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# G2 English

## Paper 1 — Writing

*Editing · Situational · Continuous*

**GOLD 3 TIER**

Paper 1 tests writing: a short editing task, one piece of situational writing from a visual prompt, and one composition chosen from four topics. Mirrors the SEAB G2 (K200) Paper 1 format.

**Total: 70 marks**

**Time: 1 h 50 min**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Answer **Section A**, **Section B** and **one** question from **Section C**. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The number of marks is shown in brackets [ ].

**Section A [10 marks]****Question 1**

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about the school photography club. The first and last lines are correct. For the remaining ten lines, there is one grammatical error in each line. Circle the incorrect word and write the correct word in the space provided. The correct word you provide must not change the original meaning of the sentence.

Our school's photography club meets every Thursday in the art room after lessons.

Each of the members bring a camera of their own to every session. 1 .....

Last term, we have visited the old harbour to photograph the fishing boats. 2 .....

This year there are less members than before, but we are just as keen. 3 .....

Mr Lee taught us the difference among a good photograph and a great one. 4 .....

He says that photography teaches you to look at the world more close. 5 .....

If I was a little braver, I would enter one of the national competitions. 6 .....

Patience, he reminds us, is a most important quality a photographer can have. 7 .....

Since joining the club, my photographs have become far more sharper and bolder. 8 .....

By the end of the year, each of us will have took hundreds of photographs. 9 .....

We are all looking forward for the club's very first public exhibition. 10 .....

If you enjoy capturing the world around you, why not come along and join us?

## Section B [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 180 and 250 words for this section.

### Question 2

Look at the notice from Harbourview Community Theatre in the Insert, read the information carefully and plan your answer before you begin to write.

Write an email to Ms Rahman, the theatre director, to apply for one of the backstage roles.

You must include the following points in your email:

- which role you would like and why it appeals to you
- a skill or past experience that would make you suitable for it
- when you would be available to help with rehearsals or performances
- one idea that could help the production run smoothly or attract a larger audience

Write your email in clear, accurate English. Make sure your tone is polite and enthusiastic in order to persuade Ms Rahman to accept your application. Use your own words as much as possible.

## Section C [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 250 and 400 words on one of the following topics.

### Questions 3–6

- 3 Write about a journey during which your feelings changed. [Narrative]
- 4 Describe the world after dark. Include what you can see, hear and feel. [Descriptive]
- 5 Some people say that technology brings us closer together, while others argue it drives us apart. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. [Discursive]
- 6 ‘We would all be happier if we spent less time on our screens.’ How far do you agree? [Argumentative]

Please write your chosen question number (3, 4, 5 or 6) before you begin.



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# G2 English

Paper 1 — Writing

*Insert · Section B*

**GOLD 3 TIER**

This Insert contains the stimulus for Section B. Read it and answer Question 2 in the Question Paper.

**Total: 70 marks**

**Time: 1 h 50 min**

## Section B

Read the notice from Harbourview Community Theatre below and use the information to answer the question on the Question Paper.

### Harbourview Community Theatre — Production Helpers

Dear Students, Harbourview Community Theatre is staging its end-of-year production next month, and we are seeking enthusiastic young people aged 13 to 16 to join our backstage crew. Three roles are described below, each one vital to a successful show. Read about them carefully, decide which would suit you best, then apply by email. You may apply for **one** role only.



#### Set & Props Helper

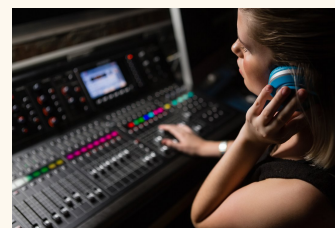
Help to build and paint the scenery, and look after the props used in each scene of the play.

- Careful and good with your hands
- Happy to get a little messy
- All materials and aprons provided

#### Lighting & Sound Helper

Work alongside our technicians at the lighting and sound desk during rehearsals and performances.

- Calm and quick to react
- Keen to learn how the equipment works
- Full training given beforehand



#### Front of House Helper

Welcome the audience, show them to their seats, and hand out the printed programmes.

- Warm and well-spoken
- Smartly presented
- Available on performance evenings

*Every member of the crew will receive a certificate, a backstage pass, and free tickets to the show for their family. Places are limited, so please tell us why you would be suitable. To apply, email the director, Ms Rahman.*



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# G2 English

## Paper 2 — Comprehension

*Question Paper*

**GOLD 3 TIER**

Answer all questions. The Insert contains the four texts. Mirrors the SEAB G2 (K200) Paper 2 format.

**Total: 50 marks**

**Time: 1 h 50 min**

CANDIDATE NAME	
CENTRE NUMBER	INDEX NUMBER

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name, centre number and index number in the spaces above. Write in dark blue or black pen. **Answer all questions.** Write your answers in the spaces provided on the *Question Paper*. **Additional Materials: Insert** (contains Text 1, Text 2, Text 3 and Text 4). The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

**Section A [5 marks]**

Refer to *Text 1* and *Text 2* in the *Insert* for Questions 1–4.

1 Look at Text 1. What feature of the stargazing night described on the webpage does the photograph show? [1]

.....

.....

2 Look at Text 2. Tick (✓) the statement which best summarises the main purpose of Text 2. [1]

- to persuade readers to attend a stargazing night
- to explain what light pollution is and the harm it causes
- to advertise telescopes and other stargazing equipment
- to describe the beauty of a clear night sky

3 Compare Text 1 and Text 2. Give one way the language of Text 1 is more inviting than that of Text 2. [1]

.....

.....

4 Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below. Decide whether each refers to Text 1, Text 2, both texts, or neither. Circle your answer. [2]

- (a) The text invites the reader to take part in an event. Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither
- (b) The text explains a harmful effect of artificial light. Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[Turn over

**Section B [20 marks]**

Refer to **Text 3** in the Insert for Questions 5–14.

**5** From Paragraphs 1 and 2, explain why the writer’s day had been disappointing, and state how he felt as he sat on the train. [2]

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**6** In Paragraph 2, the writer says his mind had ‘emptied like a tipped jug’. Explain what this comparison suggests about how he felt during the interview. [2]

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**7** In Paragraph 3, give **two** ways the writer makes the journey seem calming. [2]

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.....

**8** In Paragraph 3, the writer says he ‘had not noticed the stars in months’. Suggest **one** reason why he had been unable to see them at home. [2]

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.....

**9** In Paragraphs 4 to 7, put the following moments in the order in which they happened by writing 1, 2, 3 in the boxes. [2]

- the writer’s worry began to shrink to its proper size
- the elderly woman smiled and spoke to the writer
- the elderly woman fell asleep over her book

**10** In Paragraph 4, give **two** details that show the elderly woman was kind and gentle. [2]

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.....

**11** Look at the table below. For each one, find a word or phrase from Paragraphs 5 and 6. [2]

How the writer came to see his failed interview: .....

How the writer felt among the other travellers: .....

**12** In Paragraph 6, why do you think the writer felt ‘less alone’ even though he was surrounded by strangers? Suggest **one** reason. [1]

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.....

[Turn over

**13** The writer boarded the train feeling low, yet arrived home feeling differently. Explain how his feelings changed during the journey, and what his decision not to wake the woman shows about him. [3]

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**14** What is the writer’s overall feeling at the end of the text? Support your answer with **one** detail from the final paragraph. [2]

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*[Turn over*

**Section C [25 marks]**

Refer to **Text 4** in the Insert for Questions 15–19.

**15** Match each paragraph with the most suitable heading by writing the correct letter (A–G). There is one extra heading you will not need. Paragraph 1 has been done for you. [5]

Paragraph 1 **F**

Paragraph 2 .....

Paragraph 3 .....

Paragraph 4 .....

Paragraph 5 .....

Paragraph 6 .....

- A Why we run from being alone
- B What solitude really means
- C How we can make room for solitude
- D How families and schools can help
- E What we lose when we are never alone
- F A world that is never quiet
- G The dangers of too much screen time

**16** From Paragraph 2, give **two** ways in which solitude is different from loneliness. [2]

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**17** In Paragraph 4, what does the word ‘This’ refer to? [2]

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.....

.....

**18** In Paragraph 4, what does the writer mean by describing reflection as ‘a muscle that wastes away when it is never used’? [1]

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.....

**19** Using your own words as far as possible, summarise what **individuals** and **families or schools** can do to make more room for solitude. [15]

*Use only the material from paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Insert. Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form) and must not be longer than 80 words (not including the words given to help you begin).*

*There are several ways to make more room for solitude. Individuals can ...*

[Turn over

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No. of Words: \_\_\_\_\_

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# G2 English

## Paper 2 — Comprehension

*Insert · Texts 1–4*

**GOLD 3 TIER**


This Insert contains Text 1, Text 2, Text 3 and Text 4. Read the texts and answer the questions in the Question Paper.

**Total: 50 marks**

**Time: 1 h 50 min**

## Section A

Study the webpage (Text 1) and the extract from a leaflet (Text 2) and answer Questions 1–4 in the Question Paper. Text 1 is taken from a community society’s website.



The screenshot shows a browser window with the URL [www.riverside-astro.sg](http://www.riverside-astro.sg). The main content area features a photograph of a man and a woman at night, looking up at the sky. The man is pointing towards a star, and the woman is looking through a large telescope mounted on a tripod. The background shows a cityscape with lights under a dark sky.

### Riverside Astronomy Society

Ever wondered what lies beyond the city glow? Join the Riverside Astronomy Society for our monthly Stargazing Night! On the first clear Friday of every month, we gather at Hillcrest Field, far from the streetlights, to turn our telescopes towards the heavens. No equipment or experience is needed — just warm clothes and a sense of wonder.

To reserve a place at the next session, [click here](#).

Text 2 is taken from a science leaflet.

Most of us have never seen a truly dark sky. Across the world’s towns and cities, artificial light from streetlamps, buildings and signs spills upwards into the night, scattering through the air and drowning out all but the brightest stars. Scientists call this glow ‘light pollution’, and it does far more than rob us of the constellations. It disrupts the rhythms of nocturnal animals, confuses migrating birds, and wastes vast amounts of energy. By shielding our lamps and switching off the lights we do not need, we could let the stars return.

**Section B****Text 3**

*In the text below, the writer recalls a late-night train journey home. Read the text carefully and answer Questions 5–14.*

- 1 The last train of the night was almost empty. I sank into a window seat, rested my forehead against the cool glass, and let the carriage carry me away from a day that had not gone as I had hoped. Outside, the city's lights smeared past in long ribbons of gold, and for once I was grateful for the silence.
- 2 I had spent weeks preparing for the scholarship interview, rehearsing my answers until they were as smooth as river stones. Yet when the moment finally came, my mind had emptied like a tipped jug, and I had stumbled over the simplest of questions. Now, replaying every awkward pause, I felt a hot prickle of embarrassment crawl slowly up my neck. 5
- 3 The train rocked gently, its wheels keeping up a steady, hypnotic rhythm against the rails. Little by little the city fell away, and the windows filled with open countryside, black and still beneath a sky scattered with stars. I had not noticed the stars in months. In the orange glow of the streetlights at home, they were always washed out and invisible.
- 4 An elderly woman sat across the aisle, a worn paperback open on her lap. She must have read the disappointment written on my face, for she smiled at me — a kind, unhurried smile — and said gently, “Bad days always feel enormous at night. They look a great deal smaller by morning.” Then she returned to her book, as though she had merely remarked upon the weather. 15
- 5 Her words settled over me like a blanket. I turned them over slowly, watching the dark fields slide past. Perhaps she was right. The interview had felt like the end of the world an hour ago; now, beneath that vast and indifferent sky, it began to shrink to its proper size — one small stumble in a life that still stretched far ahead of me. I had been so certain that a single afternoon could define me, and now that certainty seemed almost laughable. 20
- 6 I thought of all the trains that had carried tired travellers home before me, each one wrapped in their own private worries, and I felt, oddly, far less alone. The carriage was no longer a lonely place but a kind of refuge: a quiet pocket of time in which I owed nothing to anyone and could simply be myself.
- 7 When at last the train slowed for my station, I gathered my coat and glanced once more at the woman. She had fallen asleep, the book resting on her chest, rising and falling with each breath. I wanted to thank her but it seemed a shame to wake her, so I simply stepped down onto the platform and let the cold night air fill my lungs.
- 8 The walk home was dark and quiet, yet my heart felt curiously light. The day's failure had not vanished, but it no longer loomed so large. A stranger on a midnight train had given me nothing more than a single sentence — and somehow it had been exactly enough. I have caught that train many times since, but I have never forgotten that particular journey, or the way the night had quietly put things back in their place.

## Section C

### Text 4

*The article below is about spending time alone. Read it carefully and answer Questions 15–19.*

- 1 We live in an age that has all but abolished silence. From the moment we wake, a glowing screen is within reach, ready to fill every spare second with messages, music and news. A queue, a bus ride, even a short walk to the shops — once small islands of quiet — are now spent staring downwards, thumbs flicking. We have grown so used to this constant hum that the idea of being truly alone, with nothing but our own thoughts for company, can feel strangely uncomfortable. 5
- 2 Yet solitude is not the same as loneliness. Loneliness is the ache of being cut off from others against our will; solitude is something we choose, a deliberate stepping back from the noise. Far from being empty, these quiet hours are when the mind finally catches its breath. It is in solitude that we daydream, reflect, and slowly make sense of all that has happened to us. Properly understood, time alone is not a punishment to be endured but a gift we give ourselves. 10
- 3 Why, then, do so many of us flee from it? For some, an empty moment feels like wasted time, to be filled at once with a video or a game. For others, silence is unsettling, because it forces us to face thoughts we would rather not hear. Above all, our devices are designed to keep us scrolling, dangling endless distractions before our eyes. Choosing to switch them off and sit quietly can feel almost like an act of rebellion. 15
- 4 The cost of all this restlessness is easy to overlook. Without quiet, our best ideas have no room in which to surface, for creativity needs space in which to wander. This is why so many people have their finest thoughts in the shower, where no screen can reach them. We also lose touch with ourselves, drifting along on the opinions of others. Reflection, like a muscle that wastes away when it is never used, grows weaker the moment we stop making time for it. 20
- 5 Happily, solitude can be rebuilt through small, deliberate habits. We might leave the phone in another room for an hour, take a daily walk without headphones, or simply sit with a warm drink and let the mind drift. Keeping a notebook close by can turn idle thoughts into something worth keeping. The aim is not to abandon the world altogether, but to carve out brief pockets of quiet in which we can hear ourselves think once more. 25
- 6 Families and schools have their part to play as well. Parents who set aside screen-free times at home, and who are not afraid of a little boredom, teach children that quiet is nothing to dread. Schools can build small moments of stillness into the day, and show pupils that thinking deeply matters just as much as answering quickly. When a whole community learns to value silence, solitude stops being something we avoid and becomes something we treasure. 30