



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level  
Advanced International Certificate of Education

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**8693/23**

Paper 2 Composition

**October/November 2011**

**2 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**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 **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

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



Answer one question from Section A and one question from Section B

You should write between 600 and 900 words for each composition.

### Section A: Narrative/Descriptive/Imaginative Writing

- 1 Write a short story called *A Strange Meeting*. In your writing create a mood of tension and suspense.
- 2 Write a descriptive piece called *The Concert*. In your writing create a detailed sense of people and setting.
- 3 'Their eyes scanned the landscape below them: there was only one path they could take ...'  
  
Continue the opening to this story (although you do not have to write a complete story). In your writing create a sense of a mysterious future.
- 4 Write the thoughts and memories of a narrator who recalls feeling betrayed in her/his life. In your writing create a sense of character and place.

### Section B: Discursive/Argumentative Writing

- 5 Do you think it is possible for anyone to lead a truly moral life? Give detailed reasons for your views.
- 6 Write two letters to a national newspaper (between 300–450 words each). One letter argues that your country should have national service (a compulsory period of service in the armed forces); the other letter argues that national service is not necessary.
- 7 'Governments should never negotiate with terrorists in any circumstances.' What do you think?
- 8 Write a magazine article about three celebrities whom you think are overrated, giving reasons why you think this.

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