa felt disturbed. It annoyed her. She had not been prepared for it. Usually it was her privilege to sweep regally past such persons like maids, guards, secretaries, et cetera, but the man had insisted. That insistence alone had surprised her. Had made her hesitate and her momentum had been lost. She had become angry at the guard’s searching of her bag, but she carefully controlled herself. Recovering her poise, she stepped confidently into the waiting room.


(a) Identify TWO examples of the writer’s appeal to the senses in paragraph 1. (2 marks)

(b) What effect is the writer trying to create by the use of the sentence “And then there is this one”? (2 marks)

(c) What impression of “this one” is the writer trying to create in paragraph 2? (2 marks)

(d) Why does the writer give such a long list of the types of persons who come to this waiting room? (2 marks)

(e) Into which group of persons listed by the writer in paragraph 3 did Elisa seem to fit? (1 mark)

(f) Give ONE word (not one from the passage) that best describes the way in which the guard performed his duty. (2 marks)

(g) What does the phrase “recovering her poise” (line 20) tell us about Elisa’s reaction to being searched? (2 marks)

Total 13 marks

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
3. Read the following extract carefully and then answer all the questions set on it.

Decisions by political leaders have profound effects in the private lives of families, from the earliest years of a child’s life through to school age; the learning years, broadly, those of the primary-school-age range; and the adolescent years, when the child is grappling with the full complexity of the world.

Investing in children is, quite simply, the best investment a government can make. No country has made the leap into meaningful and sustained development without investing significantly in children. According to the World Bank, one of the significant reasons, along with good economic management, that the countries of East Asia were so much more successful than those of sub-Saharan Africa in economic development during the 1970s and 1980s is that they had invested heavily in children in the preceding decades. They were reaping the harvest, in other words, of seeds sown in the 1950s and 1960s in the fertile soil of children’s health, nutrition and education.

Recent studies in more than 30 countries have shown that basic social services receive, on average, between 12 per cent and 14 per cent of total public spending. This is far from adequate: national governments should be aiming to spend about 20 per cent of their budgets on basic social services, a goal accepted as part of the 20/20 initiative at the World Summit for Social Development in 1995.

Countries that do not invest enough in basic social services, that do not thereby equip their people to face the turbulence – or seize the opportunities – associated with globalization, put themselves at a serious disadvantage. Universal access to these services offers a ‘social shock absorber’ for travelling the bumpy road to a globalized economy, giving the people who are poor a greater chance of benefiting and making the whole process of globalization more democratic.


(a) What kind of writing is the passage – narrative, argumentative or descriptive? Identify a sentence in the second paragraph which supports your answer. (2 marks)

(b) What, according to the passage, is the main means by which countries have achieved meaningful and sustained development? (1 mark)

(c) In what way, according to the passage, did the countries of East Asia differ from those of sub-Saharan Africa? (2 marks)

(d) In the passage the writer compares investing to planting. What three phrases illustrate this comparison? (2 marks)

(e) What is the effect of the use of numbers (30, 12, 14, 20) rather than words (thirty, twelve, fourteen, twenty) in paragraph three? (1 mark)

(f) What, according to the passage, are the benefits to be derived from investing in basic social services? (2 marks)

(g) What, according to the passage, is the effect of a ‘social shock absorber’? (2 marks)

Total 12 marks

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
SECTION THREE

(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

Answer ONE question in this section.

Your answer in this section should be approximately 400 to 500 words in length.

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

4. Write a story based on the picture below.

5. His mother looked him full in the eye and asked, "Are you sure that is all?"

Write a story which ends with the statement above.  

6. I could have done it, but did not; so in the end, she was the one who took all the glory.

Write a story which includes the sentence above.
SECTION FOUR

(Suggested time: 30 minutes)

Answer ONE question in this section.

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

You MUST write in Standard English.

7. "A newspaper cannot be independent and patriotic at the same time. It has to choose to be one or the other".

Your local newspaper declares a policy of being both independent and patriotic. Write a letter to the editor EITHER supporting OR opposing this policy. (25 marks)

8. "To cope with present realities in the Caribbean, the legal age of adulthood should be lowered so that sixteen-year-old persons who commit crimes can be tried and punished as adults".

Write an essay giving your views on this matter. (25 marks)

END OF TEST

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