



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

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THINKING SKILLS

9694/22

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

October/November 2012

1 hour 45 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** the questions.

Start each question on a new answer sheet.

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

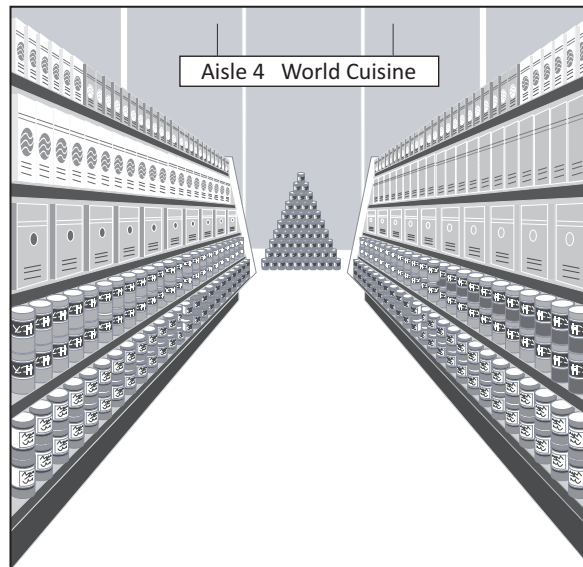
The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



- 1 Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.

Source A



Source B

Letter of complaint

from Benji's mother to Liddo supermarket head office

Dear Sir/Madam

I recently visited the Guildbridge branch of Liddo with my son, Benji. He was playing around in the shop, like any 5-year-old would, when he ran into a pile of cans at the end of one of your aisles and they fell on top of him. He was bruised as a result of this and very distressed by the incident. The cans were placed in a very stupid position, partially blocking the aisle. I feel the supermarket should be held liable for this accident and that the policies on displaying goods should be reviewed.

Yours truly

Jasmine Kitty

Source C

Extract from manager's report to head office

Mrs Kitty's child was not with her when the accident occurred and was in an adjoining aisle. Staff reports suggest that the child was behaving badly and running around in an excited manner, yelling "I want chocolate and I want it now!" The cans were displayed in a fashion consistent with our guidelines, and their positioning at the end of the aisle is a common practice in supermarket retailing, to maximise visual impact on customers.

Source D**Confidential report**

on Benji from his headteacher to the education department

Benji has been diagnosed as hyperactive by a psychologist and also suffering from attention deficit disorder. He is badly behaved in the classroom and he may need moving to a special class for difficult children. His mother is rather in denial about the problem, claiming Benji is perfectly well-behaved when at home.

Source E**Extracts from 'Grumpy Old People' chatroom**

Geri Atric

Kids in supermarkets, they really shouldn't be allowed. I was in the Guildbridge Liddo the other day and saw this kid crash into a display of cans – mother nowhere to be seen.

Silver Fox

I know what you mean but it must be difficult to control kids when you are trying to shop – can't the supermarkets provide crèches*?

Lily the Pink

The kids don't seem very well-controlled these days – mind you I walked into one of those displays once when I had put the wrong glasses on to go shopping.

* crèche: a facility provided by some organisations for temporary child care.

- (a) How reliable is the evidence given by the supermarket manager in Source C? [3]
- (b) How significant is the evidence in the confidential report in Source D? [3]
- (c) How useful is the evidence given in Source E? [3]
- (d) Should the supermarket be held liable for this accident? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, with critical reference to the evidence provided and with consideration of any plausible alternative scenarios. [6]

2 Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

Extract from magazine article

Fruit growers are using new technologies to develop ever more exotic hybrids, i.e. combining different fruits to create a new fruit. Examples are:

Plumcot – this is a plum/apricot hybrid

Grapple – this is an apple/grape hybrid

Jostaberry – this is a gooseberry/blackcurrant hybrid

So if you like grapes and apples you should like the grapple!

Source B

Extract from a scientific journal

Bananas may disappear in 10 years. All commercially-grown bananas are of a single variety, the Cavendish, which was artificially produced from a wild banana species. This variety is now highly vulnerable to a range of diseases such as black sigatoka fungus. Developing a new variety of banana will be difficult as the Cavendish is seedless. Moreover, wild banana species are rapidly becoming extinct due to deforestation and destruction of habitat. Other varieties have been grown by traditional farmers, but they too are fast disappearing.

Source C

Letter to editor of a food magazine

There are a number of scare stories about the increasingly popular practice of developing hybrid fruits. However, this scare-mongering is not justified by the evidence. Critics of hybrid fruit make a lot of the fact that they are seedless, but there are plants in nature that are seedless and reproduce in different ways. Hybridization is a very old practice and many fruits we think of as traditional are in fact hybrids, such as the loganberry which is a blackberry/raspberry hybrid. Furthermore, hybridization does not involve any genetic modification.

Source D

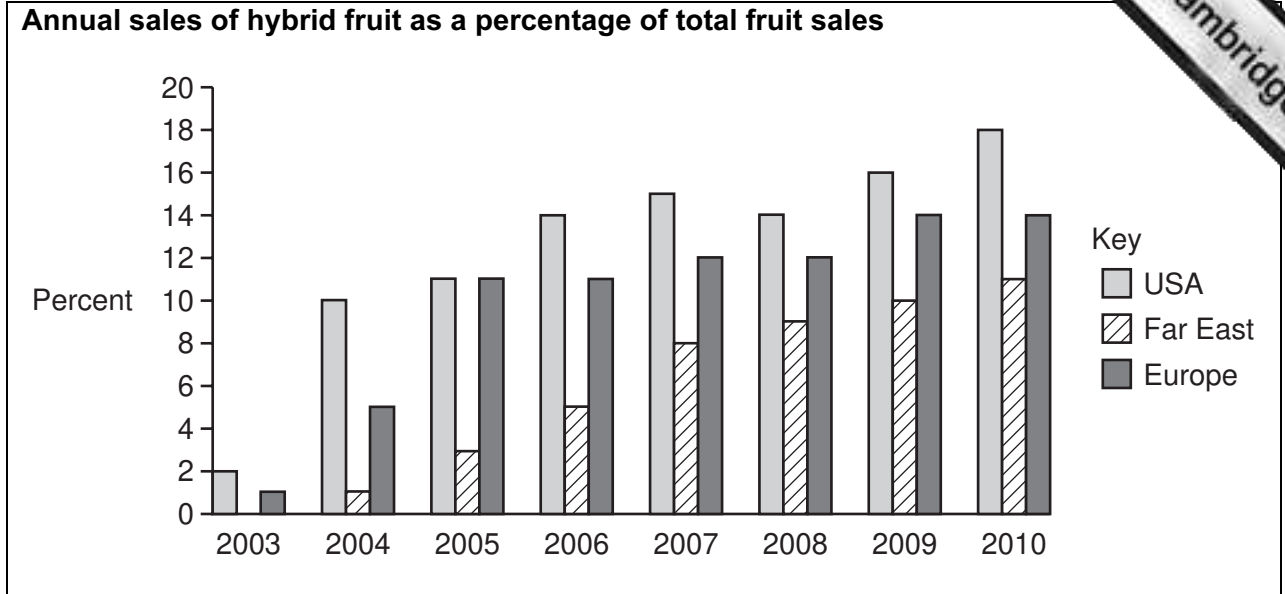
Extract from magazine

Radical Fruit Grower

Because hybrid crops are seedless, farmers growing them can no longer use their existing plants to provide their own seed. So they are reliant on the big agricultural corporations who own the hybrids to provide them with new seed each year. It is possible to imagine a world in which there are no naturally seeding crops grown on farms.

A consequence of this is that something which was once natural and free becomes a commodity, subject to the usual problems of price rises, shortages and market manipulation by speculators. Developing something 'new' and 'different' has always been a key way of maintaining profit margins and shifting product, but it is disturbing when this dynamic actually changes nature itself.

Source E



- (a) “If you like grapes and apples you should like the grapple!” (Source A). Can this be reliably concluded? [3]
- (b) The author of Source C concludes that scare stories about hybrid fruits are not justified. How relevant to this conclusion is the evidence he presents? [3]
- (c) Suggest **two** explanations for the increased popularity of hybrid fruits in the USA in 2004 compared to 2003 (Source E). [3]
- (d) Should we be concerned that hybrid fruits will replace natural fruits in the future? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Sources A – E. [6]

3 Read the passage and answer the questions below.

- 1 During the 20th century, people in developed societies became accustomed to the idea that medical science would go on advancing and that they could rely on it to maintain their health. However, in the 21st century we should cease relying on medical science to do this.
- 2 Research in 2010 found that a new generation of 'superbugs' is emerging. NDM-1 is an enzyme that can exist in a wide range of infectious bacteria, making them resistant to all known antibiotics. No new antibiotics are being developed in the foreseeable future. Antibiotics are a crucial aspect of modern medicine, not just for the treatment of routine infections, but in helping patients recover from such operations as organ transplants. Future medicine will be without antibiotics, which is a bit like a car without wheels.
- 3 There will be an increasing gap between what is medically possible and what is affordable. With advancements in medical science, providing all treatments to all patients will prove impossible even if all of a country's national income is devoted to it. There is no point in maintaining health if there are no schools, roads or houses.
- 4 People have excessive expectations of the medical profession – they expect doctors to cure them of everything. Doctors themselves realise their limitations but often have to give in to patient demands, for instance prescribing antibiotics unnecessarily to treat viral infections.
- 5 The assumption that the medical profession will be able to cure them means that people do not do enough to maintain their own health. If they did not have the medical profession to rely on they would eat less and exercise more. Prevention is better than cure. So we should concentrate on developing a healthier lifestyle.
- 6 Moreover, we have a range of other medical treatments, such as acupuncture and homoeopathy, which offer an alternative to conventional medicine. For example, there are natural herbs that strengthen resistance and tackle infection.

- (a) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify the main conclusion. [2]
- (b) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify **three** reasons used to support the main conclusion. [3]
- (c) Evaluate the reasoning in the argument. In your answer you should consider any strengths, weaknesses, flaws and unstated assumptions. [5]
- (d) 'Prevention is always better than cure.'
Write your own argument to support **or** challenge this claim. The conclusion of your argument must be stated. [5]

