



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

CANDIDATE
NAME
CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/21

Paper 2 Directed Writing and Composition

May/June 2025

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Read Text A and Text B in the insert and then answer **Section A, Question 1** on this question paper.

Section A: Directed writing

Question 1

Write an article for your school or college magazine about whether or not a volunteer scheme for older students would be a good idea.

In your article you should:

- evaluate the ideas, attitudes and opinions about volunteering in both texts
- consider the effects a compulsory volunteering scheme in school would have on students, teachers and the wider community.

Base your **article** on what you have read in **both** texts, but be careful to use your own words. Address both of the bullet points.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 25 marks for the quality of your writing.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



..... [40



[Turn to page 6 for Section B.]



**Section B: Composition**

Answer **one** question from Section B.

Write about 350 to 450 words on **one** of the following questions. Answer on this question paper.

Up to 16 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer and up to 24 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER**Descriptive writing**

- 2 Write a description with the title, 'The shelter'.

OR**Descriptive writing**

- 3 Describe a time when you had to wait for a delivery.

OR**Narrative writing**

- 4 Write a story which includes the words, '... it could not be stopped ...'.

OR**Narrative writing**

- 5 Write a story with the title, 'The path to success'.





This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

[40]

[illegible]



Additional page

If you use the following page to complete the answer to any question, the question number must be clearly shown.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.

