2

CEDAR GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2015
Secondary Three

CANDIDATE NAME

CLASS

INDEX NUMBER

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/01

Paper 1 Writing
INSERT

30 APRIL 2015

1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This insert contains Section A.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

This document consists of 2 printed pages. [Turn over

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Section A [10 marks]

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about Singapore. The first and last lines are correct. For eight of the lines, there is one grammatical error in each line. There are two more lines with no errors.

If there is NO error in a line, put a tick (√) in the space provided.
If the line is incorrect, 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.

Examples:

I arrived (to) my destination at 2 pm. ___at___

My mother always wears sensible clothes. ___√___

Fifty years ago, Singapore became an independent state.	
With no natural resources then, it became one of the	1)_____
region's leading economies base on the strength of its	2)_____
human resources, immigrants. Now, Singaporeans is	3)_____
among the world's wealthiest populations. It was a far cry	4)_____
from the island's humble begins, when more than a	5)_____
million Singaporeans lived in "squatters". A government	6)_____
has transformed the city with good infrastructure and	7)_____
nation building policies. With years of rapid growth and	8)_____
ranked the most expensive city on the world, Singapore	9)_____
currently face new challenges. The gap between rich and	10)_____
poor is among the widest in the developed world.	

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	

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Answer Scheme:

Fifty years ago, Singapore became an independent state.	
With no natural resources then, it became one of the	1)_____V_____
region's leading economies **base** on the strength of its	2)___based____
human resources, immigrants. Now, Singaporeans **is**	3)_____are_____
among the world's wealthiest populations. It **was** a far cry	4)_____is_____
from the island's humble **begins**, when more than a	5)___beginnings___
million Singaporeans lived in "squatters". A government	6)_____The_____
has transformed the city with good infrastructure and	7)_____V_____
nation building policies. **With** years of rapid growth and	8)_____After_____
ranked the most expensive city on the world, Singapore	9)_____in_____
currently **face** new challenges. The gap between rich and	10)____faces____
poor is among the widest in the developed world.	

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CEDAR GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2015
Secondary Three

CANDIDATE NAME

CLASS | | INDEX NUMBER | |

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/01

Paper 1 Writing

30 APRIL 2015

1 hour 50 minutes

Additional Materials: Writing Paper (4 Sheets)
Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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

Answer both **Section A**, **Section B** and one question from **Section C**.

Section A is an Insert.
For **Section A** write your answers in the spaces provided on the Insert.
For **Section B** and **Section C** write your answers on the separate Answer Paper provided.
Write the section and question number before you begin.

At the end of the examination, hand in Section A, B and C separately.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the head of each section.

This document consists of 4 printed pages and 1 Insert. [Turn over

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Section B [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 250 and 350 words for this section.

You should look at the printout on the next page, study the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

The June Holiday is approaching and, as part of the Secondary Three Enrichment Programme, the school has decided to provide students with the opportunity to work with organisations as interns. The Head of Student Development has provided each class with two choices and has asked each class to state their preference.

The aims of this programme are to broaden students' learning experience beyond classroom setting and improve students' communication skills.

As the class monitress, write a speech that you will present to the Secondary Three cohort during an afternoon assembly to explain your class' choice.

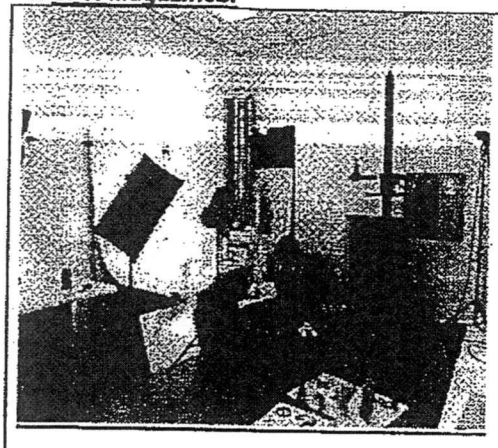
Your speech should include:

- your chosen organisation
- reasons for choosing to be part of their internship programme
- why the other choice is not suitable

Write your speech in clear, accurate English. You should use your own words as much as possible.

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1. SPH Magazines:



Description

The SPH Magazines Internship Programme offers a guided, hands-on experience to introduce and immerse you in the workings of the industry. This invaluable opportunity is also a great way to gain relevant job experience for future careers in publishing or related industries.

Editorial (Writing) Interns will be attached to one of our lifestyle or luxury magazines, namely Her World, Simply Her, Female, Nuyou, Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, The Singapore Women's Weekly, CLEO, The Peak, ICON, Young Parents, Home and Decor, Men's Health and HardwareMag.

You may be involved in the brainstorming sessions for ideas for the respective audiences of the publication you are assigned to. You would be required to write short stories and might be expected to coordinate your own stories and shoots. You may be required to source, loan and return items required for review or photo shoots.

There are opportunities for you to attend events which may occasionally be held in the evenings or over the weekends.

2. Resort World Sentosa Singapore:

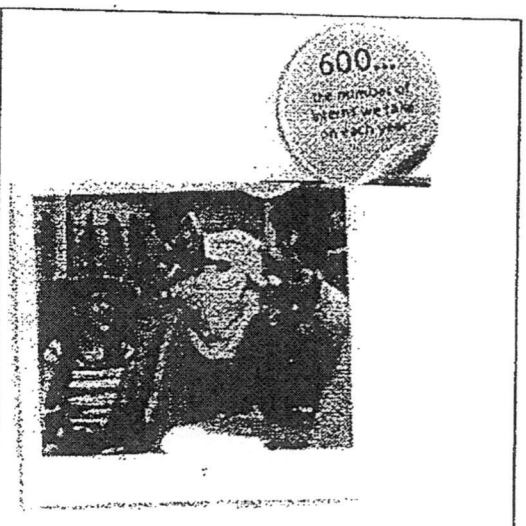
Description

An internship at Resorts World Sentosa gives you a fantastic first-hand experience of working life at Singapore's first Integrated Resort (IR).

Our structured training gives you close supervision with a dedicated mentor to provide feedback on your progress throughout your internship.

The variety of roles we have under one roof means you get to experience first-hand a full range of jobs (in the world's largest aquarium, corporate departments, food & beverage outlets, six hotels, retail stores, theme park, museum and much more).

The friendly faces of your fellow interns and some 13,000 team members from 40 different countries, gives you the opportunity to make new friends.



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SECTION C (30 MARKS)

Begin your answer on a fresh page.

You are advised to write between 350 and 500 words on <u>one</u> of the following topics.

At the head of your composition, write the number of the topic you have chosen.

1. Conflicts are necessary for healthy relationships. Write about occasions when you have found this to be true.

2. Parents should have full access to their children's social network accounts. What are your views?

3. Extroverts make effective leaders. Do you agree?

4. The place we reside in defines who we are. How far do you agree with this statement?

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CEDAR GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2015
Secondary Three

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1128/02

Paper 2 Comprehension
Insert

30 April 2015

1 hour 15 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains Text 1 and Text 2.

This document consists of 4 printed pages.

[Turn over

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Text 1

Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1-4 in the Question Paper Booklet.



Text from the Visual: Often we do not realise that persons with disabilities lack alternative routes to get around. To enable them to go about their daily lives, we just need to observe these simple rules. Avoid using elevators, seats and toilets designated for persons with disabilities. Also, do not park in front of ramps and in parking lots meant for them. Remember, their biggest disability is our apathy.

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Text 2

In the text below, a travel writer describes his encounter with Canadian singer Leonard Cohen and his revelations about the art of stillness. Read the text carefully and answer Questions 5-16 in the Question Paper Booklet.

1 The sun was scattering diamonds across the ocean as I drove toward the deserts of the east. Leonard Cohen, my hero since boyhood, was singing so long to Marianne on my sound system when I turned onto the snarl of freeways that clog and clutter central Los Angeles. The sharp winter sun disappeared behind a wall of grey for more than an hour, and then at last I drew out again into the clear. Turning off the freeway, I followed a riddle of side streets onto a narrower road, all but empty, that snaked up into the high, dark San Gabriel Mountains. Very soon all commotion fell away. Los Angeles simplified itself into a silhouette of peaks in the distance.

2 I came to a cluster of rough cabins scattered across a hillside. A small man in his sixties, stooped and shaven-headed, stood waiting for me in a rough parking lot. As soon as I got out of my car, he offered a deep ceremonial bow – though we'd never met before – and insisted on carrying my things into the cabin where I was to stay for the next few days. His dark and threadbare monastic robes flew around him in the wind. Once inside the shelter of the room, the monk tended to me and I could hardly believe that this religious-looking gentleman in wire-rimmed glasses and wool cap was in truth the singer and poet who'd been renowned for thirty years as an international heartthrob, a constant traveller, and an Armani-clad man of the world. Leonard Cohen had come to this Old World fortress to make a life – an art – out of stillness.

3 Sitting still, he said with unexpected passion, was "the real deep entertainment" he had found in his sixty-one years on the planet. Was he kidding? Cohen is famous for his mischief and ironies. He wasn't, I realised as he went on. "What else would I be doing?" he asked. "Would I be starting a new marriage with a young woman and raising another family? Finding new drugs, buying more expensive wine? I don't know. This seems to me the most luxurious and sumptuous response to the emptiness of my own existence."

4 Typically lofty and pitiless words; living on such close terms with silence clearly hadn't diminished his gift for golden sentences. But the words carried weight when coming from one who seemed to have tasted all the pleasures that the world has to offer. Being in this remote place of stillness had nothing to do with piety or purity, he assured me; it was simply the most practical way he'd found of working through the confusion and terror that had long been his bedfellows.

5 One evening, as my gracious host tried to instruct me in the proper way of siting in the lotus position – rigorous but relaxed – I couldn't find the words to tell him that I'd never been tempted to meditate. As one who'd been crossing continents alone since the age of nine, I'd always found my delight in movement; I'd even become a travel writer so that my business and pleasure could become one. Yet

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as Cohen talked about the art of sitting still (in other words, clearing the head and stilling the emotions) and as I observed the sense of attention, kindness, and even delight that seemed to arise out of this life of going nowhere – I began to think about how liberating it might be to give it a try. Going nowhere, as Cohen described it, was the grand adventure that makes sense of everywhere else. As he tries to find a life in which stage sets and performances disappear, one is reminded, at a level deeper than all words, how making a living and making a life sometimes point in opposite directions.

6 With machines coming to seem part of our nervous systems, while increasing their speed every season, we've lost our Sundays, our weekends, our nights off – our holy days, as some would have it; our bosses, junk mailers, our parents can find us wherever we are, at any time of day or night. More and more of us feel like emergency-room physicians, permanently on call, required to heal ourselves but unable to find the prescription for all the clutter on our desk.

7 I recalled how, not many years ago, it was access to information and movement that seemed our greatest luxury; nowadays it's often freedom from information, the chance to sit still, that feels like the ultimate prize.

Acknowledgements:
Text 1: Extracted from http://www.ncss.gov.sg/social_service/uncrpd_publicawareness.asp
Text 2: Adapted from *The Art of Stillness: Adventures in Going Nowhere* by Pico Iyer

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CEDAR GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2015
Secondary Three

CANDIDATE NAME

CLASS | INDEX NUMBER

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1128/02

Paper 2 Comprehension [Section A & B] **30 April 2015**

1 hour 15 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Booklet.

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use 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.

At the end of the examination, hand in your Comprehension Question Booklet and Insert.

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

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	
Section B	

This document consists of 6 printed pages.

[Turn over

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Section A [5 marks]

1. What idea is the photograph trying to establish? [1]

.....

.....

2. Refer to the headline "To you it's the easy way. To him it's the only way". What effect does it have on the reader and how is this relayed through the style of language used? [2]

.....

.....

.....

3. Refer to the text information provided. Suggest a practice that the public could adopt to ease the lives of persons with disability. [1]

.....

.....

4. How is irony portrayed through this phrase 'their biggest disability is our apathy'? [1]

.....

.....

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Section B [20 marks]

5. At the beginning of the text, the writer is travelling to the mountains from the city. Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 emphasises that the drive towards the mountain can be full of obstacles. Support your ideas with three details from the paragraph. [3]

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6. Quote two phrases from paragraph 1 which tells us that the area near San Gabriel Mountains is quiet and remote. [2]

Remote:	
Quiet:	

7. What could the writer be feeling when he describes the act of the monk "offer[-ing] a deep ceremonial bow – though we'd never met before –"? (line 12-13) [1]

.....

.....

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8. 'I could hardly believe that this religious-looking gentleman in wire-rimmed glasses and wool cap was in truth the singer and poet who'd been renowned for thirty years as an international heartthrob, a constant traveller, and an Armani-clad man of the world.' (Lines 16-19)

i. Explain the contrast in this sentence. [1]

.....

.....

ii. What is the effect of this contrast? [1]

.....

.....

9. Why does Cohen describe the experience of sitting still as 'the real deep entertainment' (line 21)? [2]

.....

.....

.....

10. In paragraph 3, Cohen states '<u>this</u> seems to me the most luxurious and sumptuous response to the emptiness of my own existence." (Lines 26-27) What does 'this' refer to? [1]

.....

.....

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11. In paragraph 4, Cohen is described as a person whose 'words carried weight when coming from one who seemed to have tasted all the pleasures that the world has to offer.' (Lines 29-31)

What does this suggest about the writer's opinion of Cohen as a person? [1]

.....

.....

12. In paragraph 5, why does the writer say that he'd 'never been tempted to meditate'? (Line 36) [1]

.....

.....

13. In paragraph 5, 'Going nowhere, as Cohen described it, was the grand adventure that *makes sense of everywhere else.*' (lines 42-43)

Paying attention to the italicised words above, how is meditation described here similar to the writer's favourite activity of travelling? [1]

.....

.....

14. In paragraph 6, what is one aspect in which we are similar to 'emergency-room physicians'? (Line 51) **Answer in your own words.** [1]

.....

.....

15. Explain why 'freedom from information, the chance to sit still' is now the 'ultimate prize'. (Lines 54-55) [1]

.....

.....

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16. The structure of the text reflects the main stages in the recount provided by the writer. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the main focus of each stage of the recount. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use. [4]

Main Focus

Wise advice offered	Contemplative Reflection	Strange experience
Meaningful enlightenment		Picking up a new skill
A shocking discovery	Fascinating encounter	

Paragraph 1

Journey to the mountains

⇩

Paragraph 2

.....

⇩

Paragraph 3

.....

⇩

Paragraph 4

Making sense of a new concept

⇩

Paragraph 5

.....

⇩

Paragraph 6-7

.....

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(Expanded) Answer Scheme for Secondary 3 EL MYE Paper 2

Section A [5 marks]

1. **What idea is the photograph trying to establish? [1]**

   The inconsideration of the abled people/ public and the inconvenience they pose for the disabled. OR The helplessness of the disabled due to the inconsideration of others (Students should explain with descriptions from the photograph. However, as long as underlined words are provided, mark is awarded)

Also Accepted:

- Abled people are taking away the only route for a disabled person to move around, without trying to empathise with the disabled.
- Selfish behaviour towards people with disability /selfishness of people as they remain in the lift pretending not to see the disabled
- People are often caught up with their needs that they neglect the people who need it more than they do.
- Due to our convenience, people with disability are hampered by us.
- Description of the picture: disabled people are not able to get into the lift due to people using the lift as a convenient way to move around. (idea of people not showing consideration is implied.)
- Should show respect/concern for the disabled instead of showing/feigning ignorance & using alternative routes made for them

Not accepted:

- Make reader feel guilty
- Urge public to give way to disabled (how?)
- Convince public to be more gracious and give way to disabled (how?)
- Inform readers who are of normal ability to let disabled have priority to use facilities specially for them (how?)
- We should use other ways to get around rather than a route that's meant for the disabled (preaching, why?)
- The picture shows a crowded lift with no room for a man in a wheelchair to enter, hence showing people should give way to people with disability. (Preaching. Inconsideration/ helplessness not reflected)
- It shows how we have misused facilities meant for people with disabilities. (Lift is open to all to use)

Inferential

2. **Refer to the headline "To you it's the easy way. To him it's the only way". What effect does it have on the reader and how is this relayed through the style of language used? [2]**

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Effect: To remind the reader to look beyond our own convenience and show more consideration for people with disabilities/ To allow the reader to empathise with/ relate to/ be aware of the plight of the disabled people [1]

Also Accepted:
- Make people realise that we must give way to the disabled
- allow people to reflect that abled people have alternative means of moving around but disabled does not.
- sympathise with disabled people & allow them to take the lift as it is their only route
- feel pity towards the disabled as people misuse facilities for their own convenience.

Not accepted:
- tell the reader to make way whenever necessary
- Realise that taking the lift is our luxury which is disabled people's only option
- make reader feel guilty for not helping the disabled

Style of language: through the use of contrast where different perspectives of the disabled and the abled reader are shown OR through different word choice of 'easy' and 'only' which shows the limited options for the disabled in contrast with the abled [1] Note: must mention both 'easy' and 'only' if highlighting word choice and diction

Also Accepted:
- Comparison between disabled and abled person

Not accepted:
- 'only way' is to make reader sympathise with disabled people so that reader will make a change ('easy' is not explained)
- Repetition of the word 'way' emphasises how we can present bringing disabled inconvenience
- Repetition of 'to' to compare importance of facility??
- Use of short sentences to give crisp and clear tone?

Inferential – Language Literary

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3. Refer to the text information provided. Suggest a practice that the public could adopt to ease the lives of persons with disability. [1]

Avoid using elevators, seats and toilets (infrastructure) designated for persons with disabilities. OR Do not park in front of ramps and in parking lots meant for them.

Also accepted:
- Avoid using services/areas/facilities designated for the disabled.
- Do not park in front of ramps (ok to accept this by itself without the phrase 'designated for disabilities')

Not accepted:
- Avoid using things that are specially made for them.
- Could make way for the disabled instead of obstructing their path & make it easy for them (how?)
- use stairs/ escalators instead of the lift

Direct Literal

4. How is irony portrayed through this phrase 'their biggest disability is our apathy'? [1]

One would expect the disabled to be hampered by their own physical limitations, but in reality, the inconsideration/ lack of concern posed by the public serves as a greater hindrance to the functioning of people with disability.

(Note: what is expected and the actual opposite outcome must be contrasted.)

Also accepted:
- Our apathy causes them to be more disabled that they already are.
- Biggest challenge faced is not their handicapped state but rather the selfish nature of people.
- Greatest obstacle is not getting the support from normal people & instead makes their lives more difficult.
- Disability is the inability to move around but main factor resulting in them not able to move around freely is the inconsideration of people.
- Irony is portrayed when disability lies with others and not themselves.

Not accepted:

- Their disability is not their disabled body parts but abled people not being understanding towards disabled people. (degree not highlighted)
- They already have disability, but they still have another disability which is our cold shoulder towards them.

Inferential – Language Literary

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Section B [20 marks]

5. At the beginning of the text, the writer is travelling to the mountains from the city. Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 emphasises that the drive towards the mountain can be full of obstacles. Support your ideas with three details from the paragraph. [3]

- 'snarl of freeways that clog and clutter' – 'snarl' suggests how the expressways interconnected and congregated together in an entangled manner while 'clog and clutter' suggests that traffic jams are common and he can be delayed by them.

  Accepted: roads are blocked & confusing/ jammed/ heavy traffic encountered/ traffic that obstructed the way/ crowded & difficult to navigate through the traffic/ roads/ roads are crowded with cars hence drive had many obstacles/ many junctions & making one wrong turn could lead writer to a completely different place.

  Not accepted: sudden & sharp turns/ easy to get lost/ confusing to find the correct road/ road layout is messy/ haphazard/ disorganised/ busy and chaotic/ cramped/ windy/ dangerous/ clumped together thus not easy to drive through/ need to drive carefully because of all the traffic

- 'followed a riddle of side streets (all but empty)' – this suggests that he has to pass by unfamiliar/foreign/confusing small lands in order to go up to the mountains which he can get lost in if he misses a turn

  Accepted: roads were confusing/ complicated/ hard to look for & navigate
  Confusing & cramped (gave a mark)

  Not accepted: cramped/ cannot comprehend what the signs were saying/ hard to drive near the mountains hence dangerous & hard (how?)/ Tedious drive (which means long, dull, boring drive)

  Note: if students quote 'followed a riddle of side streets (all but empty) onto a narrower road': Not accepted: roads were narrow, long, difficult to drive through/ need to navigate through many minor roads before driving onto main road to the mountains

  Accepted: If students quote 'narrower road' only and explains that the width of the road was small and the driver had to be careful driving/more alert making it hard to drive. Not accepted: requiring a lot of patience to drive

- 'Snaked up into the high, dark San Gabriel Mountains' – snaked up suggests a winding/twisting path up slope which (unlike a direct path) requires more effort and care from the driver.

  Accepted: road is winding thus difficult to drive/ path was inclined & long thus tiring
  Not accepted: dangerous & steep/ creepy/ had many turns (hence?)

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Not accepted: (X) 'The sharp winter sun disappeared behind a wall of grey for more than an hour, and then at last I drew out again into the clear.' - drive was long/ had to pass through a tunnel/ unclear and dark/ obstructing view of driver

Inferential – Language Literary

6. Quote two phrases from paragraph 1 which tells us that the area near San Gabriel Mountains is quiet and remote. [2]

Remote:	all but empty
Quiet:	all commotion fell away

Not accepted for Remote: simplified itself into silhouette of peaks/ silhouette of peaks in the distance/ Deserts of the East

Direct – Vocabulary

7. What could the writer be feeling when he describes the act of the monk "offer[-ing] a deep ceremonial bow – though we'd never met before –"? (line 12-13) [1]

amazed, surprised, astonished, impressed, honoured, intrigued, puzzled, fascinated, bewildered, confused, baffled, perplexed, respected, welcomed
X stunned, startled, shocked, taken aback, curious (eager to find out), strange/ odd /awkward /out of place/ humbled

Students need to relate to the experience of a 'deep ceremonial bow' offered by someone whom they are meeting for the first time. Adjectives should contain an element of surprise and positive feeling or attention being momentarily captured due to the unusual act or confused as it is unusual.

Contextual clues: His dark and threadbare monastic robes flew around him in the wind.

I could hardly believe that this rabbinical-seeming gentleman in wire-rimmed glasses and wool cap was in truth the singer and poet who'd been renowned for thirty years as an international heartthrob, a constant traveller, and an Armani-clad man of the world.

Inferential

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8. 'I could hardly believe that this religious-looking gentleman in wire-rimmed glasses and wool cap was in truth the singer and poet who'd been renowned for thirty years as an international heartthrob, a constant traveller, and an Armani-clad man of the world.' (Lines 16-19)

i. Explain the contrast in this sentence. [1]

He describes the current state of monk who now appears holy/ cultured in contrast to his past of being a popular secular artiste/ secular past as a pop star who is doused/clothed in branded clothes.

Also accepted:
- famous, fashionable but now down to earth and living simply
- simple life versus a man who led a luxurious life
- change his character from international heartthrob to religious looking gentleman and even dressing from Armani clad to man in rimmed glasses & wool cap (note: through some lifting but some attempts to explain the change)
- description of appearance of Cohen is total opposite from what Cohen used to look like
- Appearance of the monk does not seem to be that of a once famous person.
- Calm peaceful versus singer who's always moving and loud.
- Simple humble looking man was actually a singer who was active and extravagant
- Comparison between Cohen who's now a religious monk and in the past when he was a renowned singer.
- Comparison between monk and past Cohen in terms of looks, outfit and lifestyle

Not accepted: (wholesale lifting)
- International heartthrob whom one would assume wear clothes from Armani is dressed in wire-rimmed glasses and wool cap
- Religious man would not be known as someone who would be loved by many and an Armani-clad man
- Comparison of Cohen as an international heartthrob, an Armani clad man to a religious-looking gentleman which is a huge difference (not clear enough)
- Looks traditional/ old-fashioned but he is famous (no comparison of time)
- Someone that is supposed to be famous appears to be a simple man (no comparison of time and wrong use of word 'simple')

ii. What is the effect of this contrast? [1]

To show the drastic/ tremendous change of Cohen from a worldly man to a religious monk.
Need to highlight degree of change.

How meditation can completely change a person/ how stillness can cause a complete change in a person. / 180 degree change thus emphasising how much his life has changed.

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Not accepted:

- shows how much Cohen has changed and how differently he lives his life now (unclear intensity)

- Portrays the fact that the singer has changed (intensity not shown)
- Enhance the disbelief of the author and portray the changes the man has been through (intensity not shown)
- Highlight difference in expected image and image in reality (Not a façade. Merely a huge change between past and present)
- Even though he's a renowned person, he's still down to earth.

Both: Inferential – Language

9. Why does Cohen describe the experience of sitting still as 'the real deep entertainment' (line 21)? [2]

It is an **enjoyment/pleasure/relaxation /** enjoyable to him **[1]** (must explain the word 'entertainment' & no lifting of the phrase 'real deep entertainment') that is profound and meaningful/ gives him meaning/ keeps him engaged/occupied to fill up the emotional void/ vacuum/ emptiness of his life / fulfilling to comfort the feeling of nothingness./ meaningful/ satisfaction and solace / reflect on his self and work through the troubles he had/ find his true self beneath the façade, glitz and glamour/ most luxurious and sumptuous or best response to the emptiness of his own existence. [1]

Not accepted: escape from all his mischief/ most practical way of escaping confusion and terror/ in the past had no time to think, now he has time to think/ felt that his existence was hollow and cluttered with too many activities and being able to take a breath was the true form of entertainment/ tried all the pleasures in life and decided that sitting still was the best/ best response to his lack of soul/ avoids remembering his past and maintains peace/ block off everything that's happening outside/ grand adventure that makes sense of everything

Contextual clue: most luxurious and sumptuous response to the emptiness of my own existence.

Inferential – Vocabulary

10. In paragraph 3, Cohen states '**this** seems to me the most luxurious and sumptuous response to the emptiness of my own existence." (Lines 26-27) What does 'this' refer to? [1]

Accepted: Sitting still/ mediation/ act of meditating/ making a life out of stillness
Not accepted: sitting still and doing nothing / being a monk/ the life he has at the cabin in San Gabriel Mountains/ luxurious lifestyle in the past/ living his life on the edge and full of mischief/ starting a new marriage.....expensive wine / peaceful & simple lifestyle/ act of doing what majority does

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Contextual clue: Sitting still, he said with unexpected passion, was "the real deep entertainment" he had found in his sixty-one years on the planet.

Direct Literal

11. In paragraph 4, Cohen is described as a person whose 'words carried weight when coming from one who seemed to have tasted all the pleasures that the world has to offer.' (Lines 29-31)

What does this suggest about the writer's opinion of Cohen as a person? [1]

Respectable, Influential or wise (Any one of the answers)

Also accepted: an inspiration to him/ inspirational/ experienced/ has been through a lot in life/ someone who has tried and done many things in life/ admires Cohen for having a lot of life experiences/ truly respects Cohen & believes he has experienced everything in the world.

Not accepted: looks up to Cohen/ respects him/ one who once have the most luxurious life/ Cohen has meaningful experiences/ someone who gets everything he wants

Inferential

12. In paragraph 5, why does the writer say that he'd 'never been tempted to meditate'? (Line 36)
He'd always found delight in movement/ travelling. [1]

Also accepted: values movement greatly/ enjoys moving about and used to moving around/ enjoys adventuring and exploring the world/ outgoing person who does not find delight in staying still/ finds it more satisfying to move around/ likes or loves travelling/ prefers to move about rather than sitting still.

Not accepted: had a busy life mainly dedicated to travelling and was always busy/ his life was full of adventure and he had never settled down at a particular place to relax/ active & found joy being active/ constantly out and about as he travels around frequently/ was always moving around or travelling so he cannot sit still

Direct – Literal

13. In paragraph 5, 'Going nowhere, as Cohen described it, was the grand adventure that *makes sense of everywhere else*.' (lines 42-43)

Paying attention to the italicised words above, how is meditation described here similar to the writer's favourite activity of travelling? [1]

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Like travelling, meditation allows one to **understand/comprehend/be aware** of what is **happening in the world/** in the **surroundings** around us.

Accepted: gain knowledge of another place/ understand the possibilities and opportunities in life which can be exciting/ understand everywhere else around him/ see the world, just in different ways/ acknowledge everything around you / understand different countries/ places

Not accepted: reflect & appreciate what is taken for granted/ giving meaning to places (how?) / Cohen's hobby versus writer's hobby/ an adventure of making sense of everything else in life (some lifting)/ experience new things/ explore the unknown and feel attention, kindness and delight/ fulfil one's senses such as delight/ feel delighted and a sense of belonging/ feel happiness/ discover new things (travel) and meditation allows you to explore anywhere you can find in the world/ experience new places versus experience his self/ experience everything through their minds versus physically.

Inferential – vocabulary

14. In paragraph 6, what is one aspect in which we are similar to 'emergency-room physicians'? (Line 51) **Answer in your own words.** [1]

Contextual clues: (Lifted) *permanently on call, required to heal ourselves but unable to find the prescription for all the clutter on our desk.* (Lifted) *We've lost our Sundays, our weekends, our nights off – our holy days, as some would have it.*

constantly contactable/ at risk of being on duty / expected to be found whenever we are needed/ have to be available every second of the day/ always have to tend to things 24 hours non-stop/ always busy dealing with high stress situations/ too busy (& rushing around)/ always on the go to reaching out people through the use of technology/ always on our feet ready to get the job done/ constantly asked or told to do something & have to be ready for any unexpected things/ expected to be prepared for any urgent matters/ regular contact with others who require us to complete tasks regardless whether we want to or not

OR

no free time to ourselves/ do not have time to relax/ not being able to relieve ourselves from the stress we are constantly facing/ unable to live the life we want in peace

OR

sacrifice/ compromise time for ourselves/ accessible at every single point of our lives ready to drop everything and rush off to settle issues with no time for ourselves to relax and rejuvenate

OR

Has the responsibility/obligation to keep ourselves healthy/safe/sane but not possible to save/cure ourselves/preserve our sanity by ourselves when we are in need

Not accepted: always on standby thus? **Direct – Vocabulary**

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15. Explain why 'freedom from information, the chance to sit still' is now the 'ultimate prize'. (Lines 54-55) [1]

As people are overwhelmed by constant movement and overload of information, people value/ appreciate having peace/quiet more./ Today we are bombarded with information and always moving around due to our busy lives and the opportunity to meditate is rare and therefore precious, hence likened it to be an 'ultimate prize'.

Contextual clue: not many years ago, it was access to information and movement that seemed our greatest luxury; nowadays it's often freedom from information, the chance to sit still, that feels like the ultimate prize. + paragraph 6.

Also accepted:

- Too much information and people are not able to be free from all the information and relax
- Because people are so busy with work, taking a break by meditating is what they desire/want/yearn for
- Everyone is so busy working that they do not have time to rest, hence the ability to rest and be in peace away from work is the ultimate prize
- Get a break from the stressful workload and can relax without looking at information and doing work
- Unwind from overwhelming information is a privilege as not everyone is able to disconnect themselves from the bustling world
- Do not experience time to relax because of hectic lifestyle that keeps us busy all day, hence we yearn for peace
- Ultimate prize as no one is able to free themselves from new information and they are always on the move
- Schedule is packed that having some or even little time to rest and be free from work to discover self is rare and having it would be priceless/precious
- Because we lack the chance to rest due to overwhelming work
- Sitting still lets us feel relaxed, calm... which gives a better feeling than having to move around to take charge
- We are so busy that having time to relax is a luxury.
- Being able to escape our hectic lifestyles and form an internal vacuum rid of our busyness would offer a much desired respite

Not accepted:

- We all seek luxury that we lose peace.
- It is the ultimate prize as it is only then we're enabled to rest as we are exposed to new things all the time.
- Compared to being under stress, sitting still relieves us from stress as we no longer have to worry about anything
- As we're exposed to the world and knowledge, we find ourselves getting busier. (thus?) **Inferential**

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(Expanded) Answer Scheme for Secondary 3 EL MYE Paper 2

16. The structure of the text reflects the main stages in the recount provided by the writer. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the main focus of each stage of the recount. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use. [4]

Main Focus

Wise advice offered	Contemplative Reflection	Strange experience
Meaningful enlightenment	Picking up a new skill	
A shocking discovery	Fascinating encounter	

Flow Chart

Paragraph 1
Journey to the mountains

↓

Paragraph 2
Fascinating encounter

↓

Paragraph 3
Wise advice offered

↓

Paragraph 4
Making sense of a new concept

↓

Paragraph 5
Meaningful enlightenment

↓

Paragraph 6-7
Contemplative reflection

X shocking discovery/ strange experience

X Meaningful enlightenment/ shocking discovery/ contemplative reflection

X picking up a new skill/ wise advice offered

X meaningful enlightenment

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(Expanded) Answer Scheme for Secondary 3 EL MYE Paper 2

Table of Specifications

Question no	Literal	Inferential	Language (Vocabulary)	Language (Literary)
Q1		1		
Q2		1		1
Q3	1			
Q4				1
Q5				3
Q6	2			
Q7		1		
Q8i			1	
Q8ii				1
Q9		1	1	
Q10	1			
Q11		1		
Q12	1			
Q13			1	
Q14			1	
Q15		1		
Total mark allocation	5/21	6/21	4/21	6/21
Percentage	23.8%	28.6%	19%	28.6%

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