

Oxford Thinking Skills Assessment

Specimen Paper 30 minutes

SECTION 2 Writing Task

Instructions to Candidates

Please read this page carefully, but do not open this question paper until you are told that you may do so.

A separate answer sheet is provided for this section. Please check you have one.

Please write your initials, candidate number and centre number in the spaces provided on the front of the answer sheet. Please write very clearly.

This question paper contains a choice of four essay questions, of which you must answer only **one**. It also provides space in which you may make preliminary notes but **your answer must be written on the answer sheet.**

The questions each provide an opportunity for you to show how well you can

- select, develop and organise ideas and
- communicate them effectively in writing.


It is important that your answer is relevant to the question and addresses it directly. This is not a test of knowledge, nor is it assumed that the questions have right or wrong answers. If the question requires you to make judgements and express your opinions, try to provide coherent arguments to support your views, and consider the merits of possible counter arguments.

Before you begin writing, take time to think carefully about what you need to say and the ways in which the organisation of your response might help convey your message.

Note that your response must be contained in the space provided on a single two-page answer sheet. The disciplines involved in this are considered key features of the task.

Take care to show how well you can write and be concise, clear and accurate.

Dictionaries may NOT be used.

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Please wait to be told you may begin before turning this page.

This paper consists of 2 printed pages and 2 blank pages.

Use this space and the back page for notes *etc.* if you wish. Remember that your response must be written on the answer sheet provided.

YOU MUST ANSWER ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- 1 **“Privacy is only good because people aren’t good. In a perfect world we wouldn’t need privacy.” Is that right?**

- 2 **In order to be a successful leader, is it better to be loved or feared?**

- 3 **Is “ethical” consumerism a solution to poverty, or a dangerous distraction?**

- 4 **Why is vision so important to human beings?**

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