CAMBRIDGE

FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH
for Schools

Reading and Use of English

Sample Test 2

Time 1 hour 15 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 all the questions.

Read the instructions on the answer sheet.

Write your answers on the answer sheet. Use a pencil.

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

There are 52 questions in this paper.

Questions **1 – 24** and **43 – 52** carry one mark.

Questions **25 – 30** carry up to two marks.

Questions **31 – 42** carry two marks.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 1

For questions **1** – **8**, read the text below and decide which answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Example:

0 **A** action **B** basis **C** method **D** situation

Example: | **0** | B |

The World Tin Bath Championships

In the Isle of Man, a small island off the northwest coast of England, the World Tin Bath Championships takes place on an annual **(0)** ..... in Castletown harbour. Every July, crowds **(1)** ..... as participants row old-fashioned, portable baths in a race to the **(2)** ..... line. The winner is either the first 'boat' to cross the line or the one which covers the greatest distance before it sinks. Since it first started **(3)** ..... in 1971, this unusual and **(4)** ..... amusing race has raised over £20,000 for charity.

Competitors, who number a hundred or so, come from far and wide to take part in the event, and they must **(5)** ..... to strict rules. The bath must be **(6)** ..... wholly from metal and cannot exceed 154 cm in length. **(7)** ..... many competitors decorate their baths, no adjustment or addition to the underside of the vessel is allowed. One rule even **(8)** ..... that no fireworks should be used by competitors during the race!

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

1	**A** gather	**B** collect	**C** draw	**D** gain
2	**A** final	**B** end	**C** stop	**D** finish
3	**A** lasting	**B** carrying	**C** running	**D** managing
4	**A** vastly	**B** highly	**C** widely	**D** dearly
5	**A** stick	**B** fix	**C** stay	**D** hold
6	**A** founded	**B** established	**C** constructed	**D** consisted
7	**A** Since	**B** Despite	**C** Even	**D** While
8	**A** announces	**B** states	**C** expresses	**D** signifies

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 2

For questions **9** – **16**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet**.

Example: | **0** | ONE |

Australia: the best place for young people to live?

Recent research has indicated that **(0)** ..... of the best places for young people to live in the world is Australia. With a relatively low population of around 25 million, the country has great weather year round, meaning young and old alike can enjoy life outdoors, participating **(9)** ..... sporting activities, or going on picnics, **(10)** ..... to mention surfing at the beach.

Australia also has a highly-rated education system which leads to good job prospects after finishing school. Healthy living **(11)** ..... promoted and crime rates are low in the country's lively and fascinating cities. What's **(12)** ..... , Australians are famed for their positive outlook on life, which as we know, provides not **(13)** ..... mental well-being but physical benefits, too, helping to reduce the effects of stress and even providing protection **(14)** ..... getting a cold! Of course, you don't need to move **(15)** ..... the way to Australia to live happily and healthily, but perhaps we can all learn something from the way Australians live **(16)** ..... lives.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 3

For questions **17** – **24**, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap **in the same line**. There is an example at the beginning (**0**).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet**.

Example: | **0** | LIVING |

The world's largest bird

The common ostrich is a flightless bird native to Africa and the largest **(0)** ..... **LIVE**

species of its kind. It has a distinctive **(17)** ..... , with a long neck and legs, and **APPEAR**

reaches speeds of up to 70 km per hour. Like other birds, the ostrich has no teeth, but

perhaps **(18)** ..... , it swallows sand and pebbles to help it digest its food instead, **EXPECTED**

which consists **(19)** ..... of plants and small animals. **PRINCIPAL**

There is a belief that when **(20)** ..... , ostriches put their heads into the sand. **THREAT**

However, this appears to be a **(21)** ..... generated a couple of thousand years **UNDERSTAND**

ago, when the behaviour was probably confused with eating habits or turning their

eggs, which ostriches leave not in nests, but **(22)** ..... in the sand. **BURY**

The **(23)** ..... of a fully grown adult ostrich can be as much as two adult humans, **WEIGH**

with some **(24)** ..... males reaching an incredible 156.8 kg. The ostrich's lifespan is **EXCEPT**

between 40 and 45 years and they have excellent hearing and sight.

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Part 4

For questions **25** – **30**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given**. You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (**0**).

Example:

0 'I don't know where I've put my keys,' Mum said.

HAD

Mum said that she didn't know where ..... keys.

The gap can be filled by the words 'she had put her', so you write:

Example: | **0** | SHE HAD PUT HER |

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS on the separate answer sheet**.

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25 Our teacher gave us prizes for working hard in class.

WERE

For working hard in class, ... prizes by our teacher.

26 Some people take advantage of Marco because he is so generous.

THAT

Marco is so generous ..... advantage of by some people.

27 'Do you mind if I take this chair?' he asked.

WHETHER

He asked me ..... if he took the chair.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

28 I spent ages on my homework but I still didn't get top marks.

LONG

I spent ..... on my homework but I still didn't get top marks.

29 I don't agree with footballers earning such a lot.

SHOULD

Footballers ..... much in my opinion.

30 'You'll be late if you don't hurry!' Grandma said.

UNLESS

Grandma said that ..... be late.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 5

You are going to read an article about working in tourism. For questions **31** – **36**, choose the answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Working as a tour guide

by Anthea Roberts

After finishing university with a degree in Tourism, there was only one job which appealed to me: working in a hotel. I was lucky enough to find a top job at a great hotel in the capital, only to quickly find out how demanding the work was. As concierge, I was faced with not only the more pleasant tasks of arranging theatre tickets or making restaurant reservations, but also a never-ending stream of complaints from guests about the tiniest of things. These could be anything from a bit of dust on top of a wardrobe to not enough coffee provided in the room. It was up to me to make sure one of the staff got it dealt with, fast. I was working all hours and it soon became exhausting and repetitive. What had started as a dream job had become a nightmare.

Then I spotted an advert for a holiday company which was seeking to employ tour guides. I should make one thing clear at this point: being a tour guide isn't the same as being a holiday rep, though many people confuse the two. Becoming a rep would have been a continuation of the job I'd left behind – spending most of my time sorting out problems! As a tour guide, someone else would be responsible for that part of people's holidays, while I focused on providing running
26 commentaries about historical places and cultural events I considered worthy of interest to travellers, in addition to making recommendations about things to do, where to eat, and so on, for when I wasn't with them.

The job I applied for was in an area of Spain I was familiar with and I thought, 'Why not give it a try?' I'd spent many thrilling summers at my grandparents' place in Spain, soaking up not only the sun, but the culture and history of the region, too. My only reservation was the possibility of spoiling memories of spending perfect golden days at the beach, wandering through the pretty, winding streets of the village where my grandparents lived, and eating delicious local food by candlelight at the tiny harbour. I needn't have worried. The minute I stepped off the plane into the midday heat, I felt like I was right back where I belonged.

I love my job, but I have to admit that it isn't all fun and games! I still have to answer a lot of questions from customers, but as long as I've done my homework and prepared ahead of each tour, I can usually deal with them – even the silliest ones you think everyone knows the answer to! And of course there are those who believe they have superior knowledge to you. All you can do is nod and smile, and gently correct people where necessary. Getting impatient is a no-no in this profession. The other drawback is being away from home for weeks on end, missing family events, friends' parties and other social occasions you'd love to go to. But it's all part of the job and I wouldn't change it for anything.

My favourite groups to guide are young people, who are full of curiosity and may never have travelled abroad before. I'm the one who gets to open their eyes to a whole new world, maybe even change their lives. Nothing can beat the first time in a foreign country with its new sights and sounds and smells. The only things you really need for this job are a love of travel, local knowledge and a desire to show others everything you know!

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

31 Why does the writer mention dust on top of a wardrobe?

A to highlight the negative points of the hotel she worked in

B to describe the kinds of jobs she had to do as part of her role

C to point out how unpleasant some of the hotel guests could be

D to support the reasons she gives about not enjoying hotel work

32 What does the writer do in the second paragraph?

A correct a belief about what her job involves

B explain why she chose to switch careers

C warn readers against doing a particular role

D clarify which parts of her job she enjoys

33 What does *commentaries* mean in line 26?

A feedback

B criticisms

C descriptions

D notes

34 How did the writer feel before going to work in Spain?

A concerned that it would affect how she felt about it

B surprised by how much she remembered about it

C convinced that she had made the right decision

D excited about starting a new adventure

35 What does the writer suggest about the questions she is asked in her current job?

A They can be amusing.

B They can be irritating.

C They can be challenging.

D They can be unexpected.

36 What is the main point of the text?

A to provide a description of an average day as a tour guide

B to encourage readers to consider becoming a tour guide

C to inform readers of what being a tour guide involves

D to describe the different jobs available in tourism

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Part 6

You are going to read an article about swimming. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A** – **G** the one which fits each gap (**37** – **42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Why swimming is the best form of exercise

Many of our childhood memories centre around swimming pools, lakes and rivers, and the great fun we had splashing around in them. What we probably didn't realise at the time is how good all that diving and racing was – we were just having a good time!

37 _____ It's more effective than running or going to the gym, they say, and there's less risk of injury in water than there is doing competitive sports like football or tennis. Because there's no impact on your joints, such as knees, ankles and wrists, you can still get a great cardio workout. It also comes without the long-term negative effects associated with some other sports.

Swimming up and down repetitively might seem a little boring to some, but it can be fun and is an important life skill. It's also something that can be done year-round, whether you're cooling off in the summer heat or still managing to get your exercise in when there's snow on the ground. And unlike many other forms of exercise, it works your whole body. **38** _____ This is because it allows them to build strength without causing more damage.

Swimming uses more of the body's major muscle groups than any other cardio workout. This includes strengthening the legs, back and arms, and depending on which swimming stroke you employ, you gain additional strength in different core areas. **39** _____ For example, when you do a workout in the pool, your lungs get a workout at the same time. Studies have shown that swimmers have stronger lungs on average than other kinds of athletes.

As with many things, there's a drawback. Those who swim competitively, and therefore spend a considerable amount of time training in a chlorinated indoor pool, could be affected by the chemicals in the water. **40** _____ Fortunately, there is a solution: train outdoors. Or if that isn't possible, try doing a variety of training exercises instead of focusing solely on being in the pool.

Yet another advantage of swimming is its low cost. While many sports require a financial layout in terms of equipment and other resources, swimming requires relatively little to get started. All you need is a swimsuit and goggles and you're off! **41** _____ And it goes without saying that if you live by the beach, you've got a free swimming pool on your doorstep.

And what if you missed out on swimming training as a young child? The prospect of jumping in a pool and trying to stay afloat can be daunting. Join a group and keep it simple, building up from shorter distances to longer ones. Breathing and stroke techniques are important. **42** _____ You'll be burning calories and having fun before you know it!

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A And that's not the only physical benefit of swimming.

B Most local pools offer great deals on membership, too, keeping payouts to a minimum.

C Provided you use these techniques, doing so is completely safe.

D This can result in symptoms similar to those which asthma sufferers endure.

E And, as in any other sport, the best way to succeed is to make manageable goals and do your best to stick to them.

F Athletes who have injured themselves doing other activities often turn to swimming to aid in the recovery process.

G You've heard it before, of course: swimming is considered by many to be the best form of exercise there is.

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Part 7

You are going to read an article about four people who are training to do an activity. For questions **43** – **52**, choose from the people (**A** – **D**). The people may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which person

points out an aspect of her activity which is often overlooked? **43** ☐

says she is realistic about what she may be able to achieve? **44** ☐

says that acquiring her skill is not something that can be rushed? **45** ☐

acknowledges the need to be open-minded about her future? **46** ☐

is encouraged to put in maximum effort in her activity? **47** ☐

was nervous about taking part in her activity at first? **48** ☐

decided to do her activity after seeing someone she knew do it? **49** ☐

says she had no particular intention of training for her activity? **50** ☐

recognises the value that her chosen skill might have? **51** ☐

says her activity has helped her look at things in a different way? **52** ☐

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I'm in training!

Four young people talk about what they're learning to do outside school

A Carolina

'I'm at a youth academy for football and all I can say is that it's as exhausting as it exciting! There's no guarantee I'll ever play for a professional team, but it's great to have been recognised for my potential. There still aren't as many professional women's teams as men's, and it never entered my mind to give it a go until my sports teacher at school said I had talent. That motivated me to work harder and after I went to see my first football match, I was hooked on the idea of playing for one of the top teams. I'm determined to do well in my academic studies, though. Anything could happen: I could be injured, not live up to expectations … My parents are encouraging me to think of alternative careers, just in case, and I've got one or two ideas of things I wouldn't mind doing instead.'

B Amy

'Since my school started up a debating society, I've become really interested in public speaking. I don't want a career in it – become a politician or anything – but it's a useful skill to have. Loads of jobs need you to make presentations or run meetings, and being confident and able to get your message across is essential. I love the debates which are held during school lunchtimes when it's too wet to go out. We discuss anything and everything, and practise building our arguments and providing support for them. It was pretty scary having to speak in front of everyone initially. Sometimes our teacher makes us argue an opinion which isn't what we naturally think and you have to consider all the angles of an issue, which I reckon helps you understand other people's points of view better – and that makes you a better listener as well.'

C Laura

'I've been working towards my ambition of becoming a ballet dancer since I was a little kid. Some of my friends don't take me seriously because it's such a "girly" thing to want to do. I don't take any notice. They have no idea how challenging ballet training is. Professional dancers are super strong and athletic, which often gets ignored – it isn't about standing on your toes in pretty dresses! And the training can be brutal! It hurts your feet and you have to work hard to build up your strength – a lot of dancers go to the gym. That's pretty boring but it's one way to increase your stamina, which is crucial when you're building up to being on stage every night for as long as a performance runs. That's quite a way in the future yet for me, but I attend a specialist ballet school and they certainly push us to our limits.'

D Jennifer

'I haven't decided whether I want to be a sailor, but I love my sailing lessons. I may never have developed an interest in being out on the water if I hadn't grown up near the sea. My parents do dinghy racing – racing small boats – and before I was old enough to join in, I'd stand there on the beach, watching in awe with my grandparents. It's tough "learning the ropes". You have to understand weather conditions and make decisions based on that. Contrary to what I expected, you don't need to be that strong, but there are loads of technical terms to get your head round. And it goes without saying that you shouldn't mind getting wet! Sailing's not something you should expect to pick up overnight, and there's a lot of expertise required. But when you're out there on the waves, nothing can beat that feeling.'

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