FILL IN ALL THE INFORMATION REQUESTED CLEARLY IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

TEST CODE 01218020

SUBJECT ENGLISH A – Paper 02

PROFICIENCY GENERAL

REGISTRATION NUMBER

SCHOOL/CENTRE NUMBER

NAME OF SCHOOL/CENTRE

CANDIDATE’S FULL NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

DATE OF BIRTH

HOW MANY ADDITIONAL PAGES HAVE YOU USED IN TOTAL?

SIGNATURE
DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. This paper consists of FOUR sections: A, B, C and D.
2. Section A consists of ONE question. You MUST answer this question.
3. Section B consists of TWO questions. You MUST answer both questions from this section.
4. Section C consists of THREE questions. You MUST answer ONE question from this section.
5. Section D consists of TWO questions. You MUST answer ONE question from this section.
6. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
7. Do NOT write in the margins.
8. You are advised to take some time to read through the paper and plan your answers.
9. If you need to rewrite any answer and there is not enough space to do so on the original page, you must use the extra lined page(s) provided at the back of this booklet. **Remember to draw a line through your original answer.**
10. If you use the extra page(s) you MUST write the question number clearly in the box provided at the top of the extra page(s).

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
SECTION A
(Suggested time: 35 minutes)

Answer Question 1.
Write your answer on the RULED PAGE provided. There is a blank page for any notes you may want to make. THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.

1. Read the following magazine article carefully and then write a summary of it in NOT MORE THAN 120 words. If this limit is exceeded, only the first 120 words of your answer will be read and assessed. As far as possible, use your own words. Your summary must be in continuous prose.

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you
(a) were able to identify the main ideas and opinions in the extract
(b) organized and expressed these ideas
(c) used appropriate grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

Our History, Our Future

There is a common saying that history repeats itself. This is shown by the fact that one of the biggest mistakes we make is the constant repetition of the actions of our ancestors, with almost identical and disastrous results. We suffer because we ignore or avoid learning from history. We are unwilling to read the warning signs readily visible all through history.

Hidden inside history is an immense wealth of advice, with real case studies. But a history book will not help you if it is read in the traditional way of memorizing events, dates, and names. In order to extract gold from history you need to read it from a completely different angle, concentrating on, and analysing what mistakes our forefathers made, and learning how to avoid them.

When understood with the right perspective, history can help present business leaders to avoid needless and fruitless experimentation in managing people. Throughout history people have committed the same mistakes of trying to subdue others, wage wars, commit treachery, and various forms of atrocities on each other, leading to the same guaranteed disastrous results. The study of history teaches the current generation to recognize and avoid things that do not work now, or never worked in the past. According to Albert Einstein: “Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”

What was done in the past decided the present, and what is done now will decide the future. Patterns are created, and the patterns in history help us to recognize repeated patterns today, and enable us to predict outcomes. History will not tell you where you are going, but it will tell you how you got there.
Though history may not define a specific job profile in the corporate world, by studying the global past, one finds the knowledge and flexibility required in many work situations. For example, you can develop good research skills and use historical examples to design modern business plans.

Another benefit is that history helps in identifying, understanding and avoiding cultural sensitivities. It provides evidence about how nations have interacted with other countries and societies in the past, and how long-standing hostility—or friendship—between countries can affect business today.


Total 30 marks

SECTION A

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.
SECTION A

Question 1.

You MUST write your answer on this page.
SECTION B

(Suggested time: 40 minutes)

Answer both Questions 2 and 3.

2. Read the following passage carefully and then answer all the questions that follow. Write your answer on the ruled lines provided after each question.

The Rain

The day dragged itself down through the trees pale, sickly; the sun had no blood for it. The wind was axing the underbrush. The rain had eased but Nebu knew it would strike down again, for it was so long since the rains fell. For a time it would nag as a shrill wife, and then grow tender as it now was. But when you bared your head to it and held your hands out for it to anoint, suddenly, it drove down again, brutally, tearing your faith into shreds. Life sometimes fooled you like the rain; like the lakes down on the plains whose placid lovely surfaces were the roofs to bull alligators.

The rain lashed with more violence and the wind bustled the large trees and bent the saplings double. Nebu adjusted the rubber sheeting over his head. In the yellow-shot dark of the rainstorm, he saw the erect pink flowers of chestnut beaten into the mud, and the leaves of the wild figs thick and deformed under the water pouring from them...

Beyond the limits of the land where the tribe hunted, marked by those humpy hills rising and falling three days' journey to the east, the sun first thrust up the straight yellow shafts and you could see them swelling with growth, throbbing and widening as the golden ball hauled its weight up, until fat with fun, the great globe broke above the hills laughing wildly, and the night ran howling off the land.


(a) (i) According to lines 3–5, (For a time... tearing your faith to shreds) what does Nebu think about wives or women?

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(2 marks)

(ii) Quote a phrase from lines 4 to 5 which supports your answer.

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(2 marks)
(b) Identify TWO comparisons which are made in the first paragraph.

(2 marks)

c) (i) According to paragraph 2, what is the impact of the storm on the environment?

(1 mark)

(ii) Write TWO words or phrases which convey this idea.

(2 marks)

d) What is the difference in mood between paragraphs 1 and 3?

(2 marks)

e) Quote TWO pieces of evidence from the passage that suggest different times of day.

(2 marks)

(f) (i) What is the purpose of the expression “Beyond the limits of the land...” (line 12)?

(1 mark)

(ii) Identify ONE other phrase in the passage which has the same purpose.

(1 mark)

Total 15 marks

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
3. Read the following extract carefully and then answer all the questions that follow. Write your answer on the ruled lines provided after each question.

Workers at all levels in industry and commerce, and the businesses themselves, have benefited from information technology in one way or another. The most significant impact that information technology has made on employee productivity is that it allows persons to work from anywhere. Employees who were once forced to spend hours each day commuting to an office can now log on and work from the comfort of their own homes.

This remote access technology also allows companies to benefit in a number of ways. First, there are the cost-savings associated with lower office space requirements. There is also the greater employee satisfaction and morale that working from home can provide. Finally, the technology can boost productivity as workers spend what would have otherwise been their commuting time working and helping their employers succeed.

Yet some critics argue that individuals form part of a community and should be encouraged through work and play to be among others to strengthen the fabric of society. Working at home only reinforces the separation of people and discourages meaningful social interaction. Saving time and resources expended in commuting to and from the workplace cannot, some say, compensate for the richness and importance of meeting others face-to-face in the office, on the bus, in the taxi, or as you walk to work.

No modern day technology that brings ease and comfort to work and study should replace the valuable social lessons that can be learnt from meeting our colleagues in the office. Information technology is an important tool that can be used to make people more productive and efficient in the workplace but the personal interaction through physical contact is what keeps people and communities connected.

Adapted from Bernard Conrad, "Information Technology & Workplace Productivity", *Next Generation*, Issue No.6, Winter 2012, p. 46.

(a) According to the extract, what is an important effect of information technology on productivity?

(1 mark)

(b) What term in the passage refers to the link between home and workplace technology?

(1 mark)
(c) Identify TWO major advantages to employees who choose to work from home.

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(2 marks)

(d) (i) According to the first two paragraphs, what is the writer’s attitude to working from home?

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(2 marks)

(ii) Support your answer in (d) (i) above by quoting a suitable phrase or sentence evidence from the passage.

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(1 mark)

(e) What effect is the writer trying to achieve by using the word “yet” in paragraph 3?

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(2 marks)
(f) What does the writer suggest by using the expression “richness and importance of meeting others face-to-face” (line 15)?

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(2 marks)

(g) What warnings does the writer give about the social impact of employees working from home?

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(2 marks)

(h) Based on the issues discussed in paragraphs 3 and 4, what is the MOST likely result of all employees working from home?

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(2 marks)

Total 15 marks
SECTION C
(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

Answer ONE question from this section.

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.

Write your answer on the RULED PAGES provided. You are expected to stick to the word limit. There is a blank page for any notes you want to make. THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.

In your answer you will be assessed on how well you

(a) used the stimulus provided
(b) developed and organized the content of your writing
(c) used language appropriate to your audience, purpose and content
(d) used appropriate grammar, sentence structure, paragraphs, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

EITHER

SHORT STORY

4. Write a story based on the picture below.

(35 marks)
5. Sekia sat quietly on the bus between the two people who said they were his parents. But something just did not feel right.

Write a story which includes these sentences. (35 marks)

OR

DESCRIPTION

6. The team was prepared for the journey but nothing they were told or did before they set off on foot could have prepared them adequately for what they experienced.

Describe what they saw and how they felt. (35 marks)
SECTION C

Write your answer to the question you have chosen to answer in Section C here. Remember to write your question number in the box provided below.

Question No. 

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE
SECTION C

Write your answer to the question you have chosen to answer in Section C here.
Remember to write your question number in the box provided below.

Question No. continued

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SECTION D

(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

Answer Question 7 or 8.

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

You MUST write in Standard English.

Write your answer on the RULED PAGES provided. You are expected to stick to the word limit. There is a blank page for any notes you want to make. THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.

In your answer you will be assessed on

(a) clarity, organization and development of your argument
(b) correctness of grammar, sentences, paragraphs, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

EITHER

7. Parents should consider home-schooling their children. It is the best way for them to avoid bad influences at school.

Write an essay EITHER supporting or OPPOSING this view. (35 marks)

OR

8. No matter how old you are, as long as you live with your parents or guardians, you should obey the rules they set in the home.

Write an essay giving your views. (35 marks)
SECTION D

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.
SECTION D

Write your answer to the question you have chosen to answer in Section D here. Remember to write your question number in the box provided below.

Question No.  

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EXTRA SPACE

If you use this extra page, you MUST write the question number clearly in the box provided.

Question No. □

01218020/JANUARY/F 2015
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Question No. [ ]

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Question No. [ ]

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Question No. [ ]
INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE:

1. Fill in all the information requested clearly in capital letters.

   TEST CODE: 01218020

   SUBJECT: ENGLISH A – Paper 02

   PROFICIENCY: GENERAL

   REGISTRATION NUMBER: ________________

   FULL NAME: ____________________________
   (BLOCK LETTERS)

   Signature: ____________________________

   Date: ________________________________

2. Ensure that this slip is detached by the Supervisor or Invigilator and given to you when you hand in this booklet.

3. Keep it in a safe place until you have received your results.

INSTRUCTION TO SUPERVISOR/INVIGILATOR:

Sign the declaration below, detach this slip and hand it to the candidate as his/her receipt for this booklet collected by you.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the candidate’s booklet for the examination stated above.

   Signature: ____________________________
   Supervisor/Invigilator

   Date: ________________________________