

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/03**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition

October/November 2006

**2 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.  
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **two** questions: **Question 1 (Section 1)** and **one** question from **Section 2**.  
Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

**Section One: Directed Writing**

- 1 Many schools arrange a celebration of some kind for students at the end of their exam year.

Your teachers are organising a celebration at your school and have suggested three possible types of celebration. Your classmates have selected one of these as their favourite (*you may choose which option this is*) and ask you to represent them at a meeting with the teachers.

**Write what you would say to the teachers to *persuade* them that the students' choice would be the most successful celebration.**

You should

- Persuade the teachers that the option that the students have chosen is the most likely to succeed.
- Explain how the problems which have spoilt previous events can be overcome.

Base your ideas on the material found in the school magazine article and the poster printed opposite. You may include details and opinions to make the speech more convincing, but these must be related to the texts provided.

You should write between 1 ½ and 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

Begin as follows:

I am here as a representative of my fellow students to explain our views.

(Up to 10 marks will be given for the content of your answer and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing.) [25]

## Apathy ruined 2005 celebrations – will it happen again?

Last year's end of examination celebration fizzled out to nothing after ticket sales for the planned Barbecue and Swimming Afternoon hit an all-time low and only ten students paid up on time.

Head girl Sophie Pellegrino told us: "The problem was that so many students go away with their families straight after the exams. A party is fun but it's so difficult to choose a date everyone can make." A more disgruntled student, who wishes to remain anonymous, told us that he would not have attended the party anyway: "It's a pathetic idea. We're not babies. We should be treated like adults now. Who wants to have tea and cake with the teachers? What we need is a real reward – an adventure, a treat – a new experience."

A further problem appeared to be the cost. The tickets were expensive and some students could not afford them. There were also arguments about the proposed menu and location, as well as the type of music to be booked.

Ex-student Tomas Majak thinks that what the whole graduating class really needs is a lasting memory – something to look at in years to come when names and faces have been forgotten. He has told us that he has lost touch with several classmates who left school without trading addresses.

The staff committee responsible for this year's celebration are hopeful that, with proper student consultation, last year's disaster will not be repeated. "The whole point is to get everyone together and to say well done!" said Celebration Staff Committee member Ms Chand. However, the Headteacher added a word of caution when she reminded students that the school's reputation in the community must always be the primary consideration when planning any event.

By Amy Goulton, Year 12

TO ALL STUDENTS TAKING EXAMS IN 2006

## END OF EXAM CELEBRATIONS

This year there are 3 options:

- a yearbook featuring photographs and information about everyone in the class as well as teachers, other students and highlights of the year
- an American style 'Prom' with limousines, evening dress, a formal meal, dancing and fireworks
- an outing for the whole class to a famous city including an overnight stay

Remember all costs must be paid by students.  
There will be a meeting in room 16 to hear your views.

Let us know what you want!

**Section 2: Composition**

Write about 350–450 words on **one** of the following:

**2 Argumentative/discursive writing**

**Either (a)** 'Advertising aimed at children and young teenagers under 16 should be banned.'  
What do you think? [25]

**or**

**(b)** 'Competitive sports should be a *compulsory* part of the school curriculum because they teach lessons about life which all children need to learn.' What do you think? [25]

**3 Descriptive writing**

**Either (a)** 'The Reunion.' Describe a moment when two people meet each other after a long time apart. [25]

**or**

**(b)** 'My favourite time of day.' Describe what you see and/or hear and/or feel that makes you enjoy this time the most. [25]

**4 Narrative writing**

**Either (a)** 'The Short Cut.'

You are very late and you need to get home quickly. Up ahead is a short cut, but you've been warned not to use it. If you don't get home soon there'll be serious trouble... Write a story about what happens next. [25]

**or**

**(b)** Write a story in which missing a chance or missing an opportunity is central to the plot. [25]