

ST ANDREW'S JUNIOR COLLEGE

JC2 Preliminary Examination



CANDIDATE NAME

CIVICS GROUP

INDEX NUMBER

GENERAL PAPER

8881/02

PAPER 2

27 AUGUST 2024

Comprehension Answer Booklet

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates are to answer in this booklet.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, Civics Group and register number on all the work you hand in.

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

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

Answer **all** questions.

The Insert contains the passage for comprehension.

Note that **15** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

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.

For Examiner's Use	
Content	/35
Language	/15
Total	/50

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages.

Answer **all** questions.

For
Examiner's
Use

Your answers should be:

- written **in your own words as far as possible**. Where you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it.
- written in **continuous prose**.

From Passage 1

1 What does the author mean by 'the shoe has dropped' (line 1)?

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.....[1]

2 Explain the author's use of the phrase, 'The glass is at least half full.' (lines 6–7).

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.....[2]

3 What are **three** reasons the author argues that lower birthrates might not be completely negative in paragraph 3?

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.....[3]

- 4 According to the author, how does the increase in life expectancy 'reshape lives and open up opportunities' (line 19)?

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.....[2]

- 5 From paragraph 5, what is the author suggesting about the impact of having more people on the planet?

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.....[2]

- 6 What is the author implying about policies to raise fertility by using the phrase 'birth machines' (lines 31–32)?

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.....[1]

From Passage 2

- 7 Summarise the drivers of the great fertility slump.

Write your summary in no more than 120 words.

[8]

From all the passages

- 8 Passage 1 states that 'but the alarmist warnings are often simplistic and premature' (line 6).

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

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.....[2]

- 9 Passage 2 states that 'rearing children gets short shrift because people pursue other, more individualist aims.' (lines 10–11).

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

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.....[2]

10 The reading passages cover a range of views about population decline.

How far do you agree that we need not worry about population decline?

Support your answer with reference to:

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

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