



CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH

Writing

*

SAMPLE TEST 2

Time 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number on your answer sheet if they are not already there.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer the Part 1 question and one question from Part 2.

Write your answers on the answer sheet.

Write clearly in **pen**, not pencil. You may make alterations, but make sure your work is easy to read.

You **must** complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question in this paper carries equal marks.

*

500/2429/2

Part 1

Read the two texts below.

Write an essay summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible and include your own ideas in your answer.

Write your answer in **240 – 280** words on the separate answer sheet.

1

Talented People

Whether we like it or not, the majority of talented individuals, be they great musicians or renowned poets, are born not made. They can therefore thank their genetic inheritance for their remarkable abilities. Having said that, if they, and indeed other less innately talented individuals, are to achieve their potential, it is crucial that they start working on their skills from a very young age. The brain is at its most receptive in childhood, and complex skills are best developed during this critical period of intellectual growth. Adults rarely achieve the same degree of mastery if they start learning something later in life.

Achieving Success

We all admire those who have achieved astonishing feats in sport, seeing them as almost superhuman, and so fail to realise the true basis of their success. Where they differ from most of us is in their obsessive dedication to fulfilling their goals, often at the expense of friends and family, though it may be only later in life that they realise the price they have paid. The role of coaches and trainers should not be forgotten either. The inspiration and encouragement they provide can make all the difference during times when improvement seems frustratingly slow.

Write your **essay**.

Part 2

Write an answer to **one** of the questions **2 – 5** in this part. Write your answer in **280 – 320** words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

- 2** An international magazine would like to publish a collection of readers' letters which reflect attitudes of different cultures towards public displays of emotion. You decide to send in a letter, briefly describing one occasion when a well-known person displayed emotion in public. You should also assess the kinds of situations in your country in which a public display of emotion, either positive or negative, is considered appropriate and those in which it is not.

Write your **letter**. Do not add any postal addresses.

- 3** A media magazine is publishing a series of reports on how the media covers international stories. Write a report on the coverage of international news stories by the media in one country. Your report should describe the types of news items that are covered and evaluate how informative they are. You should also recommend any changes you think necessary in the way international news is reported.

Write your **report**.

- 4** You work as a reporter on your local newspaper. You were recently invited to a production of a play staged by your local amateur dramatic society. Write a review, briefly describing what impressed you most about the production. As the society is under threat of closure, evaluate what it contributes to the community and justify why it deserves both financial and other types of support.

Write your **review**.

- 5** Write an answer to **one** of the following two questions based on **one** of the titles below. Write **5(a)** or **5(b)** in the box at the beginning of your answer.

- (a)** John Wyndham: *The Day of the Triffids*

Your local newspaper has invited readers to send in articles on science-fiction novels they have read entitled "It could really happen" Write an article about *The Day of the Triffids*, focusing on two incidents in the story which seem particularly realistic and therefore frightening.

Write your **article**.

- (b)** Anne Tyler: *The Accidental Tourist*

You have been discussing the following quotation in class:

"I'm sorry, Sarah. I didn't want to decide this."

Your tutor has asked you to write an essay discussing why Macon chooses to leave Sarah after their reconciliation and return to Muriel. You should consider whether this is the decision you expected.

Write your **essay**.

BLANK PAGE