



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

THINKING SKILLS

9694/22

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

Website

www.happyholhome.com

You'll be Happy! Happy! Happy! with your holiday from Happy Holiday Homes. Beautifully maintained villas on the secluded Caribbean island of Taniga with the services of a resident company representative. Online booking only.

Contact us – enquiries@happyholhome.com

Source B

Letter from Mr Smith to Travel Gazette

I would like to warn fellow readers about the travel company Happy Holiday Homes. I recently stayed at one of their villas with my wife and our three children. A roof tile fell off and narrowly missed our youngest child. We complained to the rep* but she didn't seem very competent. The villa was also rather badly built and things seemed to have been left half-finished. I will certainly do a bit more research next time I book a holiday.

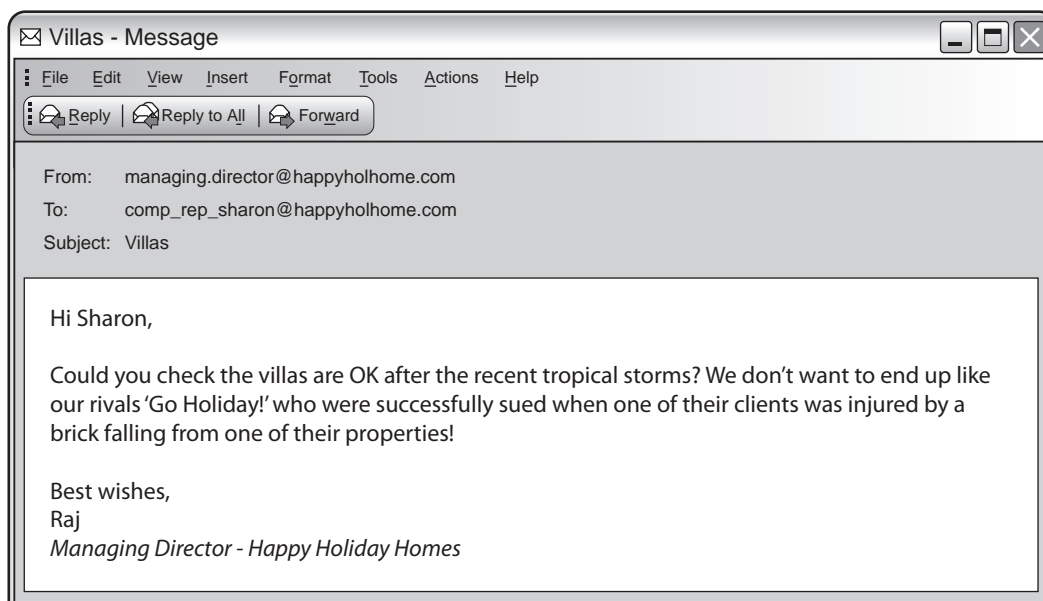
Source C

Extract from TV programme 'Holiday Horrors'

Interview with an employee of a local Taniga building firm

"The firm doesn't take much notice of the local building regulations. Demand is high from the holiday companies and the Government doesn't want to interfere with the building programme, as more visitors will generate more revenue from taxation. The only thing we bother about is finishing the job on time."

Source D



Source E**Local rep's* Facebook status**

Hi Everybody. Overworked and underpaid here as usual but hasn't stopped me partying! Fantastic all-nighter on the beach last night. Very tired this morning and have had an e-mail from the boss asking me to check the villas are OK after the storm. I'll probably drive by later to see if they are still there! Quite honestly I wouldn't know what to look for anyway – I am not a surveyor or anything!

* "rep": short for representative, a point of contact between holidaymakers and the travel company.

- (a) Look at Source B. How reliable is Mr Smith's account of what happened? [4]
- (b) How useful is the evidence from the employee of the local building firm in Source C? [3]
- (c) Suggest **one** piece of further information that would assist in deciding whether to take a holiday in Taniga. [2]
- (d) How likely is it that the managing director of Happy Holiday Homes could be shown to be responsible for the Smiths' bad holiday experience? 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

Legionnaires' disease is a serious form of pneumonia caused by *Legionella* bacteria. As with pneumonia in general, the severity of the disease varies from individual to individual, but around 10% of cases are life-threatening.

The bacteria are always present in the environment, but thrive in warm, still water which has been lying around for a considerable amount of time. A threat is presented if this water is dispersed in a vapour or droplet form, allowing the bacteria to be breathed in by individuals exposed to it.

Most people exposed to *Legionella* bacteria do not become infected. The risk of disease increases with age, especially amongst smokers. People with generally poor health and weakened immune systems, as a result of poor diet for example, are also at increased risk of Legionnaires' disease.

Young people, especially children, rarely get Legionnaires' disease.

Source B

Recent research suggests that car windscreen wash water may be an important cause of Legionnaires' disease. This is because the container for the water provides the ideal conditions for the bacteria to breed, as the water is stagnant* and warmed by the engine. The researchers also found that professional drivers, for example taxi drivers, were five times more likely to be infected with the disease than ordinary drivers.

However, the danger of infection can be eliminated if drivers mix a screenwash additive in the water. The researchers found that such additives kill off the bacteria very effectively.

Source C

A serious outbreak of Legionnaires' disease occurred in a town in the UK in 2002. Over a period of a few weeks, 187 cases occurred and 7 people died as a result of the disease. The source of the outbreak was eventually traced to a faulty air-conditioning unit. This unit turned warm stagnant* water into infected steam and released it through a vent into a narrow alley which was a popular short-cut for pedestrians. A subsequent enquiry found that the local authorities were to blame for not adequately maintaining the air-conditioning unit.

Source D

Hand-held sprayers are popular for use in the home to water house plants. These potentially replicate the conditions which produce an increased risk of Legionnaires' disease in the case of car screenwashers. This is because the sprayers also have a water container in which the water is left until it is used. The water in these sprayers does not have any additives, as this could harm the plants. However, researchers have found that there is no link between the use of these sprayers and an increased risk of Legionnaires' disease.

* Stagnant: standing still; without current or circulation.

- (a) What can we conclude from the research in Source B about professional drivers' use of screenwashers? Explain your answer. [3]
- (b) Consider Source D. Suggest one explanation for why the use of these sprayers does not result in an increased risk of Legionnaires' disease. [3]
- (c) Given the evidence in Sources A and C, how reliable would it be to conclude that one is at increased risk of catching Legionnaires' disease when walking in fine warm rain? [3]
- (d) How likely is it that the incidence of Legionnaires' disease will reduce as a result of the findings of the research in Source B? 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 Many people disapprove of gambling, i.e. betting money on the outcome of such things as horse races, sporting contests or card games. However, gambling should be regarded as no different from other leisure activities and should not be singled out for special condemnation.
- 2 Whilst it is true that many people 'waste' their money gambling, the same could be said of many other leisure activities, such as buying expensive clothes and eating meals in restaurants, that are typical of a modern consumer society. If we are to disapprove of gambling, then we are in danger of condemning a large number of leisure pursuits which are purely pleasurable and yield no long-term gain.
- 3 The amount of money spent on gambling is no more than is spent on smoking tobacco. At least gambling does not cause heart disease and lung cancer.
- 4 Some people have argued gambling can be addictive. However, no intake of a chemically addictive substance such as nicotine is involved. The keen gambler is no different from the keen golfer – they may spend rather too much time pursuing their chosen pastime, but we would have a large number of 'addicts' if such attachment was always defined as 'addiction'.
- 5 Gambling is a worldwide phenomenon, with many cultures and societies having gambling as a feature of their lifestyle. This suggests it is an unavoidable aspect of human existence.
- 6 Gambling is essential for success. Many successful people are risk-takers who would not have been successful if they were always cautious. This willingness to gamble is an essential ingredient in explaining their success. Disapproval of gambling is disapproval of risk and disapproval of risk is disapproval of success. Humans would not have progressed if everybody had disapproved of gambling. Gambling produces the 'adrenalin rush' that is so important in much human endeavour.

- (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) 'Children should be encouraged to take risks.'
Write your own argument to support **or** challenge this claim. The conclusion of your argument must be stated. [5]

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