UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/33**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition **May/June 2010**

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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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.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

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Section 1: Directed Writing

1 Read the following transcript of a radio broadcast in which Maria Gracias gives her views on how young people should be raised.

Write a letter to Maria Gracias in which you disagree with what she says.

In your letter you should:

- examine some of the points she makes;
- develop your own arguments against them.

You should write between 1½ and 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing. [25]

Presenter: The well-known broadcaster, Maria Gracias, is today's guest for our feature programme entitled 'Children should be seen and not heard'.

Maria: Thank you. I think that young people are given too easy a time these days. I've never had children myself, but it worries me when parents spoil their offspring. They give them so many toys that they don't know what to do next, and before you know it the kids are demanding this and that, and money to buy something else. If you give them too much, they'll never know the value of thrift – that's the word my parents used to use for not spending too much money. In times of recession, thrift is what we need.

Money means roaming around the town on your own, and I think parents ought to supervise their children and keep them at home. They used to say 'children should be seen and not heard'. Well, that's a bit hard, but if you allow your children to talk nonsense and get excited and cheeky, that's not what adults want to hear.

Presenter: You refer frequently to 'children'. I'm not quite sure whether you are talking about, say, youngsters under ten years old, or teenagers, perhaps aged sixteen or seventeen.

Maria: Well, I've just been talking about young children. I'd hope that, by the age of thirteen or fourteen, teenagers could at least add something to an adult conversation. But you know, as far as keeping them at home is concerned, half the trouble is caused by teenagers hanging around in groups at street corners instead of doing something useful at home.

Presenter: Perhaps that's because they feel there is nowhere else for them to go. Anyway, yours is a rather strict view of parenthood, isn't it?

Maria: You don't have to be nasty parents to be strict. You need to spend time with young people because as adults you have so much to teach them. How many young people do you know who can cook? With rights come responsibilities – like keeping your room clean, or helping with the housework before you go to school. These things aren't hard for young people to learn – they're a matter of routine and discipline, and they help Mum and Dad to run the home.

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If young people are lucky, yes, lucky, they have the chance to go to school where they can learn many skills very quickly – social skills, computer skills, reading, writing, the whole range. But some children finish school hardly having learned anything. When you leave school, you need to be trained – in this country we need lots of farmers, water engineers, electricians, the list is endless. But children won't learn these things if they stand around playing with their mobile phones.

Some kids spend all day staring into their mobile phones, taking amateur photos and sending pointless – and badly spelt – text messages to all and sundry. Not only do they look silly, but they sound as if they are talking to themselves, and you know what that means. I don't like cell phones – I think that's what you call them – and I'd have them banned.

Presenter: Don't you think that some people would say that you are living in the past and that times have moved on? Young people live in our new electronic age and as for text messaging, well, that's the modern way of communicating and socialising.

Maria: Yes, but it's all electronics at the expense of everything else! What's wrong with skipping ropes and bicycle rides? And the only socialising I know is face to face, not making an entry on a social networking site, if that's what they're called.

I'm sure they'd all do better with quiet nights in with their families and friends playing a good old-fashioned board game anytime.

[Turn over for Section 2]

Section 2: Composition

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

Argumentative/discursive writing

2 **(a)** Imagine yourself in ten years' time. Explain three or four different ways in which your life will have changed. [25]

OR

(b) Write an article in which you argue the case for keeping yourself healthy. Explain three or four ways to keep yourself as healthy as possible. [25]

Descriptive writing

3 **(a)** Describe a fire from the first signs of smoke to the moment when it is out of control. [25]

OR

(b) Describe nightfall as you reach camp in the middle of the jungle. [25]

Narrative writing

4 **(a)** Tell the story of a rich person who woke up one morning to find that wealth had turned to extreme poverty. [25]

OR

(b) Tell the story of what happened on the first night of a school play through the eyes of one of the actors OR somebody working behind the scenes. [25]

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