

© International Baccalaureate Organization 2026

All rights reserved. No part of this product may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without the prior written permission from the IB. Additionally, the license tied with this product prohibits use of any selected files or extracts from this product. Use by third parties, including but not limited to publishers, private teachers, tutoring or study services, preparatory schools, vendors operating curriculum mapping services or teacher resource digital platforms and app developers, whether fee-covered or not, is prohibited and is a criminal offense.

More information on how to request written permission in the form of a license can be obtained from <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

© Organisation du Baccalauréat International 2026

Tous droits réservés. Aucune partie de ce produit ne peut être reproduite sous quelque forme ni par quelque moyen que ce soit, électronique ou mécanique, y compris des systèmes de stockage et de récupération d'informations, sans l'autorisation écrite préalable de l'IB. De plus, la licence associée à ce produit interdit toute utilisation de tout fichier ou extrait sélectionné dans ce produit. L'utilisation par des tiers, y compris, sans toutefois s'y limiter, des éditeurs, des professeurs particuliers, des services de tutorat ou d'aide aux études, des établissements de préparation à l'enseignement supérieur, des fournisseurs de services de planification des programmes d'études, des gestionnaires de plateformes pédagogiques en ligne, et des développeurs d'applications, moyennant paiement ou non, est interdite et constitue une infraction pénale.

Pour plus d'informations sur la procédure à suivre pour obtenir une autorisation écrite sous la forme d'une licence, rendez-vous à l'adresse <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

© Organización del Bachillerato Internacional, 2026

Todos los derechos reservados. No se podrá reproducir ninguna parte de este producto de ninguna forma ni por ningún medio electrónico o mecánico, incluidos los sistemas de almacenamiento y recuperación de información, sin la previa autorización por escrito del IB. Además, la licencia vinculada a este producto prohíbe el uso de todo archivo o fragmento seleccionado de este producto. El uso por parte de terceros —lo que incluye, a título enunciativo, editoriales, profesores particulares, servicios de apoyo académico o ayuda para el estudio, colegios preparatorios, desarrolladores de aplicaciones y entidades que presten servicios de planificación curricular u ofrezcan recursos para docentes mediante plataformas digitales—, ya sea incluido en tasas o no, está prohibido y constituye un delito.

En este enlace encontrará más información sobre cómo solicitar una autorización por escrito en forma de licencia: <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

English B – Standard level – Paper 2 – Reading comprehension
Anglais B – Niveau moyen – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension écrite
Inglés B – Nivel Medio – Prueba 2 – Comprensión de lectura

7 May 2026 / 7 mai 2026 / 7 de mayo de 2026

Zone A afternoon	Zone B afternoon	Zone C afternoon
Zone A après-midi	Zone B après-midi	Zone C après-midi
Zona A tarde	Zona B tarde	Zona C tarde

1 h

Text booklet – Instructions to students

- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet accompanies paper 2 reading comprehension.

Livret de textes – Instructions destinées aux élèves

- N'ouvrez pas ce livret avant d'avoir reçu l'autorisation de le faire.
- Ce livret accompagne la partie de l'épreuve 2 portant sur la compréhension écrite.

Cuadernillo de textos – Instrucciones para el alumnado

- No abra este cuadernillo hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Este cuadernillo acompaña a la parte de comprensión de lectura de la prueba 2.

Text A

Removed for copyright reasons

Text B

Over £200,000 raised for Spellow Library after the riots

Following anti-immigration riots in Liverpool, a campaign has raised over £200,000 to repair Spellow Library, which was damaged during the unrest.



5 Spellow Library in Walton, Liverpool, was left torched and vandalised by anti-immigration rioters earlier in the year. The library was more than just a library; it also served as a community hub and a food bank. In response to the events, the community has rallied together to raise repair funds for the library, with a number of high-profile figures also pledging their support.

15 The fundraiser was started by a resident local to the library, Alexandra McCormick. After seeing the damage done to the community hub, she began a GoFundMe appeal with the goal of raising £500. Alexandra explained why she began the fundraising campaign: “I always loved to read when I was a child. My mum loves to read and now my little girl loves to read. Just seeing such a gorgeous community space destroyed—especially with it being a library—just really upset me.”

Despite the initially low fundraising goal, the total amount donated now stands at just over £237,400. A number of celebrities, including TV cook Nigella Lawson, and children’s author Frank Cottrell-Boyce, have donated to the cause. “I think when something that’s good for the community is damaged, especially when it impacts children and older people, I think people really come out in force and rally.” Alexandra explained.

Alexandra also describes the fundraiser as a community effort, with thousands of people working together to raise awareness of the library and the campaign. Spellow Library opened 18 months ago, with the specific purpose of serving deprived communities in the area. Throughout the year, community events are held to support the population, and over the course of the summer, the library planned to host a number of children’s activities.

On X (formerly Twitter)*, Liverpool Libraries and Information Services said: “We’d like to thank everyone very much for the generosity and support we have received following the incident at the Spellow Library hub.” Since the riots, the summer activities have now been relocated, with a full list of new locations being available on Liverpool City Council’s website.

* X (formerly Twitter): a social media platform where users can post short messages for others to see

Text C

The dos and don'ts of your first semester at university

Starting university is an exciting time. But, we know it can also be slightly daunting, so read our crucial top tips below.

Do get involved

- 5 There's more to university life than just studying, and there's no better way to make friends than taking part in all the extras. Of course, in your first semester you've got freshers* week to enjoy, a week of great nights out and freshers fairs to learn about everything you need to know and
- 10 meet fellow students. Also, get involved with some societies; if you're a fanatic sports player, find your sport and sign up to the team, or look for alternatives such as music groups, debating societies, country-inspired ones, eco groups,
- 15 course-specific groups and so much more.



[– 31 –]

- We've heard it all: "it's only first year", "first year doesn't count". But that's not strictly true. For many courses, the first year does count towards the final grade and what you're learning in this first year will help you down the line. So go out and enjoy yourself, but set the alarm for
- 20 those 9.00am lectures also.

[– 32 –]

- Maybe it's somewhere you've never been or somewhere you're sure is full of brain boxes and mean librarians, but you couldn't be more wrong. At times the library will become a second home to you throughout your university life. Get to know it early, find the books you need,
- 25 which areas you like, where the computers are and, of course, the quiet zones for when you really need to get your head down.

[– 33 –]

- If you have a question, ask it! Everyone's in the same shoes as you being completely new to university life so the chances are somebody else is thinking it too. Whether it's about the lecture,
- 30 your student accommodation or the university in general, don't hesitate to ask. Your lecturers, university staff and those working at your accommodation will all be super friendly and helpful and are there to help you adjust to university life.

[– 34 –]

- If this is the first time you've lived away from home, the idea of managing your money can be somewhat overwhelming. We recommend sitting down with a parent before you start planning your finances. This way you know how much you have to spend on bills, how much to budget on the food shop and what's left to go out and enjoy yourself with.
- 35

* freshers: students who have just started at a university

Disclaimer/Avertissement/Advertencia:

Content used in IB assessments is often taken from authentic, third-party sources. The views expressed within them belong to their individual authors and/or publishers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the IB. Sometimes fictitious companies, products or individuals are included in assessments; any similarities with actual entities are purely coincidental. Any trademarks™ or registered® trademarks included are used for illustrative purposes only, and use does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement by the International Baccalaureate.

Le contenu utilisé dans les évaluations de l'IB est souvent extrait de sources authentiques issues de tierces parties. Les avis qui y sont exprimés appartiennent aux personnes à l'origine de leur création et/ou de leur publication, et ne reflètent pas nécessairement ceux de l'IB. Parfois, des entreprises, produits ou individus fictionnels sont inclus dans les évaluations. Toute ressemblance avec des entités réelles serait purement fortuite. Toutes les marques commerciales™ ou déposées® incluses sont utilisées à des fins d'illustration uniquement, et leur utilisation n'implique aucune affiliation avec le Baccalauréat International ni aucune promotion de sa part.

Los contenidos usados en las evaluaciones del IB a menudo provienen de fuentes externas auténticas. Las opiniones expresadas en ellos pertenecen a sus autores y/o editores, y no reflejan necesariamente las del IB. En ocasiones, se incluyen empresas, productos o personas ficticios. Cualquier parecido con entidades reales es pura coincidencia. Todas las marcas o marcas registradas (™ o ®) incluidas se utilizan únicamente con fines ilustrativos, y su uso no implica ninguna afiliación con el IB ni aprobación por parte del IB.

References/Références/Referencias:

- Text B** Goodhand, I., 2024. Over £200,000 raised for Spellow Library after the riots. *North West Bylines*, [online] 30 August. Available at: <https://northwestbylines.co.uk/lifestyle/human-interest/over-200000-raised-for-spellow-library-after-the-riots/> Updated On 30-08-2024. [Accessed 23 July 2025]. Source adapted.
- Soares, T., 2018. *Book hall in library*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/book-hall-in-library-royalty-free-image/1015149420> [Accessed 18 August 2025]. Source adapted.
- Text C** True Student, 2021. The dos and don'ts of your first semester at university. *True Student*, [online] 15 September. Available at: https://www.truestudent.com/blog/dos-and-donts-at-university?gad_source=5&gclid=EAlaIqObChMI7vbhqaizigMV6JdQBh3Jfhk2EAAYBCAAEgKjy_D_BwE [Accessed 23 July 2025]. Source adapted.
- urbazon, 2024. *Students walking on the university campus*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/students-walking-on-the-university-campus-royalty-free-image/2188518015> [Accessed 18 August 2025]. Source adapted.