Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge O Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE **1123/21**

Paper 2 Writing **October/November 2025**

2 hours

5854823535

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.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

This document has **4** pages.

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Section A: Directed Writing

Read **both** texts and answer **Question 1**.

Our school has some money to spend!
Shall we spend it on the sports hall or the library?
Please share your views here.

Text A

Kwame, student captain of the basketball team

I think that the money should be spent on improving the sports hall. A sports hall should provide a safe and comfortable place for students to take part in physical activities. But our current sports hall doesn't have air conditioning and the roof leaks, putting students at risk of illness and injury.

Lots of studies have shown that regular exercise is excellent for students' mental health and their ability to study, so having a better sports hall to exercise in would be good for all our students, not just the sporty ones!

At the moment, the sports hall is quite small. If we use the money to make it bigger, we'll be able to host lots of exciting sports competitions and events. This would mean our school would be better known by other schools, which would improve our reputation.

Finally, if we had a better sports hall, it could be used by local people as well, giving them a place to stay active by doing things like badminton and yoga. This would help improve the school's relationship with the whole community.

So we should definitely use the money to improve the sports hall because it would have lots of benefits for everyone.

Text B

Miss Akello, teacher

School libraries are important places for students and teachers. They give access to all kinds of materials and provide lots of information in the form of books, magazines, videos, and more. While our current library has these materials, a lot of them are old and using the money to update them would mean everyone could have access to the latest information.

Also, school libraries help students develop research skills. Spending some of the money on updating the IT facilities in the library would help students improve these skills. We could put in a digital catalogue and more computers connected to the internet. Doing this would also give students the chance to find new interests and to enjoy learning things beyond what they're taught in class.

If we used the money to improve the library, we could put on events such as book clubs and author visits which our students would love. We could also invite local people to come to these which would improve links with the community. I know several local writers who'd be willing to give a talk!

In all these ways, improving the school library would make learning better for everyone. This is why I believe it would be the best use of the school's money.

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Question 1

Your school has recently received some money to spend on improving either the sports hall or the library. You have read some of the opinions posted on the school noticeboard. Your principal has asked you to write a report, giving your views.

Write a **report** for your school principal.

In your report you should:

- evaluate the ideas and opinions in **both** texts
- give your own views about whether the money should be spent on improving the sports hall or the library, based on what you have read in the texts.

Base your report on what you have read in **both** texts but be careful to use your own words.

Address both of the bullet points.

Begin your report with 'To: The Principal'. Remember to give your name and a date.

Write about **250** to **350** words.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing. [25]

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Section B: Composition

Answer **one** question.

Write about **350** to **450** words on **one** of the following questions.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer and up to 15 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER

Descriptive writing

2 Describe a town or city centre at a busy time of day. [25]

OR

Descriptive writing

3 Describe the scene at two competitions, one which takes place outdoors **and** one which takes place indoors. [25]

OR

Narrative writing

4 Write a story about someone who decides to give up something important to help a friend. [25]

OR

Narrative writing

5 Write a story which includes the words: 'He turned the corner and was pleasantly surprised by what happened next.' [25]

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