



Cambridge International AS Level

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ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/23

Paper 2 Comprehension

October/November 2025

1 hour 45 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- 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.
- 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 [].
- The insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Section A

Read the material for Section A in the insert before answering the questions in Section A.

- 1 (a) According to the Background, identify the **two** main reasons for the increase in the volume of traffic.

reason 1
.....

reason 2
.....

[2]

- (b) With reference to Option A:

- (i) explain the **problem** for the taxi drivers.

Do **not** refer to Option B.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

- (ii) explain the **advantages** for the tourists.

Do **not** refer to Option B.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]





(c) Explain the advantages and **one** disadvantage for students if Option B were chosen.

Do **not** refer to Option A.

Answer in continuous prose.

[10]

(d) Explain why Option B may create a problem for the residents of Battax.

..... [2]



(e) Explain why the engineering department's accreditation application may **not** be successful.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

(f) Identify **three** reasons why the student questionnaire feedback may **not** provide accurate data.

reason 1

.....

reason 2

.....

reason 3

..... [3]

(g) In your opinion, explain **one** way a busy town could reduce the amount of traffic.

Do **not** repeat any material from Section A.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

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Section B

Read the material for Section B in the insert before answering the questions in Section B.

2 (a) Identify the **exact** word in the material which means the following:

(i) shared (lines 3–7)

..... [1]

(ii) acknowledged (lines 9–14)

..... [1]

(iii) (to) control (lines 15–20).

..... [1]

(b) Identify **one** of the benefits for the volunteers who ate a large breakfast.

.....
..... [1]

(c) According to Brady Holmer, state **one** of the problems caused by missing breakfast.

.....
..... [1]

(d) Explain why going for a walk ‘might be good advice’ (lines 26–29).

Answer **using your own** words as far as possible.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [5]



- (e) (i) Explain the benefit for a person who achieved seven to eight hours of sleep.

.....
 [1]

- (ii) Identify the **three** disadvantages for people who lacked sleep (lines 38–41).

Answer **in about 30 words** using continuous prose.

.....

 [3]

- (iii) According to Steve Magness, identify **three** different ways we can improve the way we sleep.

1

 2

 3
 [3]

- (f) Explain why Brady Holmer says, 'The five servings recommendation is sound advice, but also somewhat arbitrary' (lines 50–53).

Answer **in about 20 words** using continuous prose.

.....

 [2]



- (g) Identify the **two** different reasons why 'the recommendation to drink two litres of water a day ... is not based on hard science' (lines 58–64).

Answer in **about 20 words** using continuous prose.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (h) State the **exact** meaning of the following **four** phrases as they are used in the material:

- (i) (to) sift fact from fiction (lines 1–2)

..... [1]

- (ii) (the) bottom line (line 21)

..... [1]

- (iii) stepping up the pace (line 29)

..... [1]

- (iv) cognitive decline (line 54).

..... [1]





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