

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS XI EXAMINATION

APRIL/ MAY 2019

English Compulsory Paper II

Time: 2 hours 05 minutes Marks: 60

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

**I agree that this is my name and school.
Candidate's Signature**

RUBRIC

2. There are FOUR questions. Answer ALL questions. Question 3 offers TWO choices and Question 4 offers THREE choices. Attempt any ONE of the options in each.
3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.
Use a black pointer to write your answers. DO NOT write your answers in pencil.
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.
DO NOT write outside the answer box.
Complete your answer in the allocated space only.
4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ().

Q.1. (Total 17 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

TEXT A

5 With the number of professional résumé writers available to turn a phrase and put a spin on your qualifications, the importance of writing your own résumé may be minimised. Throughout your career, you must be able to summarise your work history, outline your skills and emphasise traits you have that could qualify you for future work. Without the ability to craft a professional qualifications' statement such as a résumé, your career might reach a dead end.

10 Résumé writing is important for making the transition from school to the workforce. When you are in learning mode, you are focused on the theory that underlies the kind of work you're interested in. However, once you complete your education, you must focus on the practical application of your skills. This is true for everyone, from high school graduates to students receiving post-graduate university degrees and every type of schooling in between. Your ability to transfer learning to actual demonstrations of your skills and knowledge in a work environment should be part of your description of your capabilities and qualifications in a résumé.

15 Once you are in the workforce, your résumé contains a summary of what you do for a living. Whether you are an executive assistant or the executive manager of a large corporation, you must be able to explain what you do. The ability to explain your responsibilities and the purpose of your duties is what enables you to move from one position to another. A well-written résumé is proof that you understand how your tasks and responsibilities fit into the overall goals of the organisation for which you work.

20 Although a résumé is not the most effective way to demonstrate your composition skills, it does show your ability to write in a comprehensible manner so that employers understand your capabilities. A résumé generally is written in fragmented language and is, therefore, not an ideal illustration of writing skills. A solid résumé will accurately explain your background, areas of expertise and qualifications – an important tool to help you compete with other applicants in the job market.

25 Your résumé often is a reflection of your self-confidence. People who struggle with writing their own résumés must rely on friends and professional résumé writers to pull together a document that makes them look good on paper. If you do not have confidence in your skills and if you are unable to showcase your qualifications, writing a résumé can be quite a challenge. If you are not sure you can write a good résumé, there is nothing wrong with getting help. Sending in a letter-perfect résumé will give you more confidence than trying to get by on your own uncertain efforts.

35 Updating your résumé forces you to reevaluate your strategies. In doing so, you can identify the areas where you need to improve and areas where you have been successful. The importance of maintaining an up-to-date résumé helps you to review your personal goals as well. Over the course of your career, you will come to better understand your professional traits and your personal traits and how they mesh with the workplace.

Source: Adapted from the article 'What Is the Importance of Résumé Writing?' by Ruth Mayhew

TEXT B

Jane Doe's Résumé Sample

Jane Doe

Junior Architect

A strong believer in the ability of the architecture and research combined with design thinking for strengthening our societies and having a positive effect on the world. Only together can we build a better future, therefore my communication and team-working skills.

✉ jane.doe@gmail.com

📞 920 - 119 44 512

📍 Copenhagen

🌐 jane-doe.com

📷 instagram.com/jane.doe

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern Architect

Chaufontaine Architects

07/2016 – 06/2017

Achievements/Tasks

- Developed and executed online, social media and print marketing strategies for the new projects.
- Participated in all phases of the design and construction processes on 6 major projects nationally and internationally.
- Produced drawings and layouts and assisted the clients throughout the projects. Clients had a satisfaction rate of over 95%.
- Created 3D models, renderings and video animations.

EDUCATION

MSc Space Syntax: Architecture and Cities Bartlett School of Architecture (UCL)

08/2014 – 06/2016

(UCL Architecture Department Excellence Award Winner)

- Spatial Dynamics and Computation
- Architectural Phenomena
- Buildings, Organisations and Networks
- Design as a Knowledge-Based Process

PERSONAL PROJECTS

NOTBLOX® Affordable Housing Project:
Assembling Sustainable Communities with
Insulating Concrete Forms (06/2016) [🔗](#)

- The jury called this design "handsome and sophisticated" and commended it on its demonstration of the ease of its construction. The project also demonstrated many options for the use of vinyl.

The S House: A Passive House (09/2015) [🔗](#)

- The form, structure and mechanical features of the building are integrated into a single shell. For example, the louvers also act as a screen along the facade of the building.

SKILLS

Presentation & Public Speaking



Active Listening



Perseverance



Teamwork



Written & Oral Communication



Creativity & Problem Solving



TECHNICAL (IT) SKILLS

Graphics

Hand Drafting, Sketching, Autodesk AutoCAD, ArgGIS, Adobe Creative Cloud Suite

Bim & 3D Modeling

Sketchup Pro, SU Podium, Autodesk Revit

Platforms

Windows & OSX Operating systems, Microsoft Office, Google Drive/Docs

Other

Basic Web Development, Model Building, Darkroom Techniques, Professional level Digital + Film Photography

LANGUAGES

English



Danish



German



Spanish



INTERESTS

Artificial Intelligence

Virtual Reality

Chess

Travelling

Painting

Marathons

- a. By referring to Text A, briefly discuss in your OWN words the importance of a résumé in THREE points. (4 Marks)

- b. If you were the author of Text A, which detail would you have elaborated upon and why? (2 Marks)

- c. Imagine you are a professional résumé writer hired by Jane Doe. By referring to Text B, suggest TWO ways in which you would update her résumé. Give reason to support your suggestion. (3 Marks)

d. Summarise Text A in not more than 150 words.

(5 Marks)

e. Identify THREE qualities of Jane Doe's résumé (Text B) which are aligned to the guidelines of résumé writing described in Text A.

(3 Marks)

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Q.2. (Total 10 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and fill in each of the blanks with **ONE** suitable word.

Thunderstorms are common (1) _____ the northern and north-western areas of Pakistan. In the summer and the post-monsoon seasons, the atmospheric pressure falls and convectional currents (2) _____ sporadic and localised rainfall on the extreme north and the Safed Koh Mountains.

This is accompanied by strong winds from 60 to 80 kilometres per hour.

When (3) _____ windstorm is of high intensity, the roofs of the houses are badly (4) _____. Electricity and the communication systems also (5) _____ disturbed. Tropical cyclones (6) _____ the Arabian Sea can also affect the coastal areas of Sindh and Baluchistan.

In May 1999, a tropical cyclone '2A' hit the coastal areas of Sindh, causing wide-spread damage to the people and their belongings. The destruction caused by storms increases if rescue teams are either delayed (7) _____ are unreachable. There is a (8) _____ need that all the coastal areas (9) _____ have proper arrangement including flood monitoring cells, proper warning system, and rescue teams to (10) _____ such calamities.

Source: Adapted from '*Thunderstorms*' in General Science by Gaba Educational Books

Q.3.

(Total 15 Marks)

Write a formal letter of around 300-350 words on any **ONE** of the options **a** or **b**.

EITHER

- a. Your local city council is thinking of demolishing a historical landmark, which is one of the most famous tourist attractions in your city, to build a housing society.

Write a letter to the head of the council. In your letter,

- take a stance on the demolition.
- support your stance with TWO reasons.
- give a suggestion to the council in favour of your stance.

OR

- b. You have noticed that the number of visitors in your local library has decreased in the past few years. You also find that the books are in pitiful condition, some of which have torn pages and some are eaten by termites. You decide to write a letter to the head of the library.

In your letter, suggest TWO ways for each of the following:

- Improve the condition of the library and its books.
- Attract more visitors to the library.

Make your notes on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 8 and 9.

Option _____

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Q.4. (Total 18 Marks)

Write a composition of about 300-400 words on any **ONE** of the options **a, b** or **c**.
Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

EITHER

- a. Narrate an occasion when a famous person visited your school recently.

In your narration, describe

- who was the person and what is he/ she famous for.
- what was the reason for the visit.
- how you and the other people in your school reacted.

OR

- b. Detectives are often hired to investigate various crimes and mysteries. Imagine you are a detective.

Narrate an incident in which you solved a mystery. In your narration,

- create a believable situation.
- describe the setting and the people involved.
- elaborate the way in which you solved the mystery.

OR

- c. Copyright is a type of intellectual property right that protects original works. Copyright laws give the authors and artists the rights to their own pieces of work. Any unauthorised use, without permission from the author or artist, could result in copyright violation that has legal consequences. However, others argue that once something is published, it becomes public property and it is acceptable to use and distribute it without permission from the author or artist.

Write an essay arguing on whether it is ethical to use and distribute works of other people without their permission. In your essay,

- describe your stance on the issue of copyright violation.
- justify your stance by giving at least **THREE** reasons in support of your argument.
- give counter argument for any **ONE** reason that can be given against your argument.

Make your notes on the pages given for rough work. Write your final draft on pages 11 and 12.

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END OF PAPER

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