

CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE[®]
EXAMINATION

05 JANUARY 2024 (a.m.)



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FILL IN ALL THE INFORMATION REQUESTED CLEARLY IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

TEST CODE

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SUBJECT

ENGLISH A – Paper 02

PROFICIENCY

GENERAL

REGISTRATION NUMBER

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SCHOOL/CENTRE NUMBER

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NAME OF SCHOOL/CENTRE

CANDIDATE'S FULL NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

DATE OF BIRTH

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
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SIGNATURE



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**DO NOT
WRITE ON
THIS PAGE**



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FORM TP 2024008



TEST CODE 01218020

JANUARY 2024

CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE[®]
EXAMINATION

ENGLISH A

Paper 02 – General Proficiency

2 hours 40 minutes

READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. This paper consists of FOUR sections: A, B, C and D.
2. Section A consists of ONE question. You MUST answer this question.
3. Section B consists of ONE question. You MUST answer this question.
4. Section C consists of TWO questions. You MUST answer ONE question from this section.
5. Section D consists of ONE question. You MUST answer this question.
6. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
7. Do NOT write in the margins.
8. You are advised to take some time to read through the paper and plan your answers.
9. If you need to rewrite any answer and there is not enough space to do so on the original page, you must use the extra lined page(s) provided at the back of this booklet. **Remember to draw a line through your original answer.**
10. **If you use the extra page(s), you MUST write the question number clearly in the box provided at the top of the extra page(s) and, where relevant, include the question part beside the answer.**

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

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SECTION A

(Suggested time: 40 minutes)

You **MUST** answer this question.

Write your answer on the RULED PAGES provided, pages 6 and 7. There may be more space than you need. There is a blank space for any notes you may want to make. **THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.**

1. Read the following article on the effects of online shopping carefully. List **FIVE MAIN** points discussed, then write a summary of the article in **NOT MORE THAN 120 words** in **ONE PARAGRAPH**. If the word limit is exceeded, only the first 120 words of your answer will be read and assessed. You **MUST** include in your summary paragraph the five points you listed **AND** any other relevant points. A minimum of seven points is required in your summary in order for you to score full marks.

As far as possible, use your own words. Your summary must be in continuous prose. You **MUST** include in your summary paragraph the five points you listed **AND** other relevant points. You may use the space on page 5 to jot down a plan.

In your answer, you will be assessed on how well you

- (a) identify the main ideas and opinions in the extract
- (b) organize and express these ideas and opinions in your own words
- (c) use appropriate grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

The Effects of Online Shopping

The world is new and ever-changing, and in today's digital world, the fast, simple acquiring of goods and services is greatly desired. At a glance, people can be seen walking with their cell phones in hand, listening to music, texting, checking their bank accounts, and even shopping. The ways of old are becoming obsolete with brick-and-mortar retailers being swallowed alive by the online giants, such as Amazon and eBay. On Monday, September 18, 2017, the popular toy-store chain in the United States of America, Toys "R"Us, filed for bankruptcy after being afflicted with a \$5 billion debt and the ever-growing online giant, Amazon. Toys "R"Us decided to close some of its under-performing stores and, in turn, expand online operations. Toys "R"Us is not the only brick-and-mortar business that suffered at the hands of online retailers; businesses such as Blockbuster, Barnes & Noble, and Walmart have all been affected by online business.

Despite its hard hit on physical businesses, online shopping has proved to have many positive advantages for consumers. Online stores are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so the issue of a store closing before the consumer can make it on time is completely eliminated. Online shopping is exceptionally efficient during the holidays; shoppers do not have to bother with the long, exasperating lines, and they get to cut back on spending money on gas by staying indoors. Due to the lack of operating costs, online retailers can sell goods at lower prices; this makes the experience of online shopping not only faster and convenient, but it is also far cheaper than going to the physical store.

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Although these facts may make online shopping look like the best course of action, there are many downsides to doing online business. Back-order goods can prove to be exceedingly trying for shoppers, especially during the holidays. Shoppers also lose the person-to-person communication that an online retailer cannot provide. If issues arise during a purchase, having a human contact can resolve an issue faster and, oftentimes, more efficiently; it is also easier to be refunded as well. Online shopping is becoming an ever-growing replacement to brick-and-mortar business. This change can definitely be seen as a positive progression, but it could also prove to be a great downfall. The loss of brick-and-mortar business can render many individuals jobless; this can hurt many people financially, and job opportunities for individuals in the labor force could drop significantly.

*Samuel Syonavec, belltower.mtaioy.edu/2017/09/
the-effect-online shopping/- September, 2017*

Total 25 marks

SECTION A

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

SECTION A

Question 1

You MUST write your points for the summary on this page.

LIST OF FIVE MAIN POINTS

1

2

3

4

5

(5 marks)

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



0 1 2 1 8 0 2 0 0 6



You MUST write your summary on this page.

Blank handwriting practice paper with horizontal lines.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



SECTION B

(Suggested time: 30 minutes)

You MUST answer this question.

Write your answer on the RULED PAGES provided, pages 10 and 11. There may be more space than you need. There is a blank space on page 9 for any notes you may want to make. THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.

- 2. Study the situation presented below and then complete the task that follows.**

Your French club of 25 students at St. Xavier's Secondary School, is planning an excursion to the French island of Martinique, over the period August 15 to 20, 2024. You need information on the following:

- flights by the airline AIR PLUS for that period
- the cost of flight per student
- whether group discounts will be offered and
- information on reasonable hotel accommodation in Martinique.

The information is required by 1 July 2024 in order to adequately plan for the trip.

As President of the French Club, write a letter of enquiry to Ms. Sannyu Perle, Reservations Manager at True Blue Travel Agency in **your country**, requesting the information given above.

Write the letter of enquiry to the reservations manager.

Your letter MUST be in continuous prose.

Your answer will be assessed on how well you

- **format the letter**
- **select relevant and complete information**
- **organize and express the information**
- **use appropriate grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.**

Total 30 marks



SECTION B

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



0 1 2 1 8 0 2 0 0 9



Question 2

[illegible]

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This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of multiple sets of three horizontal dashed lines, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The lines are evenly spaced across the entire page, which is otherwise blank.

L

SECTION C

(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

You **MUST** answer **ONE** question from this section.

Your answer should be approximately 400 to 450 words in length.

Write your answer on the **RULED PAGES** provided, pages 14–17. You are expected to write within the word limit. There may be more space than you need. There is a blank space on page 13 for any notes you may want to make. **THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.**

You **MUST** write in Standard English. However, dialect may be used in conversation.

In your answer, you will be assessed on how well you

- (a) use the stimulus provided
- (b) develop and organize the content of your writing
- (c) use language appropriate to your audience, purpose and content
- (d) use appropriate grammar, sentence structure, paragraphs, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

EITHER

SHORT STORY

3. Write a story based on the picture below.



Source: <https://www.jotform.com/photography/35-powerful-photos-that-each-tells-a-story/>

(25 marks)



OR

4. "I turned the corner and what I saw caused me to laugh uncontrollably."

Write a story based on the sentence above.

(25 marks)

SECTION C

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

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0 1 2 1 8 0 2 0 1 3



Your answer to the question you have chosen in Section C should be written here.

CIRCLE the question number below that you have chosen to answer.

3

4

[illegible]

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



SECTION C

Your answer to the question you have chosen in Section C should be written here.

CIRCLE the question number below that you have chosen to answer.

Question No. 3 4

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

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CIRCLE the question number below that you have chosen to answer.

4

Blank handwriting practice paper with horizontal dashed lines.

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SECTION D

(Suggested time: 45 minutes)

You MUST answer this question.

Your answer should be approximately 250 to 300 words in length.

Write your answer on the RULED PAGES provided, pages 19–22. You are expected to write within the word limit. There may be more space than you need. There is a blank space below for any notes you may want to make. THIS WILL NOT BE MARKED.

You MUST write in Standard English.

In your answer, you will be assessed on

- (a) appropriate content
- (b) clarity, organization and the development of your argument
- (c) correctness of grammar, sentence structure, paragraphs, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation.

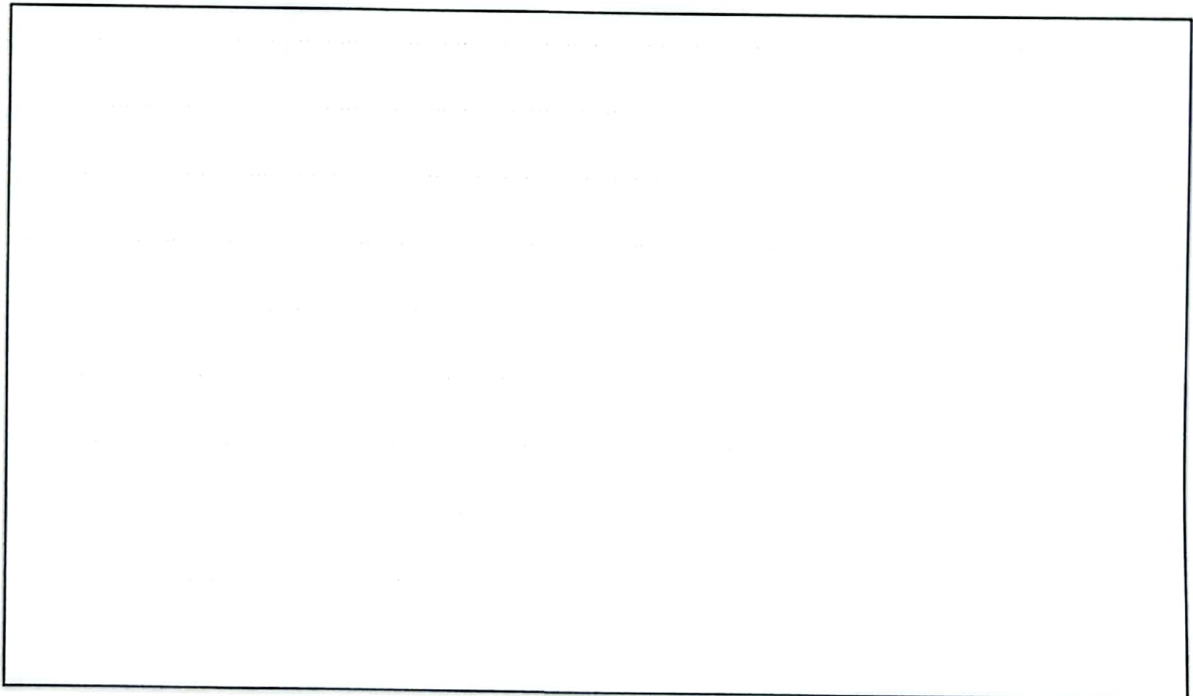
5. “Government should ban radio stations from playing music that promotes violence.”

Write an argumentative essay giving your views on the statement.

(25 marks)

SECTION D

You may make notes here. This will NOT be marked.



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0 1 2 1 8 0 2 0 1 8



SECTION D

Question 5

You MUST write your answer on this page.

[illegible]

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GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



Question 5

[This section contains horizontal dotted lines for student responses.]

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE



You MUST write your answer on this page.

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0 12 180202 1



You MUST write your answer on this page.

[illegible]

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS TEST.

L



Question No.

This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of approximately 20 horizontal rows. Each row is defined by two parallel dashed lines, one above and one below the writing area, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The lines are evenly spaced across the entire page, which is otherwise blank.

L



L

Question No.

[illegible]

0 12 180202 4



Question No.

[illegible]

L



If you use this extra page, you MUST write the question number clearly in the box provided.

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

L



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WRITE ON
THIS PAGE**



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CANDIDATE'S RECEIPT

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE

1. Fill in all the information requested clearly in capital letters.

TEST CODE

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SUBJECT

ENGLISH A – Paper 02

PROFICIENCY

GENERAL

REGISTRATION NUMBER

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FULL NAME

(BLOCK LETTERS)

SIGNATURE

DATE

2. Ensure that this slip is detached by the Supervisor or Invigilator and given to you when you hand in this booklet.
3. Keep it in a safe place until you have received your results.

INSTRUCTION TO SUPERVISOR/INVIGILATOR

Sign the declaration below, detach this slip and hand it to the candidate as his/her receipt for this booklet collected by you.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the candidate's booklet for the examination stated above.

Signature

Supervisor/Invigilator

Date

