

Cambridge International AS & A Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE**9093/02**

Paper 2 Writing

For examination from 2029

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages.

Section A: Argumentative essay**Question 1**

Read **Sources A, B and C**.

You have been asked to write an essay for your teacher expressing your view about whether it is better to live in an urban area or a rural area.

In your essay you should:

- choose one side of the argument
- support this view using evidence from all three sources (A, B and C)
- use your own words as much as possible.

Write about **450** words.

[25]

Source A

An extract from a newspaper article written by a university professor, about why many people around the world choose to live in urban areas

The term 'urban advantage' is often used to refer to the various benefits derived from living in urban areas. Cities offer convenience and easy access, with improved infrastructure and public transport, which is often available at any time of the day or night. Healthcare is generally better, with major hospitals and specialised medical services nearby. People also benefit from having access to water and sanitation, energy, and high-speed internet. According to a global analysis by the World Bank, access to safe drinking water is significantly higher in urban areas than rural ones. In 2024, 83% of the urban population had access to clean water, compared to only 60% of the rural population.

But it isn't just about convenience. Those who live in a city have a lot of choice when it comes to entertainment and social life, with the chance to go shopping, eat out and sample a wide range of cuisines, visit museums and galleries, or enjoy a range of nightlife opportunities. Of course, this all costs money, and there's no doubt that living in a city can be expensive. However, city-dwellers generally have more career opportunities, earn higher salaries, and have better standards of education.

Source B

An extract from a blog written by a property agent who specialises in helping clients to buy, sell or rent homes in rural areas

Living in the countryside offers countless benefits, and one which cannot be ignored is the positive impact it can have on your health. Being surrounded by nature can reduce stress, improve mental health, and even boost physical fitness. Breathing in clean air, enjoying peaceful surroundings, and having easy access to outdoor activities all contribute to a healthier lifestyle, especially when compared to the fast-paced, noisy and polluted environments of cities. In fact, in urban areas with monitored air quality, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports that over 80% of people are exposed to air pollution levels that exceed WHO guideline limits. In the countryside, there is less traffic and less industry, both of which contribute to air pollution.

People living in the countryside often have larger properties, offering more personal space than they would have in a city, while also being more affordable. There is generally more space between properties too, which is ideal for those seeking more privacy. Many rural houses have larger gardens, which means that people can grow their own food, or even keep animals. And finally, a smaller population can foster a stronger sense of community, leading to closer-knit relationships with neighbours.

Source C

An extract from a presentation given by a student about global changes in urban and rural populations

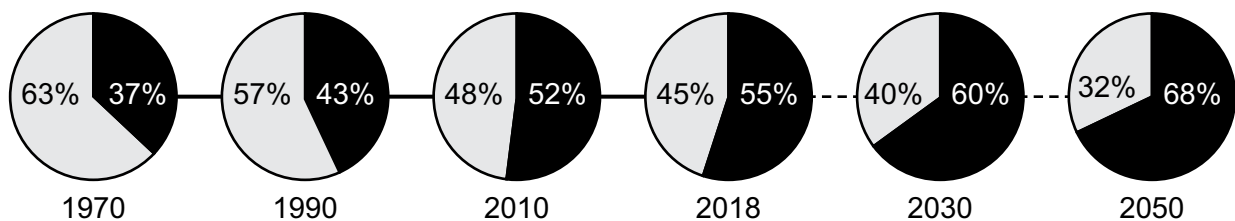
The pie charts below are based on statistics published by the United Nations in 2018. They show global changes in urban and rural populations from 1970 to 2018, with estimates until 2050.

key

■ urban population

□ rural population

--- estimated changes



As urban areas expand in the future and become more densely populated, the question is whether all inhabitants will benefit equally from their proximity to facilities, and whether services can be expanded to cope with demand, or whether the increasing density of cities will lead to demand outstripping supply, and more people being unable to access the services they need.

Section B: Extended writing

Answer **one** question.

Either

Question 2

Write a story which begins with the following sentence: 'Vaneeza took a deep breath, raised her hand, and knocked on the door.' In your writing, create a sense of drama and suspense.

Write about **700** words.

[25]

Or

Question 3

At school, you have been discussing the problems caused by people throwing things away when they are broken, instead of trying to repair them. You decide to produce a leaflet about this issue. Write the text for your leaflet. In your writing, persuade students of the benefits of repairing and reusing broken items.

Write about **700** words.

[25]

Or

Question 4

You are taking part in an expedition to a remote location, and you have decided to write a blog about it. Write the text for your first blog entry. In your writing, create a sense of excitement and focus on the challenges you have experienced so far.

Write about **700** words.

[25]

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