

Candidate Name _____

Centre Number

Candidate
Number

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UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE ESOL EXAMINATIONS

English for Speakers of Other Languages

CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED ENGLISH

PAPER 2 Writing

SAMPLE PAPER

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

TIME 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

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

This paper requires you to complete **two** tasks, each of approximately 250 words in length.

Answer the Part 1 task and **one** task from Part 2.

Read the task instructions and consider the information **carefully** both for Part 1 and the task which you select for Part 2.

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

Write clearly in pen, not pencil. You may make alterations but make sure that your work is **easy to read**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

All tasks in this paper carry equal marks.

Part 1

- 1 You are a student in the senior class at Milton International College. It is a tradition at the college that the senior class organises an end-of-term activity, such as a party, and you have received a memo from the Principal asking you to write a proposal for this term's activity.

Read the memo below, on which you have made some notes and, on page 3, the advertisements that the Principal has sent to you and the results of a student questionnaire. Then, **using the information appropriately**, write your proposal to the Principal, outlining the problem with last year's activity, suggesting a suitable activity for this year and requesting some more money for it.

MEMO

As you know, I have only recently become Principal of Milton and I am still learning about the college. I have been told that there is always an end-of-term activity and I look forward to attending this.

Could you tell me what last year's party was like and whether the students would like to do the same again? _____

No! Say why

The attached advertisements were delivered to the school this morning – are they of any use? Let me know what you think.

Could you also tell me as soon as possible if the end-of-term activity can be done within the same budget as last year?

Not enough - request more

Thank you.

Anna Martini
(College Principal)

Forest Manor Country Park
 Special Offer
Barbecue, Disco and use of **Swimming Pool**
 Group discounts – Phone for details
 (243757)

The Venue Nightclub
You provide the people, we provide the party!
 Special discounts for group bookings
 Food available
 Just call 698246

Sea Cruises around the Islands
 Why not join us on our popular
 "Jazz and Snacks" party evenings?
 For more information call
Ron Bell's Pleasure Boats
 (Tel: 306405)

Results of Student Survey

What sort of end-of-term party do you want?

Party:	indoors	27%	outdoors	73%		
When:	afternoon	3%	evening	97%		
Food:	cold buffet	40%	hot meal	45%	no food	15%
Music:	yes	80%	no	20%		

Now write your **proposal** to the Principal as outlined on page 2 (approximately 250 words). You should use your own words as far as possible.

Part 2

Choose **one** of the following writing tasks. Your answer should follow exactly the instructions given. Write approximately 250 words.

- 2 You read the following announcement in a travel magazine.

TOURISM – IS IT GOOD OR BAD FOR YOUR REGION?

Do you think there should be more or less tourism in your region?
What benefits does the tourist industry bring to your region?
What would be the disadvantages of increased tourism?

Write and tell us your views.
We will publish the most interesting articles.

Write your **article**.

- 3 You see this announcement in an international education magazine.

BEST TEACHER COMPETITION

Everyone remembers their best teacher.

We want you to nominate one of your teachers for our Best Teacher award. Send us your competition entry, telling us about the best teacher that you have ever had.

Your entry should:

- describe what this teacher taught you
- explain how this teacher has influenced your life
- tell us why this teacher deserves to win the award.

Write your **competition entry**.

- 4 An international student magazine has asked its readers to send in a review of **two** different internet websites that are useful for students. Write a review for the magazine in which you compare **two** different websites, including the following points:

- what kind of information each website contains
- how easy each website is to use
- why these sites are useful for students.

Write your **review**.

- 5 A student from a business school in an English-speaking country has arranged to spend two months on a work experience programme in your department. Your manager has asked you to write a letter to the student, welcoming him to your company, explaining what he will be expected to do and how he will benefit from this experience.

Write your **letter**.

How we assess your writing for CAE

The examiner reads each answer carefully, taking into consideration the following points:

Content

The examiner checks that you have included all of the content points listed in the task. If you have not included everything, you will lose marks. You may also lose marks if part of your answer is not relevant to the task.

Range of language

The examiner is looking for a range of vocabulary, expressions and grammatical structures: whether you use a variety of expressions or repeat language. Also, if you only write simple sentences you cannot get a high mark. So, when you plan your writing, try to link your ideas to make more complex sentences.

Organisation of ideas

The examiner checks to see how well you have organised your ideas. Well-organised writing has paragraphs to help the reader to follow the ideas and linking words such as 'although' and 'because' to connect the ideas. Headings can also be used (for proposals or reports), and letters should be formatted appropriately.

Accuracy

It is important to be accurate so that the examiner can understand what you write. You will lose marks if you make mistakes which confuse the examiner and make your answer difficult to follow. However, if you use a good expression but it includes a small mistake, you will not lose marks; you can still get a high mark for work which includes minimal errors. Check your work carefully to avoid careless errors with spelling, verb tenses and singular/plural agreements.

Register and Target Reader

You need to think who you are writing to. Some phrases and expressions are more suitable for particular situations: for example, a letter to your teacher or boss will be quite formal, whereas a letter to your friend should include informal expressions.

Format

Think about how you will present your writing. For example, a report will look different from a letter: a report should have clear sections, perhaps with headings, whereas a letter begins with 'Dear ...' and ends in a different way from a report. You do not need to include addresses when writing letters.

Word length

It is important to remember the word limit. If your answer is very short, you have probably not included all the content points and therefore you will not be able to receive a high mark. If your answer is too long, your answer may include some irrelevant information or is not well organised, so it is likely to have a negative affect on the target reader.

If you include all of these things, the examiner will have a positive impression and you will get high marks for good communication in writing.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Question 1 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 1: CANDIDATE A

■ Content

The candidate's proposal must:

- outline problem with last year's activity
- suggest activity for this year
- request more financial help from Principal.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clear paragraphs with suitable linking. Headings may be beneficial. N.B. Letter format acceptable with opening and closing formulae.

■ Range

Language of description, recommendation and request. Vocabulary related to social activities.

■ Register

Any, as long as consistent. Polite request.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate A

This proposal is based on the results of student survey.

An end-of-term activity is a proud tradition at the college, but I regret to say that last year's activity seems to have met with failure. There was considerable dissatisfaction in a number of areas.

Firstly, it was held in the afternoon from 2 P.M. to 6 P.M., so just a few students could manage to attend the end-of-term activity. Secondly, the place where the activity was held seemed to be a problem. It was held in the Student Hall but according to the survey, 73% of the students prefer an outdoor party. Because it was an indoor party, the activities we could organise were limited so we just relied on a dancing party, but there wasn't a wide range of music available. Another problem was food. Owe to the lack of the budget, we could only provide some continental snacks and soft drinks and the majority of the students might have been disappointed by it.

For a successful event, we should consider having an outdoor party in the evening which provides meals and music as more than 80% of the students would like them. I also recommend the college organise a wide variety of activities such as dancing, swimming and so on.

In terms of outdoor and evening party, The Venue Nightclub and Sea Cruises, the advertisements you attached, could be considered. However, the cruise doesn't offer group discounts which means it would be expensive and the Nightclub would limit various activities.

Most students want some food, especially hot meal, for the party so it might be an idea to book for the Forest Manor Country Park. In that case, we can organise various activities, for instance, a barbecue, a disco and even swimming. They even offer group discounts so it would be worth asking for further information, in my opinion.

As the major reason of the unsuccessful event last year is felt to be the lack of the budget, I was wondering if the college could possibly provide more budget this year. We need to hire a place for an outdoor party, build up some more CD collections and perhaps could serve complimentary refreshments for the students. I appreciate that all the suggestions above would be considerable expenditure but it would be worth it.

Examiner comments

■ Content

Good realisation of task. All points covered with some expansion.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs, with good internal cohesion.

■ Accuracy

Sufficiently natural despite minor errors usually arising when more complex language is attempted (e.g. "Owe to the lack of the budget...").

■ Range

Evidence of range of vocabulary and structure (e.g. "a proud tradition"; "met with failure").

■ Register

Appropriate and consistent throughout.

■ Target reader

Would be informed and would consider proposal.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Question 2 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 2: CANDIDATE B

■ Content

The candidate's article must:

- state whether there should be more or less tourism in region
- describe benefits of existing tourist activity in region
- describe possible disadvantages of increased tourism.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs.

■ Range

Language of description and opinion.
Vocabulary related to tourism.

■ Register

Any. May mix registers if appropriate to candidate's approach.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate B

El Escorial, another place to visit.

Spain is a well-known touristic target with visitors from around the world. Not only are the beaches memorable and unforgettable but the islands as well.

However, there are other places in Spain which would be very attractive to tourists although far from the sea. I am referring El Escorial, one of the most relevant cities in the Spanish history.

El Escorial is located in the centre of the country. This city is famous for its monastery, a master piece of architecture, and from where several Spanish kings ruled most of the planet. The landscape is astonishing, the food is healthy and delicious, and people are genuinely good-natured.

The tourist offer is twofold. On the one hand, cultural tourism and, on the other hand, a wide range of sport activities is available.

The most important benefit to El Escorial from tourism is the creation of employment. Young people is forced to leave their town because they cannot find a job. But, if the levels of tourism are increased there will be more demand of services. The quality and quantity of amenities might be improved as well, which would affect to residents positively.

In contrast, some negative aspects can be pointed out. Firstly, hotels use to be built in places with stunning views, for this reason, the city's beauty could be damaged.

Secondly, groups of tourists can be noisy and sometimes annoying and the relaxing lifestyle of the city could be disturbed.

Finally, the levels of delinquency and crime can be increased, as tourists are a target for burglars.

Despite being aware of all these problems I still think that higher levels of tourism will very quickly compensate them both socially and economically.

Examiner comments

■ Content

Task has been reasonably achieved.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised though somewhat over-paragraphed.

■ Accuracy

Accuracy of language is satisfactory. However, there are a number of non-impeding spelling errors (e.g. "genuinely", "offert"). A number of minor, non-impeding structural errors (e.g. "young people is...", "affect to...").

■ Range

Adequate range of structures. Some evidence of good vocabulary.

■ Register

Consistent and appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Question 3 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 3: CANDIDATE C

■ Content

The candidate's competition entry must:

- describe what teacher taught him/her
- explain how teacher influenced him/her
- justify teacher's nomination for award.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs.

■ Range

Language of description, evaluation and justification. Vocabulary related to teaching/learning.

■ Register

Any. May mix registers if appropriate to candidate's approach.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate C

The Best Teacher

What do a teacher need to be the best?

Well first of all he does not only have to know about the subject he is teaching but to know a little bit of every subject General Culture.

He also has to be patient, polite but at the same time strict when it comes to do the student not only memorize but learn.

The wisdom the best teacher needs has to be of great value because he is in charge of a great assignment to lead young people into the right way, fill with knowledge those minds that are starting to learn and to wake up to the world.

He needs to teach as well as chemistry, science, arts, literature, etc, he has to teach them moral but more important to be human.

That's a good teacher and that is the kind of teacher I have, his name is xxxxxx and he is my current philosophy teacher. He is a realistic day dreamer who is always looking for the truth and good values in the world. He is not only a philosopher teacher, he have a degree in Physics. You can talk with him for hours about pretty much any subject, he can become your best friend but he is your critic as well. With the phrase 'Not because I am your friend I am going to lie you' he can help understand your mistakes and grow.

He has taught me the importance of life, the importance of wanted to be curious all the time, to look for answers no matter how silly my question is, to see everything with an object point of view but also to be a dreamer as him, to be imaginative and creative.

The influence he has on me is of huge importance, he is the reason I want to do a Master on Philosophy. He is for me and for all the people he had taught the best teacher ever, so vote for him because he deserves it.

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points addressed but not developed. Some generalisation at the beginning, but linked to task.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Some good attempts at organisation but over-paragraphed. Little evidence of internal cohesion.

■ Accuracy

Some impeding errors (e.g. "He needs to teach as well as chemistry").

■ Range

Attempt at range marred by errors.

■ Register

Consistent and appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would have a negative effect on target reader.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Question 4 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 4: CANDIDATE D

■ Content

The candidate's review must:

- specify and describe two websites
- assess the user-friendliness of the sites
- explain why these sites are useful for students.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs.

■ Range

Language of description, evaluation and comparison/contrast. Vocabulary related to studying and websites.

■ Register

Any, as long as consistent.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate D

Dear Editor

I am writing to you because I would like to send in my review of two useful websites.

During my stay in Cambridge I came across to two useful and well-built English Grammar websites; namely: flo-joe.co.uk and grammar aquarion.

Both of them are organised into lists of exercises, subjects of study and are easy to navigate. There is also a searching engine for students that are looking for something particular. All you have to do is follow the easy instructions, read carefully the indications and if sometimes the exercise seems difficult, there are some suggestions you can use.

As mentioned before there are mainly exercises that cover every part of English grammar, modal verbs, tenses, conditionals, passives and many more. For example if you have a weakness on uncountable nouns you can practice this kind of subject very thoroughly by choosing the grade of difficulty and progress while you are learning useful things. If you are preparing an exam there will be a previous exam paper at your disposition you can practise on. There is also a part, in which you can obtain general information about the English language and the British customs. As we say, every land you go, different traditions you find. You can practice reading comprehension, writing skills and grammar on your own focusing on a particular problem or generally improve your skills.

These websites are mostly useful because they help you to prepare your exams, they raise your awareness of the mistakes you make and they allow you to control your progress of course they are not a substitute to your teacher, but a complement. Now, you can switch on your computer and try.

These are my suggestions, I hope you will consider to publish them in the next issue.

Yours faithfully

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points covered – an ambitious attempt at the task.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Argument is organised but paragraphing is rather imbalanced.

■ Accuracy

A number of non-impeding errors (e.g. "If you have a weakness on...").

■ Range

Adequate range of vocabulary and structure.

■ Register

Appropriate.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

PAPER 2: WRITING

Question 5 (sample script)

Mark scheme and sample script with examiner comments

QUESTION 5: CANDIDATE E

■ Content

The candidate's letter must:

- welcome the student
- explain what student will have to do
- outline benefits of visit.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Clearly organised into paragraphs. Letter format with opening and closing formulae as appropriate.

■ Range

Language of welcome, explanation and suggestion. Vocabulary related to the workplace.

■ Register

Any, as long as consistent.

■ Target reader

Would be informed.

Candidate E

Dear Mr Miller

We are delighted that you have decided to spend two months on a work experience programme in the xxx marketing department. We warmly welcome you to our company in general and to our department in particular.

You will be given the unique opportunity to work with a young team launching a new soft drink. Your work will be as interesting as demanding. You will have to analyse several surveys which have recently been conducted. Based on the results of your analysis you will have to think about possible target customers. Furthermore you will be asked to develop ideas on how exactly we could launch our soft drink. You will have to gather thoughts about how to run a successful campaign. As this project has not been made public yet, we expect you not to talk about this project to your friends or family. You will be expected to work hard and, sometimes, for long hours.

However, you will most certainly learn a lot. You will be given the unique chance to develop a marketing campaign. You will also get used to working with different marketing tools. Furthermore you will have to learn how to take advantage of a wide variety of computer programs, which will not only help you to analyse the surveys conducted but will also assist you in making out possible target customers. This two months work experience programme will help you to understand the use and impact of marketing tools. We are confident that this experience will go far beyond that what you have learnt at university.

We are looking forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely

Examiner comments

■ Content

All points fully covered and suitably expanded.

■ Organisation and cohesion

Very well organised. Natural, coherent flow of language.

■ Accuracy

Controlled, natural, resourceful use of language. Almost a flawless performance.

■ Range

Excellent range of relevant language.

■ Register

Consistently appropriate with a welcoming tone.

■ Target reader

Would be fully informed and look forward to the work experience.