

## Answer Scheme JC2 Preliminary Examination August 2024 (Version 28 Aug)

### From Passage 1

1) In the opening sentence, what contrast does the author make between the perceptions of nostalgia? (2m)

From the passage	Paraphrased
Depending on whom you ask, nostalgia has either been described as being a <b>warm fuzzy</b> feeling by one who is <u>sentimental</u> ,	The author wants to show that nostalgia can be perceived as... A) something that gives one a feeling of <b>happiness</b> or <b>contentment</b> to a person moved by emotions...  <i>Accept: 'cosy / comfortable'</i> <i>Good / positive = imprecise = no credit</i> <i>warm fuzzy ≠ heartfelt / heartwarming (partial lift)</i>
or something that can be <b>capitalised</b> on as a 'hipster heritage impulse' by another with a sharp business <u>acumen</u> .	B) or which can be <b>monetised</b> by one who is <u>business savvy / experienced in business</u> .  <i>Note: Mention of stakeholders not required</i> <i>exploited / leveraged = BOD</i> <i>2 or 0 mark</i>

2) Identify **two** ways in Paragraph 2 which illustrate how 'nostalgia does not always sit well with our modern-day practical sensibilities' (line 18). (2m)

From the passage	Paraphrased
which can <u>stand in the way</u> of <b>progressive</b> and <b>efficient</b> <u>use of space</u> .	Nostalgia... A) <u>prevents</u> the <b>productive / optimal allocation of land</b> .  <i>BOD: effective</i>
Quaint but uneven cobblestone walkways <b>run contrary</b> to modern attempts to build <b>infrastructure</b> <u>for</u> the <b>differently-abled</b> ...	B) Preserving historical footpaths are <b>impractical</b> because they do not allow for the <b>handicapped to traverse smoothly</b> .  <i>Accept 'disabled'</i> <i>Differently-abled ≠ special needs</i>

<p>...rise of socio-cultural clashes between newly arrived migrants and the local populace, with the latter <b>resenting</b> <u>globally</u> famous brands perceived as symbols of <u>cultural imperialism</u>, even as these brands offer <b>wider variety</b> at a <b>lower cost</b> compared to <u>local</u> traditional businesses.</p>	<p>C1) Local people protect their own community / customary establishments while <b>blocking / are disapproving of international companies...</b> C2) that provide a <b>diverse array of products / products at a cheaper price.</b></p> <p><i>Any 2 points for 2 marks Need C1 and C2 for 1 mark Need to have 'global' vs 'local' but no need to paraphrase</i></p>
---	--

3) From lines 19-21, explain **two** ways in which the author uses language to convey the challenges of modern-day life. (2m)

From the passage	Explanation
A) bruised soul	The author uses the phrase 'bruised soul' to exemplify that modern life has <b>challenges that hurt or damage one's inner being.</b> <i>people facing difficulties / hardships = no credit</i>
B) flood <u>of foreigners</u>	The author uses the phrase 'flood of foreigners' to convey how the citizens have to <b>grapple with the impacts of many foreigners entering their countries.</b> <i>BOD: If a complete quote isn't provided, reference to 'foreigners' must be present in the explanation for the answer to be credited. 'Impact' = needed to show link to 'challenges'</i>
C) unrelenting	The author uses the word 'unrelenting' to describe <b>how the pace of change does not let up / cease.</b>
D) stream <u>of change</u>	The author uses the phrase 'stream of change' to describe how changes in modern society are <b>continuous / come one after the other.</b> <i>overwhelming = BOD</i>
E) discomfoting	The author uses the word 'discomfoting' to describe how modern life <b>makes one feel uneasy.</b>
F) disorienting	The author uses the word 'disorienting' to describe how modern life <b>confuses one.</b>

- *Any 2 ways correctly identified AND explained for 2 marks*
- *Word / complete phrases MUST be identified & put in quotation marks for credit*

4) According to the author, what are the characteristics of a 'simpler, slower way of life' (line 24)? (2m)

From the passage	Paraphrased
<b>humble possessions</b> are <b>skillfully</b> handmade and sold...	A) It is when <b>modest / simple personal belongings</b> are <b>intricately / masterfully / deftly / very well created</b> by craftsmen... <i>humble ≠ basic</i> <i>BOD: ordinary, everyday, day-to-day items</i> <i>skillfully ≠ professionally made</i>
and where the <b>traditional</b> arts of craftsmen are also <b>elevated</b> ...	B) where the <b>long-established</b> arts of the craftsmen have their <b>status raised / are celebrated / promoted</b> ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Note: craftsmen's work receives acknowledgement</i></li> <li>• <i>BOD: original arts / old / cultural (= beliefs and behaviours of a particular group of people)</i></li> </ul>
symbolising the allure of a <b>stable</b> and <b>unchanging unique</b> , local identity.	C) that signify the attraction of a <b>steady / constant</b> , and <b>special</b> local identity. <i>Allow lift of 'craftsmen' and 'local identity'</i> <i>stable = lasting / fixed = BOD</i> <i>1-2 points = 1 mark</i> <i>3 points = 2 marks</i>

5) In paragraph 4, what contrast does the author make in the use of nostalgia in politics in the United States? (2m)

From the passage	Inference
In his presidential acceptance speech in 2008, Barack Obama, the first black president of the United States, popularised the political slogan 'Yes we can!' to <b>unite</b> a disenfranchised and divided country to embrace the <b>possibilities</b> of the future, by drawing on the <b>collective strength</b> of the nation <u>in battling slavery, overcoming the Great Depression and emerging triumphant in World War Two.</u>	<b>Strategy:</b> A1) Obama uses nostalgia by focusing on the <b>victories of the nation</b> in overcoming challenges in history / <b>nation's historic victories</b> ... <b>Outcome:</b> A2) to <b>bring together</b> a <u>polarised country / disillusioned / marginalised</u> citizens. <i>Accept if context is missing</i>  A3) [key idea: look to future] to <b>welcome a hopeful future / to move forward</b> as a country.

Yet nostalgia, while having the potency to unite the masses with a shared history, could equally **fracture** a nation – by uniting those who **yearn for a return** to a better **imagined** past while **unfairly blaming** parties today for **destroying** that same past. Said Donald Trump in his 2020 pre-Independence Day rally, ‘Our nation is witnessing a merciless campaign by the Democrats to wipe out our history, defame our heroes, erase our values, and indoctrinate our children.’

**Strategy:**

B1) However in Trump’s case, nostalgia is used to refer to an **idealised past**...

**Outcome:**

B2) to **break up** society / by **accusing** those who have caused the demise of a more desirable past.

- *Accept if given answer only mentions ‘unfairly blaming / accusing others’ (underlined part) without the outcome of breaking up society.*
- *Accept if ‘accuse’ context is missing*

B3) [key idea: stay in past] as an excuse to **wallow in / remain in / want to go back to** the past (that has been unfairly glorified / blindly glamorised).

*1 mark for 1 correctly identified and paraphrased pair of contrast*

*A1 + B1 = 1m*

*A2 + B2 = 1m*

*A3 + B3 = 1m*

6) How does the final sentence in paragraph 5 provide an effective ending to the author’s argument? (1m)

From the passage	Suggested Answer
How else are <b>we</b> able to resist looking back and replaying memories that have come to <b>define</b> and <b>contribute</b> to who we are?	<p><b>A1) Function:</b> The author uses a <b>rhetorical question</b> to reinforce how / emphasise his view of how...</p> <p><b>A2) Contextual explanation:</b> <b>fundamental / significant / natural</b> reminiscing about the past is. OR A2) everyone thinks about their past which <b>decides</b> / <b>adds to</b> their self-identity / sense of self.</p> <p><b>B1) Function:</b> The author uses 'we' to make the reader <b>feel included / for the purpose of inclusivity</b>...</p> <p><b>B2) Contextual Explanation:</b> pertaining to how nostalgia is <b>a shared concern</b> / to highlight how reminiscing about the past is <b>universal</b>.</p>

### Summary

7) Summarise the reasons why nostalgia can be **harmful**. Write your summary in no more than 120 words. [8]

Main Idea		From Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
Romanticise	A	it can also ensnare us when it <b>distorts</b> the past into something <b>idealised</b> . OR Nations may <b>romanticise</b> historical narratives (line 14)	Nostalgia can... trap us by <b>turning / transforming / manipulating</b> the past into <b>something unrealistic (inferred)</b> / cause us to see the past through <b>rose-tinted glasses</b>
Overlook austerity	B	they <b>overlook</b> the <b>austerity</b> that came along with it.	... they <b>ignore</b> the <b>severity / sombre / harsh conditions</b> that accompanied it.
Distorts perception of reality	C	<b>distorts</b> one's <b>perception</b> of <u>reality</u> and	... <b>warps / misrepresent / manipulate</b> one's <b>view of what is real</b> <i>distorts ≠ changes (lacks intensity, imprecise)</i> <i>distorts MUST be paraphrased</i>
Disaffection	D	<b>cultivate disaffection</b> with the present.	and <b>fosters dissatisfaction</b> with the present.
Always yearning for the past	E	Individuals may become trapped in a <b>cycle of longing for a time gone by</b> .	People may find themselves caught in a <b>loop / pattern of yearning for the past</b> .

No innovation	F	[It can also lead to a sense of stagnation] where individuals may <b>resist innovation</b> as they <b>fear venturing beyond the familiar</b> .	People might <b>avoid / refuse improving / making creative changes</b> because they <b>are afraid of leaving the comfort of what they know</b> .
No personal growth	G	It can also lead to a sense of <b>stagnation</b> OR ...reluctance to adapt <b>stifles</b> personal <b>development</b> and <b>prevent</b> individuals from <b>seizing new opportunities</b> for fulfilment.	This can become <b>inertia / failure to advance</b> OR and <b>hinders</b> personal <b>growth</b> and <b>stop people from embracing new chances</b> for satisfaction
Toxic	H	nostalgia is like a toxic cloud that <b>poisons</b> the <b>unknowing masses</b> .	Nostalgia <b>insidiously harms / corrupts unsuspecting / ignorant</b> groups / <b>those who do not know better</b>
Cultural Superiority	I	nostalgia can <b>fuel myths</b> of cultural <b>superiority</b> .	can drive <b>unfounded stories / narratives of cultural dominance / ethnocentrism</b>
Downplaying evil	J	<b>glossing over darker chapters</b> of their history	<b>downplaying the bleak / sinister / ominous parts</b> of their history <i>glossing over ≠ negates</i> <i>Must show intensity for 'darker chapters'</i>
Sabotage reconciliation	K	This can sow the seeds of discord by <b>undermining efforts</b> toward <b>reconciliation</b> with other countries.	create conflict / disharmony by <b>sabotaging attempts at finding agreement / compromise / settlement</b> with other nations <i>reconciliation ≠ reuniting</i> <i>Both parts needed for K</i>
Hinder cohesion through rigidity	L	nationalist nostalgia can hinder cohesion by promoting a <b>rigid adherence to</b> traditional norms. OR Societies may resist inclusivity and <b>cling on to outdated</b> beliefs and practices (line 17-18)	impede unity by encouraging <b>the strict following of</b> long-established / time-honoured practices OR holding on to <b>irrelevant</b> ideologies / mindset and rites / routines / behaviours that...
Populist agendas	M	Nationalist nostalgia can be <b>manipulated</b> for political gain, serving as a tool to rally support around <b>populist agendas</b> ...	<b>pander to the masses at the expense of societal good</b> ( <i>inferred</i> ) / <b>demagoguery</b>

Reduce inclusivity	N	Societies may <b>resist inclusivity</b> [...] while <b>perpetuating injustices</b> .  OR Politicians may exploit nostalgic sentiments to <b>scapegoat marginalised groups</b> .	Societies <b>might refuse / repel / turn down being accepting / non-discriminatory</b> , and continue to <b>create inequality / unfairness</b> .  OR Leaders may take advantage of nostalgic feelings to <b>blame the disadvantaged / disenfranchised</b> .
Encourage authoritarianism	O	This exploitation can erode social cohesion, creating fertile ground for <b>authoritarianism to flourish</b> .	... providing a breeding ground for <b>dictators / tyrants / autocrats to thrive</b> .

<b>Points</b>	1-2	3-4	5	6	7	8	9	≥10
<b>Marks</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>

## NITS

8) Passage 1 states that 'nostalgia can be canned and sold' (line 22).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to support this statement. Justify your answer. (2m)

there is <b>strong preference</b> for <b>expensive</b> and <b>exquisite</b> limited local handmade folk crafts to the cheap homogeneity of factory-made goods... (lines 6-7)	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>A1. There is a <b>powerful / significant / marked inclination</b> towards <b>pricey</b> and <b>finely crafted</b> local handmade folk art...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>A2. which supports Passage 1's idea that nostalgia can be packaged and marketed as <i>there is a <b>demand / appreciation for / people find meaning in quality products / because people are tired of poorly made / mass-produced things</b></i>.</p>
<p><u>Our district's</u> <b>mystical charm</b> evokes a sense of wonder for many visitors, drawing them in with the promise of being swept away to Japan's past (lines 2-4)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>By incorporating handcrafted <b>traditional decor...</b> (line 8)</p>	<p><b>Identify [inferred]</b></p> <p>B1. The historic area / Businesses create a nostalgic <b>ambience</b> that reminds visitors of the olden days...</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The <b>antiquated / pleasantly old-fashioned shop furnishings</b> that surround visitors...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p>

	<p>B2. supports Passage 1's idea that nostalgia can be <u>packaged and marketed</u> because <i>an environment is created to <u>compel</u> people to make purchases.</i></p>
<p>and offering <b>generations-old</b> snacks that visitors can <b>bring back home</b> to their loved ones... (lines 7-9)</p>	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>C1. <b>Nostalgic</b> goods can be presented as <b>gifts / souvenirs</b> when we return to the people that we care for...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>C2. supports Passage 1's idea that nostalgia can be <u>packaged and marketed</u> as <i>the souvenirs can be recognised as <u>having value</u> that visitors want to share with loved ones / is easily appreciated by their receivers / as others at home can also <u>appreciate the heritage</u> through the gifts.</i></p>
<p><b>Traditional</b> costume <b>rentals</b> and historic <b>reenactments</b> further amplify this effect... (lines 10-11)</p>	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>D1. <b>Customary wear / apparel</b> can be <b>hired</b> by visitors and tourists, along with <b>watching</b> historic <b>performances</b>...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>D2. supports Passage 1's idea that nostalgia can be <u>packaged and marketed</u> because people <i>desire to <u>relive the past</u> / want the <u>nostalgic experience</u>, which can be achieved in the form of renting customary wear.</i></p>

9) Passage 2 states that nostalgia can 'erode social cohesion' (line 21).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to undermine this statement. Justify your answer. (2m)

<p>...consistently <b>attracting large crowds</b> and <b>fostering a sense of strong</b>, albeit transient, community. (lines 11-12)</p>	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>A1. Nostalgia can <b>bring together</b> a big group of people and cultivate a spirit of <b>camaraderie</b>...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>A2. which undermines Passage 2's idea that it deteriorates group solidarity / unity as <i>nostalgia has the <u>appeal to bring like-minded people together</u> / nostalgia is the common factor that draws diverse groups of people together</i></p>
--	---



<p>Additionally, the heritage district's nostalgic appeal has <b>increased collaboration</b> among my fellow local businesses. (lines 13-14)</p>	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>B1. Nostalgia has resulted in <b>more</b> local businesses <b>working together</b>...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>B2. which undermines Passage 2's idea that it deteriorates group solidarity / unity as <i>it is instead used to <b>bring what might otherwise be business rivals together / turn business rivals into business partners.</b></i></p>
<p>'We've <b>formed alliances</b> to <b>preserve</b> the area's historical <b>integrity</b> while <b>promoting</b> each other's <b>offerings.</b>' (lines 14-15)</p>	<p><b>Identify</b></p> <p>C1. Nostalgia has led to the <b>creation of partnerships</b> to <b>maintain</b> the area's historical <b>authenticity</b> while <b>supporting</b> one another's business...</p> <p><b>Justify</b></p> <p>C2. which undermines Passage 2's idea that it deteriorates group solidarity / unity as <i>it is instead used to <b>bring what might otherwise be business rivals to work together / it encourages business cooperation instead of rivalry / it enables businesses to cooperate to save their heritage.</b></i></p>

### Application Question

10) The author presents arguments about the impact of nostalgia on our world today. How far do you agree that a longing for the past is more beneficial than harmful?

Support your answer with reference to:

- the ideas and opinions of at least one of the reading passages
- examples drawn from your own experience and that of your society.