



Cambridge International AS Level

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

8695/12

Paper 1 Writing

May/June 2026

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer Question 1.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Shorter writing and reflective commentary

Question 1

Your teacher has asked you to write the opening of a story which begins with the following sentence:
'As the door slowly opened, John had a really strong feeling that he shouldn't go in.'

- (a) Write the text for the opening of your story, using no more than **400** words. In your writing, create a sense of drama and suspense. [15]
- (b) Write a reflective commentary on your text, explaining how your linguistic choices contribute to fulfilling the task set by your teacher. [10]

Section B: Extended writing

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

Question 2

You recently saw a TV documentary about the problems caused by the amount of plastic we throw away. You decide to write a review of the documentary, which will be published on an environmental website. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

OR

Question 3

Write a descriptive piece called 'Departures', about the departure lounge in a busy airport. In your writing, focus on sound, movement and colour to help your reader imagine the scene. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

OR

Question 4

In class, you have been discussing whether children should be taught about money at school. You decide to write an article on the topic, which will be published in your school magazine. Write between **600** and **900** words. [25]

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