

NAME:

NO:

CLASS:

RIVERSIDE SECONDARY SCHOOL



PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE
CODE/PAPER NO. : 1184 / 02 COMPREHENSION
(QUESTION BOOKLET)
LEVEL/STREAM : SEC 4 EXPRESS
DURATION : 1 HOUR 50 MINUTES

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, index number and class on the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black ink on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.
Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question Booklet.
The Insert contains the texts for all the sections.

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

This document consists of **8** printed pages.

Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the online advertisement (**Text 1**) and the online blog post (**Text 2**) on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1–4.

- 1 Look at the image and words in the advertisement. Tick (✓) the statement that is most accurate in conveying the writer's main message about pet abandonment.

☐

Many animals are abandoned every year.

☐

Many animals that are abandoned will die.

☐

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) can only take in a limited number of animals.

[1]

- 2 Look at the heading **EVERY 60 MINUTES, A PET IS ABANDONED**. What is the intended effect of the heading on the reader?

.....[1]

- 3 Identify the phrase in Text 2 which illustrates the 'tragic fate' stated in Text 1.

.....[1]

- 4 Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below.

Decide whether the statements refer to Text 1, Text 2, both texts, or neither text.

Circle the answer you have chosen for each statement.

- (a) The target audience is pet owners.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

- (b) The tone suggests the writer dislikes pet owners who abandoned their pets.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[2]

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to **Text 3** on pages 3–4 of the Insert for Questions 5–14.

- 5 Explain what the following words in Paragraph 1 suggest about the writer's views towards his job.

(i) 'toiled away' (line 2)

.....[1]

(ii) 'monotony' (line 3)

.....[1]

- 6 From Paragraph 2, give **two** details which show that the desert was filled with emptiness.

(i)

(ii)[2]

- 7 The writer 'swallowed hard'. (line 12) What does this description suggest about how the writer felt at that moment?

.....[1]

- 8 In Paragraph 3, the writer describes his experience in the desert. Explain how the language used in this paragraph makes the writer appear to be at the brink of death. Support your answer with **two** details from Paragraph 3.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]

- 9 In Paragraph 3, which word suggests that the writer was careful of his next steps?

.....[1]

- 10** From Paragraph 4, give **two** examples of the weak physical state of the writer while he climbed the rock.

(i)

(ii)[2]

- 11** From Paragraph 5, how does the writer emphasise his vulnerability in the harsh desert environment?

.....

.....[1]

- 12 (a)** In Paragraph 6, the writer tells us that 'the oasis morphed before my eyes, revealing its true nature' (lines 36-37). What does the 'true nature' refer to?

.....[1]

- (b)** 'The desert was going to become my prison.' (lines 38-39) What does this description suggest about the writer's thought about his fate?

.....[1]

- 13** The writer describes his experience at the desert as 'beautiful punishing' (line 46-47).

- (a)** Explain how this description is supported with reference to **two** pieces of evidence from Paragraph 7.

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]

- (b)** Why is this description effective?

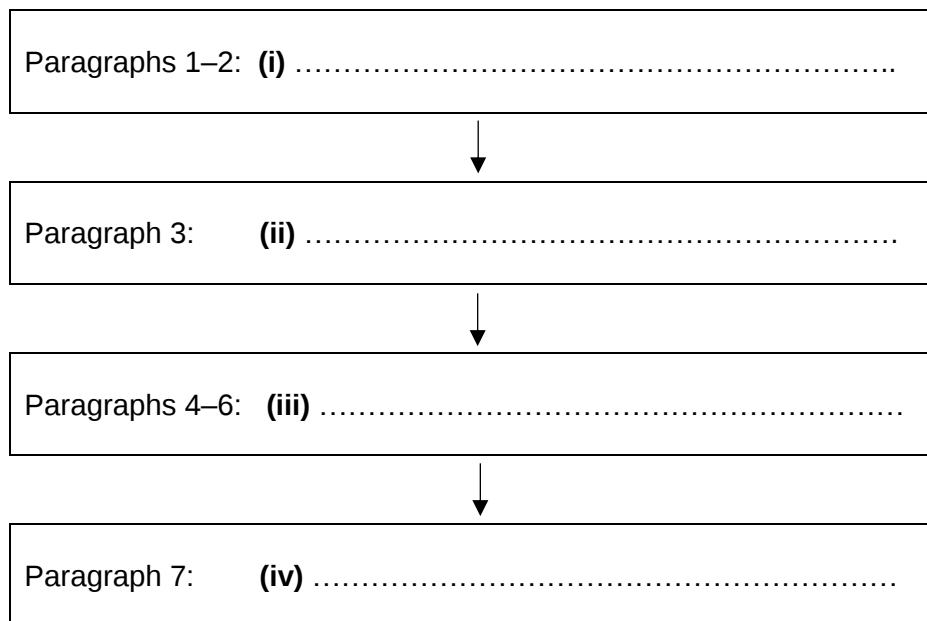
.....[1]

- 14** The structure of the text reflects the different stages of the writer's journey in the Arizona desert. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the stage of the writer's journey in each part of the text. There are extra phrases in the box you do not need to use.

Stages of the writer's journey

a sense of attachment	taking a respite	determined to seek salvation
renewed hope and attitude	chasing a dream	not knowing what to do
crushed with disappointment		

Flow chart



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to **Text 4** on pages 5–6 of the Insert for Questions 15–21.

- 15** In Paragraph 1, why does the writer refer to extreme sports as an ‘unfathomable indulgence’ (line 1)?

.....
[1]

- 16** With reference to Paragraph 2, which **two** words suggest the writer finds that extreme sports participants worry too much?

.....[1]

- 17** In Paragraph 3, the writer says ‘It is mind-boggling how there seems to be an endless supply of individuals who are just dying to climb towering peaks or fling themselves off them’ (lines 15-17).

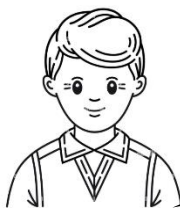
What is the writer’s tone when he makes this comment?

.....[1]

- 18** What were the effects of ‘turning extreme sports into a multi-billion-dollar global industry’ (line 17)? **Answer in your own words.**

.....
[2]

- 19** Here is part of a conversation between two students, Jonas and Carrie, who have read the article.



Jonas

I think extreme sports are similar to conventional sports.

I don’t agree. There are distinct characteristics that set extreme sports apart from conventional sports.



Carrie

- (a)** Give **one** piece of evidence from Paragraph 2 that Jonas can use to support his view.

.....
[1]

(b) With reference to Paragraph 3, give **two** pieces of evidence to support Carrie's opinion.

(i)
[1]

(ii)
[1]

20 In Paragraph 7, the writer uses the quote 'Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever' (lines 48-49) to describe extreme sports participants.

Identify **two** details from Paragraphs 2 and 4 which show that extreme sports participants live by this quote.

(i) Live as if you were to die tomorrow: Paragraph 4
[1]

(ii) Learn as if you were to live forever: Paragraph 2
[1]

21 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the reasons why people participate in extreme sports, and the controversies surrounding extreme sports, as outlined in the text.

Use only information from Paragraphs 4 to 6 of Text 4.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin).

One reason why people participate in extreme sports is that

