



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

---

**THINKING SKILLS**

**9694/21**

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

**May/June 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****Extract from History textbook**

King Edward IV of England died suddenly in 1483. He had two sons, Edward, aged 12, and Richard, aged 9. Before the king died, he appointed his younger brother, Richard, the Duke of Gloucester, Protector of the young princes. This meant that Richard would rule the country until his nephew, Prince Edward, became old enough to rule by himself.

If Richard could make people believe that the young princes had no right to the throne, he would be next in line and so become king. He imprisoned the princes in the Tower of London. Then he declared that his brother, Edward IV, had never been legally married to the princes' mother and that the boys were therefore illegitimate. This meant that neither of them could inherit the throne. In July 1483, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was crowned King Richard III. The two princes were never seen again, and Richard became very unpopular because it was widely believed that he had murdered them.

In 1485, Henry Tudor challenged Richard for the throne. Richard died in battle and Henry became King Henry VII. Like Richard, Henry had good reasons for wanting the princes dead (if they were not already), because their claim to the throne was stronger than his.

**Source B****Life and Death of Sir James Tyrell**

Sir James Tyrell was a trusted servant of Richard III. In 1501, Tyrell supported an unsuccessful rebellion against King Henry VII and was accused of treason. Before being executed, he confessed under torture that he had employed two men to murder the princes in the Tower, but he did not say who had ordered him to do it.

**Source C****Extract from English Literature textbook**

Shakespeare's play, *The Tragedy of King Richard III*, was written in about 1591, when Elizabeth I was Queen of England. At that time, theatres were tightly controlled by the Government. If a particular play was thought to be politically dangerous, the theatre would be closed and the author might be punished. Queen Elizabeth I was the granddaughter of Henry VII, and any play which showed that he was justified in replacing Richard as king would have been very acceptable to the authorities.

In Shakespeare's play, King Richard is portrayed as deformed in both body and personality. He employs Sir James Tyrell to murder the princes in the Tower.

**Source D****The Richard III Society**

The Richard III Society was founded in 1924 by a group of amateur historians. The Society believes that the traditional accounts of the character and career of King Richard III are seriously unreliable and unfair. They aim to promote research into his life and times, and to reassess his place in English history. The Richard III Society denies that the princes in the Tower were murdered on the orders of Richard. They may have been killed by Henry VII or they may have survived.

- (a) How reliable is Tyrell's evidence (Source B) in discovering whether the princes in the Tower were murdered? [3]
- (b) How useful are the views of the Richard III Society in Source D in discovering whether Richard ordered the murder of the princes in the Tower? [3]
- (c) In 1674, builders repairing the Tower of London discovered the skeletons of two children under a staircase. On the orders of King Charles II, they were re-buried in Westminster Abbey.  
How significant is this discovery in deciding whether the princes were murdered? [3]
- (d) How do you think the two princes died? 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****Physiognomy**

The science of physiognomy was invented by the ancient Greeks. They believed that people's characters are revealed in their faces. In the 19th century, an Italian professor, Cesare Lombroso, published a book entitled *Criminal Man*, in which he claimed that "born criminals" could be identified by such features as a sloping forehead, ears of unusual size, an uneven face, a protruding jaw, long arms, an uneven skull, and other aspects of personal appearance, including the excessive use of tattooing. This approach became very influential. Although it is no longer taken seriously by most psychologists and criminologists, detailed information on the supposed meaning of various facial features is readily available on the internet. So some people must believe in it.

**Source B****Research Study – Method**

An academic study of the relationship between beauty and criminal activity was undertaken in the United States. More than 15 000 young adults were interviewed three times over a period of seven years. They were asked if they had been involved in criminal activity. The interviewers also graded their beauty on a 5-point scale. For the purpose of the comparison, those who were considered to be "very attractive" were compared with those who were assessed as "unattractive" or "very unattractive"; those who were judged "attractive" or "average" were ignored. Allowance was made for social factors which might make someone more likely to engage in criminal activity, particularly indicators of poverty.

**Source C****Research Study – Findings**

The table below shows the probabilities of self-reported criminal activity compared with the average per 1000 people, adjusted for age, ethnicity, first language, unemployment, health, religious affiliation, born overseas, mother's education, mother's age at birth, biological/step/absent father, father ever imprisoned, parents receiving benefits.

	<i>Criminal Damage</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Theft</i>	<i>Assault</i>	<i>Selling Drugs</i>
<i>Unattractive or very unattractive male</i>	+12	+1	+23	+24	+5	+4
<i>Unattractive or very unattractive female</i>	-6	+8	+15	+4	+22	+30
<i>Very attractive male</i>	-1	-1	-10	-6	-6	-21
<i>Very attractive female</i>	-11	-5	0	-3	-20	-6

**Source D****Research Study – Conclusions**

The researchers concluded that very attractive people are less likely than average to commit crimes, whereas unattractive people are more likely to do so. They suggested two possible explanations for these data. Firstly, previous research had already shown that attractive people find it easier to get jobs than unattractive people, and the jobs they get are paid better. People who cannot earn enough money legally are more likely to choose crime as a way of obtaining what they want out of life. Secondly, attractive young women get a better deal out of high school than other students, because teachers spend more time with them, they are less likely to be expelled or suspended, they have a wider circle of friends and they are praised more for what they achieve. All these advantages enhance the skills and personal qualities which subsequently help them to earn a living without turning to crime.

- (a) To what extent does the evidence in Source C support the claim in Source D that “very attractive people are less likely than average to commit crimes, whereas unattractive people are more likely to do so”? [3]
- (b) A blogger commented, ‘Unattractive and poor often go hand in hand. Probably most of the crimes listed in the study were committed by the poor who happened to be unattractive as well.’  
To what extent does this comment undermine the usefulness of this study? [3]
- (c) The research study described in Source B also discovered that very attractive females who commit crimes are less likely to be arrested, and less likely to be convicted if charged.  
To what extent do these findings offer an alternative to the explanations suggested in Source D? [3]
- (d) ‘You can identify people who have criminal tendencies just by looking at their faces.’  
To what extent do you agree with this claim? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Sources A – D. [6]

3 *Read the passage and answer the questions below.*

- 1 We need urgently to develop ways of punishing criminals apart from sending them to prison. Law-breakers have already cost the country money through their dishonest deeds, but it then costs us even more to punish them. This is ridiculous and unfair, and in today's economic climate we cannot afford to continue with it.
- 2 Prison did not originate as a punishment. In ancient times, the main punishment for criminals was death, and prison was simply a safe place to keep them as they awaited execution.
- 3 Depriving criminals of their liberty fails to compensate victims or society. Instead of adding a further burden to public expenditure, as they do under the present system, criminals should be made to repay society for the harm they have done. They could do the kinds of socially valuable work which no one can afford to pay for, such as collecting litter and sweeping the streets. If they were made to wear a distinctive uniform (such as a bright pink jacket emblazoned with the word "Offender") while doing this community work, they would be exposed to the contempt and insults of passers-by, which in many cases might help them to realise the consequences of their misdeeds and motivate them to obey the law in future.
- 4 Recent studies have shown that a high proportion of prisoners in the UK suffer from mental illness. They therefore need to be treated instead of punished.
- 5 It does not matter if criminals are harmed by their punishment – in fact, that is the whole point of punishment – but the harm inflicted by prison is long-term and counter-productive. No one would seriously argue that criminals should be punished by being prevented from ever again working for their living, by developing a mental illness, by their wife or partner leaving them and forming a new relationship, or by losing contact with their children. Yet there is abundant statistical and anecdotal evidence that these are the typical consequences of serving a lengthy term of imprisonment. Rather than motivating and equipping criminals to become productive and responsible members of society, prison ensures that they will never do so.
- 6 Another problem with prison is that it punishes the wrong people. Wives or partners and children of prisoners suffer more than the prisoners themselves. If you are in prison, you do not lie awake worrying about how to pay the rent or where the next meal is coming from, but your partner probably does.

- (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) 'The punishment for crime should be so severe that people will not risk it.'  
Write your own argument to support **or** challenge this claim. The conclusion of your argument must be stated. [5]



**BLANK PAGE**

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.