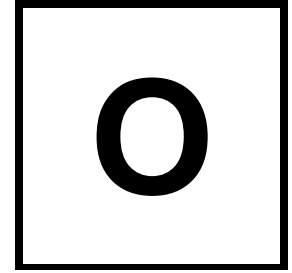




**NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, 2021**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Paper 1 Writing

**1128/01**

**23 August 2021**

**1 hour 50 minutes**

INSERT

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

This Insert contains the text for **Section B**.

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This document consists of **2** printed pages.

**[Turn over**

# Student Council Forum

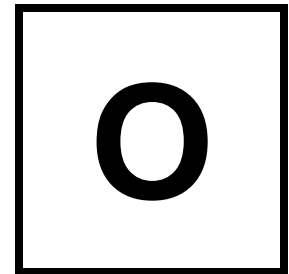
[Features](#)
[Sign Up](#)
[Log In](#)

| Latest topic – Ideas for e-Open House Video   | User  |
|---|---|
| <p>I love a fun theme with the use of bright colours and upbeat music! That is an attention-grabber! Our school is known for our sporting achievements so why not showcase one of our sports co-curricular activities (CCAs)?</p> <p> 26 likes</p>  | <p><b>Laila</b><br/>41 posts<br/>Last posted yesterday</p>      |
| <p>Don't we all love hanging out at Moonlight Café, our very own student-run café? Oh, I am the barista on duty next week, so please do visit! As for colours, grey and pastel yellow work best. Use classical music to create the right mood!</p> <p> 29 likes</p>   | <p><b>John</b><br/>24 posts<br/>Last posted a few days ago</p>  |
| <p>We must show off our students' artwork! Isn't our school known for its Visual Arts Programme? Don't forget to feature the vegetable garden! After all, the different classes did put their scientific knowledge to good use! Trendy dance music would be good. What does everyone think?</p> <p> 31 likes</p>  | <p><b>Amy</b><br/>10 posts<br/>Last posted a few days ago</p>   |
| <p>We did well in both the Modern Dance and Indian Classical Dance competitions this year, remember? Why not include snippets of the dances? Every year, students create wonderful Science projects too, so feature them! Somebody won the Young Scientist Award too, right? Oh, and nothing beats rock music if we want the video to be lively!</p> <p> 27 likes</p>                   | <p><b>Mohan</b><br/>16 posts<br/>Last posted a few days ago</p> |
| <p>Feature the National Cadet Corps (NCC) as they perform their drills! We must also show the performance space in the library, where every student has a chance to showcase their talents in singing, acting or dancing! And didn't we just finish our Inter-class Debates Competition? Show how confident our students have become due to the English programme!</p> <p> 28 likes</p> | <p><b>Farouk</b><br/>18 posts<br/>Last posted a week ago</p>    |

[<](#)
[1](#)
[2](#)
[3](#)
[4](#)
[5](#)
[>](#)



# NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, 2021



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1 Writing

Setter: Mrs. Crescendra Chong

**1128/01**

**23 August 2021**

**1 hour 50 minutes**

Candidates answer in the Question Booklet

Additional Materials: Insert

### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **Section A**, **Section B** and one question from **Section C**.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question Booklet.

The Insert contains the text for **Section B**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the head of each section.

| For Examiner's Use |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Section A          | /10 |
| Section B          | /30 |
| Section C          | /30 |
| Total              | /70 |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's  
Signature

This document consists of **14** printed pages and **1** Insert.

[Turn over

## Section A [10 marks]

## Question 1

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about The Leaning Tower of Pisa. The first and last lines are correct. For eight of the lines, there is one grammatical error in each line. There are two more lines with no errors.

If there is NO error in a line, put a tick (✓) in the space provided.

If the line is incorrect, circle the incorrect word and write the correct word in the space provided.

The correct word you provide must not change the original meaning of the sentence.

Examples:

I arrived (to) my destination at 2 pm.

at

My mother always wears sensible clothes.

✓

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is a freestanding bell tower in the Italian city

of Pisa. The tower was constructed in 1173 as part of a project to flaunt

1 .....

a military victories of Pisa. Due to its unstable foundation, the tower leans

2 .....

four degrees south and is slightly curve as a result of attempts to keep it

3 .....

from toppling off. Many ideas have been suggested to straighten the

4 .....

tower, including taking it apart stone by stone and rebuild it at a different

5 .....

location. In 2001, the stabilisation work of removing small volumes of soil

6 .....

from the foundation were successfully completed. At least four strong

7 .....

earthquakes have hit the region since the year 1280, or the tower has not

8 .....

collapse. At present, the tower is a popular tourist destination and a

9 .....

UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tourists which enjoy taking creative

10 .....

photographs of the tower often make fun of its tilt.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (    )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B [30 marks]****You are advised to write between 250 and 350 words for this section.****Question 2**

You should look at the printout from a webpage in the Insert, study the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

Your school is intending to put together a virtual showcase of some of its facilities and programmes for an e-Open House event. The finished product would be a five-minute video that captures some of the school's academic programmes, a Co-curricular Activity (CCA) and an interesting school facility.

As the President of the Student Council, you have been tasked to propose the style and concept for this video, as well as some broad plans for publicising this video. You sought input from your council members, who posted their suggestions on the Student Council's online forum.

Write an email to your Principal with your proposed ideas and plans.

You must include the following details:

- two academic programmes and a Co-curricular Activity
- an interesting school facility
- why you have chosen these as part of the showcase
- the overall concept of the video
- how the video can be promoted to members of the public.

Write your email in clear, accurate English and in a polite and persuasive tone, showing your passion in promoting your school.

You may add any other details you think will be helpful.

You should use your own words as much as possible.

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Please write your chosen question number (**3, 4, 5 or 6**) here: .....









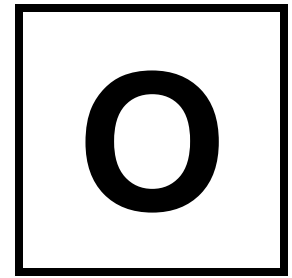
179

1. [www.towerofpisa.org](http://www.towerofpisa.org) and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaning\\_Tower\\_of\\_Pisa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaning_Tower_of_Pisa)
2. Images from [www.creativecommons.com](http://www.creativecommons.com)





**NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, 2021**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Paper 2  
Comprehension

**1128/02**

**23 August 2021  
1 hour 50 minutes**

INSERT

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

This Insert contains Text 1, Text 2 and Text 3.

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This document consists of **6** printed pages and **1** Insert.

**[Turn over**

## Section A

## Text 1

Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1–4 on the Question Paper.


x
+

←
→
↻
🔍
www.worldvision.org
☆
0
🌐
⋮

## World Vision Singapore

Where you can sponsor a child | Stories of Sponsored Children | Community Achievements | FAQs



**SPONSOR A CHILD**  
Because every child needs someone like you  
[START TODAY](#)



### World Vision Singapore

World Vision Singapore works in several vulnerable countries to uplift those stuck in poverty, violence and injustice, so that they can start on a journey towards a better life. World Vision's main charity initiative for these children and communities is through the Child Sponsorship Programme. When you sponsor a child in need with World Vision Singapore, your donation paves their paths towards nutrition, child protection, education and clean water, among others. When you sponsor a child, the joy they feel is indescribable. Just knowing that someone across the globe cares means more than you can imagine.

A sponsored child receives:



**Food**



**Clean water**



**Education**



**Healthcare**

### Find Out More about Child Sponsorship!

Supporting a child away from Singapore through a children's charity can seem daunting and uncertain. Ease your worries and fears of child sponsorship through our frequently asked questions (FAQs) or by contacting us at 69220100. You can also click [here](#) to find out more.

## Section B

## Text 2

*The text below is about the writer's experience travelling to Laos. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5–13 on the Question Paper.*

- 1 When I said to my friends in May 1998 that I was planning to visit Laos, I was greeted with a variety of reactions. Most common was a blank stare. It soon became apparent to me that generally very little is known about this Southeast Asian country. News and stories of Vietnam and Cambodia are common in the media as these countries open their doors to the profits of tourism and foreign investment. Laos, however, gives the impression of being more uncertain of how it wants to present itself to an outside world that may do it more harm than good. It is legitimately wary of welcoming foreign visitors or industries which may not respect the traditions and customs of its people. Consequently, tourism in Laos is moving much more slowly than in other parts of Indochina. The fact was, I did not know much about the country either, and it was this sense of mystery which made it such an enticing destination. Steeped in culture, it is certainly a place not to be missed. 5 10
- 2 Laos, I discovered, is a landlocked country bordered by Thailand, Myanmar, China, Cambodia and Vietnam. Today, there is a lack of significant foreign influence. Many countries have created a tourist industry trying to cater to the needs and whims of foreigners and to attract massive amounts of currency. The Laotian government, however, feels that this can result in the destruction of the character and culture of the country. Luxury hotels, fast food restaurants and shopping malls can be seen almost anywhere and as an inveterate traveller, I was keen to see something different before the whole world became a huge shopping mall. 15
- 3 As I stood on the Friendship Bridge over the mighty Mekong, I was exhausted because my sleep on the overnight train through Thailand had become non-existent. There was a raucous card game in the adjoining cabin. But I was also thrilled because I was about to cross into the country that I had been dreaming of visiting for a long time. Exactly why I wanted to visit was somewhat irrational, but I suppose it had something to do with wanting to escape back in time to a country that seemed to exist in a simpler, less polluted age. 20
- 4 My passport had been stamped in Bangkok allowing me to stay in Laos for fourteen days, and I was about to pass through the border check. My backpack was heavy but I was greatly relieved to have escaped urban Bangkok where the sun was already fiercely hot. I had left late the previous evening from the central Bangkok station, but even at that hour, the traffic noise had been ceaseless and insistent. Throughout the city, the crush of human bodies had been overwhelming. But then at dawn, I had seen the sun rise over verdant green rice fields in northern Thailand. The sight I gazed upon was like a giant green tranquilliser. 25 30
- 5 I was looked over by a surly official in an ancient uniform. He looked suspiciously from my passport photograph to me to see if they were in any way the same. Eventually he seemed to conclude that they were. He smiled at me, stamped my passport, and said, "Welcome to Laos" in heavily-accented English. 35

- 6 I got back on the bus that would take me into Vientiane, the nation's capital. I had learnt from my research that the city still had a distinctly French influence that was not obvious in its architecture and food. As the antique bus navigated the pothole and dusty thirty kilometres into Vientiane, I tried to communicate with some of my fellow passengers. This was somewhat difficult because all I had managed to learn of the language was how to say "hello" and "goodbye" and "where is the toilet?". So I said "hello" to those people around me and they smiled back in a warm way that said far more than mere words could have done. I liked to think that the Laos people would be happy to see me in their country because I was interested in their culture and way of life. 40
- 7 The rice fields we drove past were a deep green and as the bus lurched onwards, children stared and waved and gave broad smiles before going back to catching eels with lengths of wire. The outskirts of Vientiane appeared but it was clear that this was no metropolis. This impressed me because it was so different. The architectural anarchy had great welcoming charm. The buildings consisted of simply-built timber huts and shops, squat concrete constructions in shades of grey and slightly darker grey, and more impressive French colonial structures. For the city, there was a pleasant absence of traffic and the cars looked like they should have retired long ago to an auto museum. The bus eventually arrived at the terminal and I was very quickly approached by a taxi driver who politely offered to drive me to my hotel. 45 50

## Section C

## Text 3

*The text below is about archaeology. Read it carefully and answer Questions 14–19 on the Question Paper.*

- 1 Why do people become archaeologists? Some discover archaeology in high school or college. Others develop an interest, thanks to an encounter with an excavation or the discovery of some artefact in the countryside. Or they become archaeologists by chance.
- 2 Indiana Jones is a powerful symbol of the archaeology that opened the twentieth century: a romantic swashbuckler awash in adventures and largely unencumbered by the demands of science. Many archaeologists have encountered spectacular finds and buried treasures. Many have also enjoyed unbridled adventures. Yet, many have had to, at one time or another, sort through bags of debris or classify endless painted ceramics. 5
- 3 How wonderful it would be to make momentous discoveries: to command great teams of labourers, and to cut a broad swath through ancient civilisations. Indiana Jones is, of course, a figment of Hollywood — an artefact of ‘good old days’ that never were. Yet there is more than a grain of truth in Indiana Jones. 10
- 4 The Victorians describe archaeology as a ‘calling’ — a job that transcends the usual boundaries of the workplace to become a genuine obsession. You will never become rich, but if you are lucky, and have the right kind of personality, you will achieve a profound fulfilment. Many successful archaeologists are bored or dissatisfied with their careers for a variety of reasons: lack of funding, a dead-end job, too heavy a teaching load. But by far the most common problem is a loss of passion for the past, an erosion of what was once an insatiable curiosity about the world around them. Archaeology, for them, has become a mere job. 15
- 5 Excitement and a strong commitment are essential qualities for any archaeologist. Modern-day archaeology, though often exciting, is a technical discipline where spectacular discoveries are few and far between. True, exciting finds occasionally hit the headlines, but most archaeologists labour far from the public eye, often on unspectacular and sometimes, downright monotonous sites. 20
- 6 Enthusiasm — a belief that archaeology has special importance in today’s world — is a rare and priceless quality. It is the fire in the belly that enables you to overcome major obstacles. Combine it with deep curiosity and an ability to ask difficult questions, and you have a remarkable archaeologist. Successful excavators have passion and utter conviction that their site is all-important and it is this belief that has enabled them to overcome seemingly insurmountable difficulties. 25 30
- 7 Enthusiasm is not enough. You must also have an unswerving commitment to professional ethics that ensures the integrity of your work: no private collecting for profit or personal gratification, publish your work promptly, curate and preserve your findings, and communicate to the wider audience. You also need other qualities, such as infinite patience, to carry out fieldwork that can involve slow-moving, repetitive tasks. A great deal of archaeology includes small attributes of stone tools and potsherds, analysing computerised data, or studying tiny details of the past for weeks on end, by excavating, dating and interpreting objects and sites of historical interest. An archaeologist has to implement excavation projects, informally known as digs, preserve archaeological remains and collect data that informs their understanding of the past. 35 40

- 8 Although archaeology usually takes place in teams, it is possible to work on a self-employed basis. Temporary contracts are common. You could be based outdoors at an excavation or site inspection, or indoors in an office, laboratory or museum, though you are increasingly likely to be based indoors as you progress. You must be adaptable — able to tolerate long journeys, uncomfortable fieldwork, and often-primitive living conditions. You need to be fit enough to walk long distances and to thrive on improvisation under difficult circumstances. 45
- 9 Archaeology is about human diversity, about disparate world views, and about cultures completely different from our own. It is about the living as much as the dead, about sensitivity to the feelings of others, and behaving ethically and honourably when dealing with people who have a violent cultural aversion to archaeology or deeply held spiritual feelings. Many of archaeology's most successful practitioners have invested enormous amounts of time in cultivating people and communicating with various cultural groups. Such skills require great patience and cultural sensitivity. In these days of uncontrolled materialism and instant gratification, there is something very attractive about a profession that requires commitment, enthusiasm, and ethical behaviour, as well as an understanding of other cultures. 50 55

**End of Insert**

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Text 1 World Vision Singapore: <http://www.worldvision.org.sg>  
 Text 2 The Economist Newspaper Limited, 1997, volume 344  
 Text 3 Ancient Lives: An Introduction to Archaeology and Prehistory by Brian M. Fagan

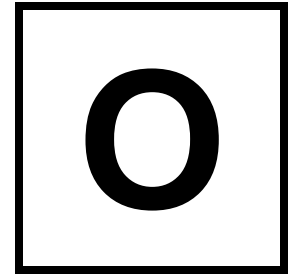








# NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION, 2021



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Comprehension  
Setter: Mrs Leong Wee Chin

**1128/02**

**23 August 2021**  
**1 hour 50 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.  
Additional Materials: Insert

### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, index number and class on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.  
Write your answers in the spaces provided on the Question Paper.  
The Insert contains the texts for all the sections.

The number of marks is given in brackets [   ] at the end of each question or part question.

| For Examiner's Use |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Section A          | /5  |
| Section B          | /20 |
| Section C          | /25 |
| Total              | /50 |

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent's/Guardian's  
Signature**

This document consists of **8** printed pages and **1** Insert.

**[Turn over**

## Section A [5 marks]

Refer to Text 1 on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1–4.

- 1 Look at the link at the top of the website which says '**Stories of Sponsored Children.**' What kind of stories about sponsored children do you think will be featured?
- .....
- ..... [1]
- 2 According to the webpage, what is the main aim of World Vision Singapore?
- .....
- ..... [1]
- 3 Look at the information under the heading '**World Vision Singapore**'. Which sentence conveys the same message as shown in the images above it?
- .....
- ..... [1]
- 4 Look at the photographs with the captions '**Food**' and '**Education**' below them. How does each photograph illustrate the benefits of the Child Sponsorship Programme?
- (i) .....
- .....
- (ii) .....
- ..... [2]

## Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 2 on pages 3–4 of the Insert for Questions 5–13.

- 5 (a) In Paragraph 1, give **one** reason why the writer's friends greeted his plan to visit Laos with a 'blank stare' (line 2).

.....  
 ..... [1]

- (b) Which word in the same paragraph suggests that Laos is careful about the dangers of opening its country to foreign investment?

..... [1]

- 6 In Paragraph 1, the writer says, 'The fact was, I did not know much about the country either, and it was this sense of mystery which made it such an enticing destination. Steeped in culture, it is certainly a place not to be missed' (lines 9–11).

Which phrases in the given sentences describe the writer's reasons for wanting to visit Laos?

| Descriptions                             | Phrases from passage |
|--|----------------------|
| (i) a feeling of unexplained fascination |                      |
| (ii) attractive place                    |                      |
| (iii) rich in traditions                 |                      |

[3]

- 7 (a) From Paragraph 2, give **one** reason why many countries have opened their doors to tourists.

.....  
 ..... [1]

- (b) In the same paragraph, the writer states the Laotian government feels there can be one negative result of opening one's country to foreign influence. Explain **in your own words** what this negative result is.

.....  
 ..... [2]

- 8 In Paragraph 3, why did the writer say that his sleep on the overnight train had become 'non-existent' (line 20)?

.....  
 ..... [1]

- 9 In Paragraph 4, the writer describes the discomforts he faced in Bangkok. Explain how the language used emphasises these discomforts. Support your ideas with **three** details from the paragraph.

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....  
 ..... [3]

- 10 In Paragraph 4, the writer describes the sight he gazed upon as 'a giant green tranquilliser' (line 31). In what way is this expression particularly effective?

.....  
 ..... [1]

- 11 In Paragraph 7, the writer says 'The architectural anarchy had great welcoming charm' (lines 48–49). Explain why this description is unusual.

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [2]

**12** Which expression in Paragraph 7 describes the poor condition of the cars?

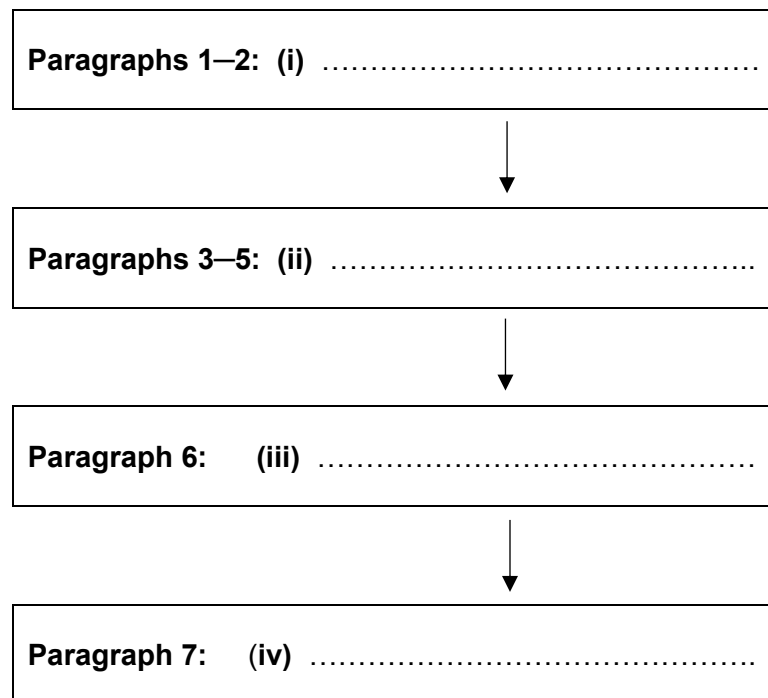
..... [1]

**13** The structure of the text reflects the different stages of the writer's plans to visit Laos as well as his travels there. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the stage of the visit described in each part of the text. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use.

**Stages of the writer's plans to visit Laos and his travels there**

|                        |                       |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| working for the future | positive observations | seeking to understand |
| warm welcome           | searching for help    | looking for trouble   |
| unpleasant experiences |                       |                       |

**Flow chart**

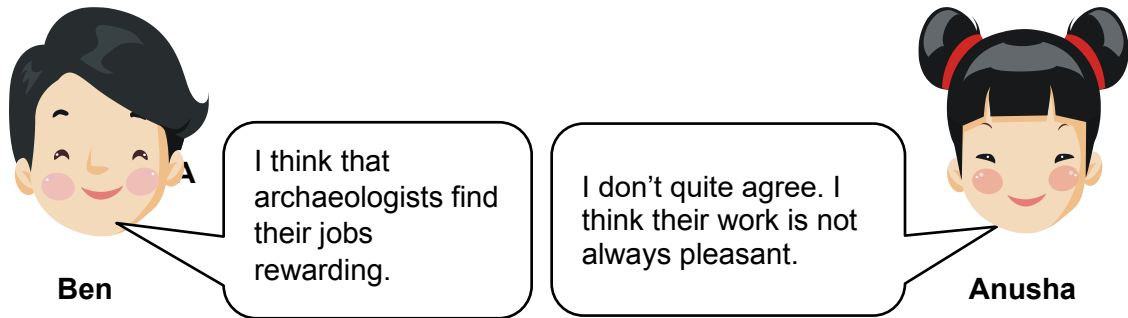


[4]

## Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on pages 5–6 of the Insert for Questions 14–19.

- 14 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Ben and Anusha, who have read the article.



- (a) Identify **two** examples from Paragraph 2 that Ben can give to support his view.

(i) .....

(ii) ..... [2]

- (b) With reference to Paragraph 2, how would Anusha explain her position?

.....

..... [1]

- 15 What does it mean to describe Indiana Jones as a 'figment of Hollywood' (line 11)?

.....

..... [1]

- 16 (a) In Paragraph 4, explain **in your own words** what the writer means when he says archaeology is a 'calling' (line 13).

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (b) Which phrase in Paragraph 4 tells you that archaeology does not offer any prospects and is not worth pursuing?

..... [1]

- 17 From Paragraph 8, give **one** reason why archaeology can be physically demanding.

.....

..... [1]

- 18 In Paragraph 9, what does the writer mean when he says archaeologists have to invest a lot of time in 'cultivating people' and 'communicating with various cultural groups' (line 52)? **Answer in your own words.**

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 19 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the essential qualities of an archaeologist, and the reasons why these qualities are necessary.

**Use only information from paragraphs 5 to 7.**

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin).

*A good archaeologist is one who feels a sense of .....*

.....

.....

.....

.....

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.....

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.....

.....

No of words:  [15]

**- END OF PAPER -**



