UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/33**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition **October/November 2011**

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

9843107261

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 Imagine that you are a parent governor at a school which needs a new English teacher. You have been asked to attend the interviews. The Headteacher has interviewed Ms Njord and Mr Ling, and transcripts of parts of their interviews are printed below.

Write a letter to the Chair of the governing board in which you give your recommendations for the appointment of the new teacher.

In your letter you should:

either

(a) give your reasons for appointing one of the applicants and not the other

or

(b) give your reasons for appointing neither of them.

Base your letter on the transcripts of the interviews. Be careful to use your own words.

Begin your letter, 'Dear Chair of the governing board…'.

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]

The interview with Ms Njord

Headteacher: What teaching experience have you had so far?

Ms Njord: I'm teaching in a junior school – it's my first post and I've been there just over a year. The children are great and we have fun. I've worked hard to become used to the school's new electronic equipment ... It's interactive and everyone has so much to do, there's no time to misbehave. We write poems together and learn our grammar from the whiteboard. All the children have laptops. I like using educational games – some of them are really helpful to the children; oh, and I enjoy doing drama.

Headteacher: So why do you want to leave now and come to teach in a senior school?

Ms Njord: I wanted to experience teaching older children too. I believe I've got so much to offer.

Headteacher: Don't you think that teaching in this school will be different from what you are used to?

Ms Njord: Not really. I know about teenagers because I've got three teenage brothers, and English is all about reading, writing and speaking – thinking – and being active. Naturally, I shall have to get used to examination courses.

Headteacher: Yes, you must prepare students for IGCSE First Language English if you come here.

Ms Njord: When I was trained, our lecturer showed us the syllabuses and an Examination paper. I remember there were a lot of comprehension questions.

Headteacher: Ah, that would be the *core* curriculum paper – our candidates nearly all take the extended curriculum. I'll refer you to the website so you can do some homework. Now, while we're on the subject of homework, your Headteacher tells me you are not really in favour of it.

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Ms Njord: Oh, that's not really fair. But I do believe children need spare time after a long day's work – and the staff as well. I know that what I achieve with them is without the need for homework.

Headteacher: Do you get on well with the rest of the staff?

Ms Njord: Oh, marvellously. Our head has appointed a very young staff. We all support each other and share a great social life. We think that makes us more effective in the classroom. The head says she will be devastated to see me go.

The interview with Mr Ling

Headteacher: Mr Ling, you're obviously very experienced in senior schools.

Mr Ling: Oh yes, certainly – 30 years' experience, in more schools than I care to remember.

Headteacher: It's important that our students make rapid and positive progress. They have an IGCSE course to complete.

Mr Ling: IGCSE, yes. I've taught First Language English in my last three schools. Excellent results in 2008, I remember. I've got some difficult students now though – I have to make sure they don't slack off.

Headteacher: Ah, discipline – you believe in it?

Mr Ling: Oh yes: fair, of course. Learning is tough, not fun. You don't get far without laying the law down when necessary.

Headteacher: Tell me, are you used to interactive teaching, with up-to-date electronic equipment?

Mr Ling: I certainly believe in word processing, if that's what you mean. I'm not a great fan of being interactive, but I've had a go or two with a whiteboard.

Headteacher: Oh, I see. What's your philosophy of learning?

Mr Ling: Simple – lots of reading, writing and listening, especially listening, and of course, homework. Classrooms aren't conducive to high quality work. You need peace and quiet to reflect on ideas and plan things out.

Headteacher: Have your students always understood your philosophy?

Mr Ling: Most of them. I make it clear what I expect. Of course there are always some rebellious ones, but usually I've had enough support from the Head.

Headteacher: How do you get on with the staff at your present school?

Mr Ling: Honestly, I don't see much of them. I'm busy marking work on time and preparing lessons, and after school there are detentions and things. I get on well with my present Headteacher. Only the other day he shook me by the hand and said, 'Mr Ling, you've certainly made a mark on *this* school.'

[Turn over for Section 2]

Section 2: Composition

Write about 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting,
on **one** of the following:

Argumentative/Discursive Writing

2 **(a)** 'Tourism spoils beautiful countries.' What are your views? [25]

OR

(b) 'Teenagers moan all the time about being bored. There is no such thing as boredom, merely a lack of purpose.' Do you agree? [25]

Descriptive Writing

3 **(a)** Describe a group of people at work. [25]

OR

(b) 'Suddenly everything stopped moving and there was complete silence.' Describe what was before your eyes and the sensations that you experienced. [25]

Narrative Writing

4 **(a)** You received, unexpectedly, two tickets for a mystery trip. After some initial doubts you decided to go. Write the story of what happened. [25]

OR

(b) Write a story about a survivor. [25]

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