



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

9093/13

Paper 1 Reading

October/November 2024

2 hours 15 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- 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 **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## Section A: Directed response

### Question 1

Read the following text, which is a travel article written by Alex King, who is an inhabitant of Athens.

- (a) Imagine you recently visited Athens as a tourist and you disagree with some of the views in the article. Write an email to Alex King, explaining your experience of the city. Use 150–200 words. [10]
- (b) Compare your email with the article, analysing form, structure and language. [15]

### A local's guide to Athens: some great things to do

*Inspired by the city's activists and creatives, journalist and film-maker Alex King moved to Athens in 2017 to chronicle attempts to breathe new life into a city worn down by crisis.*

#### Food

Athens has a fascinating mix of young innovators bringing fresh ideas to the city's culinary scene and idiosyncratic old eateries that feel frozen in time. For lunch, head down Karori Street in the ancient Psiri district to Feyrouz, which is run by a family of cooks and musicians who trace their ancestry back through Lebanon, Cyprus and Istanbul to ancient Antioch. Their delicious pan-Mediterranean street food celebrates the way generations of people moved around this region – taking their foods, flavours and music with them. For dinner, Kottarou, behind the railway station on Agias Sofias, is an underground taverna that dates back to 1885, where you can feast on homemade specialities while musicians play intimate *rebetiko* (Greek blues) sets. 5 10

#### Inspiration

You need special eyes to fall in love with the concrete chaos of modern Athens. I started to see it all in a new way and appreciate its architecture and social history thanks to Nikos Vatopoulos, urban explorer and culture editor at Greek newspaper *Kathimerini*. I interviewed him for *We'll Always Have Athens*, a podcast I co-produced. Whenever I need inspiration, I follow a flâneurial<sup>1</sup> adventure from Nikos's book *Walking in Athens*: they are pure urban poetry and discovery. It led me to areas near where he grew up, such as Patisia and Kypseli, with their experimental modernist housing, strongholds of the wartime resistance and a marble dog statue beloved by generations of Athenian children. 15 20

#### Nightlife

You often hear the ruckus from inside Communitism before you see it. The labyrinthine mansion-cum-workshop that houses this community-run art space looks like it could fall down at any minute. But while its guardians slowly restore the place from inside, it hosts some of the most original and free-spirited events in Athens, from political discussions to art shows, Balkan brass band spectacles and techno parties. 25

## Green space

30

Climbing one of the hills of Athens is a great way to catch a breath of fresh air and appreciate the city's spectacular geography. But nothing can compare to the view from 1000-metre Mount Hymettus. It's great for hiking but I love to cycle up through Kaisariani forest an hour or two before sunset. You are rewarded with increasingly jaw-dropping views at each break in the trees until you reach the summit and catch the last rays of sun over the Saronic Gulf.

35

## Neighbourhood

Kypseli, where I live, has one of the most interesting social, architectural and cultural mixes of any European neighbourhood. In the 1950s and 60s it was the most desirable area in the city, where international stars like Frank Sinatra would hang out when they visited. It then fell into a long decay after its well-heeled residents left for the suburbs. A resurgence over the past decade or so has transformed it into Athens's most diverse and exciting neighbourhood. The grand but faded modernist apartment blocks coexist with exciting incomers such as Kolchidas Georgian bakery on Fokionos Negri Street and Lalibela Ethiopian restaurant on Naxou. Relive Kypseli's glamorous past with a film at Stella, a retro open-air cinema with bright neon-pink lighting, then drinks at Au Revoir, a nouvelle-vague-with-a-Greek-twist drinking hole run by the Papatheodorou family since 1958.

40

45

## Stay

Monsieur Didot (doubles from €131 B&B) shows what can be done when a neoclassical building is lovingly restored. The boutique hotel pays homage to Ambroise Firmin Didot, a French entrepreneur who brought his grandfather's typeface<sup>2</sup> to Greece with a field press<sup>3</sup> during the 1821 War of Independence. It's a great place to stay if you need inspiration for your next masterpiece.

50

<sup>1</sup>*flaneurial*: relaxed, casual demeanour

<sup>2</sup>*typeface*: a design of letters and numbers

<sup>3</sup>*field press*: a portable device that was used to print communications

**Section B: Text analysis****Question 2**

Read the following text, which is an extract from a log written by round-the-world solo sailor, Ellen Macarthur. She was attempting to break the world record for sailing around the world.

Analyse the text, focusing on form, structure and language.

[25]

**DAY THIRTY-TWO 29/12/04**

*1 day 19 hours ahead<sup>1</sup>*

*830 miles west of Tasmania*

Sitting here at the chart table soaked again ...

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I'm really exhausted, but drying out the boat and creating that list of jobs for after makes me feel a bit better ... Later on, then.

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