



Cambridge IGCSE™

CANDIDATE
NAMECENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/21

Paper 2 Directed Writing and Composition

May/June 2026

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Read Text A and Text B in the insert and then answer **Section A, Question 1** on this question paper.

Section A: Directed writing

Question 1

Your friend is considering keeping an online digital diary to be published on the internet.

Write a letter to your friend giving your advice about whether or not this is a good idea.

In your letter you should:

- evaluate the ideas, attitudes and opinions in the texts
- give your views about the factors your friend should consider about keeping and sharing a diary.

Base your letter on what you have read in **both** texts, but be careful to use your own words. Address both of the bullet points.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

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

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]



[40]

[Total: 40]





Turn over

Section B: Composition

Answer **one** question from Section B.

Write about 350 to 450 words on **one** of the following questions. Answer on this question paper.

Up to 16 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer and up to 24 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER

Descriptive writing

2 Describe the surroundings as you travel out of a city into the countryside.

OR

Descriptive writing

3 Describe the moment you find an object which was lost.

OR

Narrative writing

4 Write a story about a new group of friends.

OR

Narrative writing

5 Write a story with the title, 'Following the river'.





Please write your chosen question number here (2, 3, 4, 5):

[illegible]



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN



[40]

[Total: 40]





If you use the following page to complete the answer to any question, the question number must be clearly shown.

[illegible]



Additional page

If you use the following page to complete the answer to any question, the question number must be clearly shown.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (Cambridge University Press & Assessment) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in our Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Education is the name of our awarding body and a part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is a department of the University of Cambridge.

