

Cambridge International AS Level

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**8695/12**

Paper 1 Writing

May/June 2026**2 hours**

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Shorter writing and reflective commentary

Question 1

Your teacher has asked you to write the opening of a story which begins with the following sentence:
'As the door slowly opened, John had a really strong feeling that he shouldn't go in.'

- (a) Write the text for the opening of your story, using no more than **400** words. In your writing, create a sense of drama and suspense. [15]
- (b) Write a reflective commentary on your text, explaining how your linguistic choices contribute to fulfilling the task set by your teacher. [10]

Section B: Extended writing

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

Question 2

You recently saw a TV documentary about the problems caused by the amount of plastic we throw away. You decide to write a review of the documentary, which will be published on an environmental website. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

OR

Question 3

Write a descriptive piece called 'Departures', about the departure lounge in a busy airport. In your writing, focus on sound, movement and colour to help your reader imagine the scene. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

OR

Question 4

In class, you have been discussing whether children should be taught about money at school. You decide to write an article on the topic, which will be published in your school magazine. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

BLANK PAGE

BLANK PAGE

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 (Cambridge University Press & Assessment) 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 our 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 International Education is the name of our awarding body and a part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is a department of the University of Cambridge.