Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES **0457/12**

Paper 1 Written Examination **May/June 2021**

INSERT **1 hour 15 minutes**

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INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the sources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.

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Source 1

Globalisation and technological change are slowly reducing extreme poverty. According to the World Bank, in 2015 10 per cent of the world's population lived on less than $1.90 a day. This is down from nearly 36 per cent in 1990.

However, the gap between the rich and poor is growing in most countries. A 2018 report by Oxfam International, a charity aiming to reduce poverty, estimated that 82 per cent of the world's wealth is owned by the richest 1 per cent of the global population. The report also estimated that the 42 richest people in the world hold as much wealth as the 3.7 billion people in the poorest half of the world's population.

Source 2

Part of the increase in economic inequality can be explained by an increase in income inequality. The wages of highly paid workers have increased at a much faster rate than those of workers on low wages. For example, according to Oxfam International, it takes just four days for a chief executive from a top fashion company to earn what a textile worker in Bangladesh will earn in their lifetime.

Causes of income inequality
Technological change
Increased competition
More part-time workers
Lower tax on income
Reduced levels of welfare
Unequal access to education
Workplace discrimination

Source 3

The best way to reduce economic inequality is to increase employment. People who work are less likely to be in poverty. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report on inequality confirms this view. Governments and businesses must create more jobs.

Investment in people through skills training must begin in early childhood and continue into education and work. Governments, employers and individuals should set aside more of their income for lifelong learning.

My family was poor, but my father saved money to send me to school. His investment in education helped me to own a successful company. We must learn from him and give more money from taxes and profits to job creation. If we do not, there will be protests on the streets, political unrest, increased migration and continued human suffering.

Extract from a press release in Europe in 2019

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Source 4

Ivan

The way to reduce inequality is to reform tax and benefit policies. Tax systems should redistribute income. Top earners should contribute more to the tax burden. Executive pay should be lower. Many of the people I talk to share this view – it is only fair.

Governments should raise tax rates on the rich and ensure that large multi-national companies pay their fair share of taxes. We must stop people from hiding income and wealth to avoid taxes. If more people work, more people will pay taxes and governments will have more to spend.

Another way to reduce inequality is by providing high-quality public services, such as education, health, and family care. A recent study showed that spending about 13 per cent of a country's annual income on public services reduces inequality by about 20 per cent. I have a serious illness; my experience shows that our hospitals need more money.

Nadia

If we create more jobs and increase spending, the planet will suffer. Enabling everyone in the world to have the same lifestyle as people in rich countries is not sustainable. We must all accept a simpler lifestyle so that we can survive!

A growing world population, loss of species, pollution, resource shortages, and climate change are massive problems. These are all caused by the present model of economic growth.

As a member of an environmental action group, I believe that more money should be spent on promoting sustainable development.

Kate Raworth of Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute says that the aim of economic activity should be 'meeting the needs of all within the means of the planet'.

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