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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1 – CONTINUOUS WRITING 1310/1

Monday **7 JUNE 2021** 9:00 A.M.–10:10 A.M.
(1 hour plus 10 minutes
reading and planning time)

Additional materials:
Answer booklet

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and initials in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.

Write a composition based on **ONE** of the topics overleaf.

You should write between **350** and **500** words.

You should pay attention to punctuation, spelling and handwriting.

You will have **10** minutes to read and plan your topic. You should **NOT** begin to write your composition during this time. However, you should write your plan.

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

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.

This paper accounts for 40% of the total marks available for the examination in this subject.



This question paper consists of 4 printed pages.

Choose **ONE** of the following topics. Your writing should be planned on your answer paper.

1. Write a story which includes the following: "Ahead of him was a wall, at least nine feet high. His footsteps faltered and then stopped. How was he going to climb over it?"
2. Describe a very busy shopping centre that you have visited. Be sure to include a variety of sensory details in your response.
3. Explain what you find positive about **THREE** Bahamian cultural practices or traditions.
4. Write a story which includes the following sentence: "As I slowly and awkwardly made my way to the podium, waves of applause poured over me, bringing tears to my eyes."
5. It has been suggested that each household in The Bahamas should be limited to one car only. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your opinion.
6. Write a composition based on the following lines of poetry. You may write about any ideas that the poem suggests to you, or you may write a story or a description based on the subject of the poem. You should **NOT** write a poem.

Open your heart to happiness,...
Sing 'til your throat gets too sore.
Smile for as long as the day is,
And laugh just a little bit more.
Breathe slowly and deeply and listen.
Give all your ideas a chance.
Let the sun beat down on your goodness,
And kick off your shoes and dance.

From "Dance", by Paul Hayward, 2015

7. Some people believe that schools should provide free breakfast for all students. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your opinion.



8. Write a story, description, or any form of composition suggested by **ONE** of the photographs.

Your composition may be directly about the subject of the photograph or take some suggestions from it. There must be some clear connection between the photograph and your composition.

(a)



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School Number	Candidate Number
Surname and Initials	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 – AURAL COMPREHENSION CANDIDATE'S COPY 1310/2b

Tuesday **11 MAY 2021** 9:00 A.M.–10:15 A.M.

Additional materials:
Compact disc recording
CD player

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

DO NOT open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and initials in the spaces provided on the booklet.

The recording will be played **TWICE**.

FIRST PLAYING

Listen carefully to the **FIRST PLAYING** to gain a general impression of what is being said. **DO NOT** look at the **NOTES SECTION** or the **QUESTIONS** during the first playing.

AFTER THE FIRST PLAYING, turn to the **NOTES SECTION** of the paper. Read through the suggested points. Make any notes you wish on the points listed. Your notes will not be marked. **You will have 3 minutes.**

SECOND PLAYING

Listen again to the recording. You may make additional notes as you listen.

AFTER THE SECOND PLAYING, complete your note making. You will have 3 minutes. **You will be allowed a total of 45 minutes to complete your answers to PART TWO** of the test. Answer **ALL** questions.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks available for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.

This question paper consists of 8 printed pages and 4 blank pages.

PART ONE

You have just heard a recording of radio advertisements for various stores in New Providence.

Make some detailed notes on the **TEN** points listed below. **REMEMBER THAT YOU WILL NEED THESE NOTES IN THE SECOND PART OF THE TEST.** Therefore, make them as full and as accurate as you can.

YOUR NOTES ON THE RECORDING

1. Specific details about what Valencia says and does when Janet first greets her

2. Details about why Valencia is at the mall

3. Evidence that Valencia and Janet are friends

4. Savings that 'Plaids are Us' offers on school uniforms and supplies



5. Specific challenges that Janet faces

6. Items that 'Head to Toe' sells

7. Specific services that 'Party Central' offers

8. Various tones the speaker uses in the 'Party Central' advertisement



9. Specific details about Cinderella's life before **and** after visiting 'Cyber World'

Before her visit	After her visit

10. Methods used in the advertisements to capture and hold the listeners' attention

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO



BLANK PAGE

[Turn over

PART TWO

Write your answers to the following questions. Base your answers on the notes you took when you listened to the recording in **PART ONE**.

1. What tells you that Janet's children are with her at the mall?

[1]

2. Valencia says she's 'making Mama happy'. **Explain** how she is doing this.

[2]

3. What evidence is there to suggest that Janet and Valencia know each other well?

[2]

4. Describe **TWO** of the savings offered by 'Plaids are Us'

[2]



5. Give **THREE** specific challenges that Janet needs to deal with when taking care of her family.

[3]

6. Put a tick (✓) next to the **THREE** items that are sold at 'Head to Toe'.

- ☐ Watches
- ☐ Cell phones
- ☐ Gowns
- ☐ Neckties
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Blouses

[3]

7. Give **THREE** ways in which a salesperson at 'Party Central' can assist a customer who is planning a Sweet Sixteen party.

[3]

8. (a) The 'Party Central' advertisement mentions 'tying the knot'. Based on the recording, what does this expression mean?

[1]

- (b) The speaker in the 'Party Central' advertisement says, '*Don't worry. Leave everything in our hands*'. Identify the tone of voice the speaker uses when he makes this statement

[1]

9. Complete the table below to show how Cinderella's life changes in **THREE** ways after she shops at 'Cyber World'.

Cinderella's life BEFORE 'Cyber World'	Cinderella's life AFTER 'Cyber World'
1.	
2.	
3.	

[6]



10. Identify **THREE** techniques/methods used in the recording of the advertisements to capture and hold the listeners' attention. Place your ideas in the chart below, supporting each one with details from the recording.

ADVERTISING TECHNIQUES/METHODS	SUPPORT
1.	
2.	
3.	

[6]

TOTAL MARKS [30]

End]

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 3 – WRITTEN COMPREHENSION & DIRECTED WRITING 1310/3

Wednesday **9 JUNE 2021** 9:00 A.M.–11:10 A.M.
(including 10 minutes
reading time)

Additional materials:
Answer booklet

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
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BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and initials in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.

Answer **ALL** the questions in the answer booklet provided.

Number your answers clearly.

Special attention should be given to the directions for each question.

Work should be neat and well-organized.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks available for each question or part question is shown in brackets.

Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.



This question paper consists of 6 printed pages and 2 blank pages.

Read the following passage carefully before you attempt any questions.

THE VALUE OF LEARNING A TRADE

We live in a society that values “white-collar” professions such as medicine, law, or accounts, and that considers “blue-collar” or trade professions, such as plumbing, carpentry, dressmaking or auto mechanics, to be of lower status. Many parents push their children to pursue careers that would increase or maintain their social status instead of “limiting” themselves to careers in the trade industry. Often teachers object if academically successful students pursue trade-oriented careers, calling it a “waste of talent”.

This view is destructive. Individuals should be helped to develop the professional skills their talents and preferences lead them toward, rather than be **condemned** to jobs they may eventually detest. When we look around, there is an obvious need in the Bahamian society for people whose speciality is a trade job. Many skills needed to compete in the local and global market of the 21st century are those that fall into the technical or vocational area.

A local Bahamian newspaper recently interviewed several workers in the trade industry. Read the following excerpts from those interviews and consider, among other things, why people should learn a trade.

Nail Technician – Grace Meadows

In January 2012, I became a very proud graduate of a technical college – BTVI – at the age of 19. Initially, many thought that I was ‘wasting my talents’ by not completing traditional tertiary education. Because I had passed seven BGCSEs, they thought that I should have gone to the College of The Bahamas and become a bank teller, accountant or even a teacher (yawns). What they failed to realise was that doing manicures and pedicures was my passion! I spent countless hours watching YouTube videos, scrolling Instagram pics and pouring through Facebook posts for the latest trends. After graduation, with the help of my mom I immediately started my very own business, “Nailed It!”. I began with a very small clientele who sometimes do not pay: my family members, neighborhood, church, and school friends! However, after I established my personal web page, Facebook, Instagram and twitter account, my business practically blew up! It’s because of my clients that I can live very comfortably in my own home in Westridge as well as take trips to exotic locations such as Paris. Despite all the ups and downs, I have never regretted making the decision to pursue my dream career.

Electrician – Clifford Walkes – Grand Bahama

When I was about nine, I had the opportunity to hang out with my uncle, who had a sound system. I was fascinated by the work he did fixing his and everyone’s systems and would find myself sitting and watching him for hours. When I went to high school, I took up a trade as an electrician and continued my studies in college. Everyone and everything uses some form of energy source, so I knew that as an electrician I would always have a job. Although I love the work, it is quite disappointing when people don’t want to pay you. They look at it and say, “That’s all you did?” and don’t consider the hard work and effort you put in or the risks that are involved in it; you could be electrocuted by working with live wires. But I get a thrill out of my job. Having electrical repairs done can be very expensive. A house call for a consultation alone can start anywhere from \$50 dollars and that’s without me doing anything at all. That’s a spark to my wallet.



Carpentry Teacher – Howard Sampson

40 As a carpentry teacher of 20-plus years, I have found *tremendous* fulfillment and satisfaction in my career. Teaching young people to use their hands to create one-of-a-kind designs or provide an essential service to my country is an indescribable feeling. I simply cannot express the joy of looking at a regular piece of wood and transforming it into a masterpiece through using a hammer, handsaw and measuring tape skillfully. I wasn't always a happy man. My parents refused to pay my college
45 tuition when I told them I wanted to become a carpenter. Their dream was for me to become a doctor. A doctor! I admire doctors greatly, but I can't even stand the sight of blood. Anyway, we reached a compromise and they "let me" become an educator in the technical field. So, here I am today, doing work that I love. I also have my own small business building cabinets, bookshelves, and repairing roofs. Being able to employ some of my top students during the summer months also adds an extra
50 layer of love to my job. There is no greater joy than building on the foundation of my love for carpentry! Get it? (*laughing heartily*)

Seamstress – Wendyra Bowleg

I have been in love with sewing for 20 years. I was prompted to learn when my store-bought clothes always had to be altered. I was a tiny little thing back then in Cat Island, and liked to dress up, so
55 sewing for myself would fix all my problems. One of my mentors got me started and with a skirt pattern, zipper and one yard of fabric, I made my first skirt and, voila! I became a seamstress. Once Nikki, my daughter, and Travis, my better half, have gone to school and work, and once I've cleaned the house, I spend hours sitting behind my sewing machine, um, *entranced* by its hum, watching the fabric race across the machine and getting lost in my thoughts. I sew for Nikki and Travis. I also sew
60 school and church uniforms, lots of them. People admire my craftsmanship and most times I don't know how to respond. I simply smile and say politely, "Thank you. You really think so?" I don't like much attention. Through sewing I help others *and* make a small but steady income from the comfort of my home. Sometimes I sew for free for my church's praise team members. I don't mind. It was God who blessed me with my talent.

Hairstylist – Shanny Anderson

65 Since I was a little girl, I've been *fascinated* by hairstyling. By the end of high school, I decided to take up the trade at a local vocational college, where I studied cosmetology. When I visited salons on work experience, I noticed there was a lack of salon etiquette. I wanted to see better practices because hairdressing is not a "front porch" career, so I pursued an advanced course at Dudley's and obtained
70 instructor's certification in North Carolina. It's been six years since high school and I will soon be Dr. Anderson. At 25, not only do I fix hair, but I train other beauticians. The training sessions are early in the morning. Then I go to my salon and there I am until I finish the last customer. The field is competitive, so I hustle hard and even offer consultations and house calls to my 'well-off' clients. They know that I'm one of the best in the business, so they pay to play and there's no "I owe you".
75 And at the end of the day, when I put that 'closed' sign on the door, it's just me at home, pampering myself and unwinding. Mind you, on weekends my friends and I club, or party hop until the wee hours, *every* weekend. Is there any drawback? Well, my line of work pays *all* my bills and I need for nothing, but with the early mornings and late evenings I have no time left to attend church or nurture any serious romantic relationships. I love it anyhow, because I help people to look *and* feel beautiful.
80 That makes me feel good about myself – being able to provide a relaxing service for my clients, who trust me, Shanny, to do a great job.

Pastry Chef – Shavard Arnett

It's cool doing this interview, texting on WhatsApp all the way from Canada! From the age of ten, I knew that because of my creativity, my love of cooking in general, and me coming from a family of
85 chefs, I would definitely be a pastry chef. I also knew that working in the industry would be stressful and fast-paced and I would need to have a level head and skin as thick as an alligator's LOL. I told myself that stress would not deter me from pursuing my goals. So, whether I am feeling blue, or experiencing pain, grief or joy, I transfer that feeling to the pastry. Having my beautiful creation sent out on a plate and that plate returned empty always puts a smile on my face😊. On a more serious
90 note, as the only male in high school Home Economics, it seems like there wasn't a day when I didn't hear MANY negative remarks, like 'it's a girl's job', or 'pastry chef only for soft fellas' or 'you is a sissy, beh!'. However, 77% of pastry chefs in the culinary industry are males and all of them have had to deal with negative comments. But look at me now! 🤖 At the age of twenty-one, I'm an alumnus of the University of The Bahamas, I'm in Canada pursuing my degree in Culinary Management and
95 working in one of the top golf clubs in Toronto, and I am very happy. I'm anticipating the day I open my restaurant. It isn't easy, but I doughnut 🍩 let that get me down. I'm working to pay my way through college. There have been a few times I've almost considered giving up...but I DID NOT AND WILL NOT! Abaconians don't give up!

Plumber – Terrence Brown

100 I took up the trade 25 years ago because I like working with my hands. I've spent many years in study, apprenticeship, and working with *and* for master plumbers in order to become a licensed plumber. I love that plumbers make a lot of money. Yeah, it is a dirty job, but when your toilet is backed up, it's a plumber you need, not a doctor. My parents had the same plumber my entire childhood and it was difficult to find a reliable replacement when he retired. To me, it seemed that there were only a few
105 good plumbers, so that helped me to choose a career in plumbing. Also, the average age of a plumber is 58 and I wanted to pump some youthfulness into a dying trade. I was a deep thinker, eh? Sometimes the working hours are odd, because a plumbing problem can happen at any time. This makes spending time with my family difficult. Thankfully though, plumbing provides a stable enough income to allow my wife to stay at home with the children. I vlog too, you know, video blog on the Internet, showing
110 homeowners how to fix their own plumbing. I think that becoming a plumber is the best decision I've ever made, especially since I'm not stuck in an office and can meet new people. I hope that one day both my son *and* daughter will be plumbers too.

Mechanic – Tino Bowles

To take a mangled wreck of a vehicle and make it a beautiful work of art is an auto mechanic's dream.
115 And the satisfied look on a client's face is priceless! My granddaddy, father and uncles were all autobody mechanics, so there was no escaping it. I guess you can say that the trade runs in my veins! I recognised my talent, but I wanted to be talented *and* skilled. I wanted to *create* art. By watching YouTube videos and television shows like 'Gas Monkey Garage', 'West Coast Customs' and 'Pimp My Ride', I not only saw how lucrative the business is and how much fun the art could be, but I
120 also realised that car-fixing techniques evolve. If I wanted to be on the cutting edge of upgrades or customisations, I would have to learn more. And so, I enrolled in and attended electronics, autobody wiring and fine decal striping and paint application classes around the world – in Virginia and Michigan in the US, and in Germany and Japan, where car technology is revolutionary. It's expensive but worth it. While I'm still not as skilled as I want to be, my dad and grandfather would agree that
125 I have surpassed what they were able to do. To become better, I continue to improve my skills. But I don't see it as work. It's definitely a labor of love!



Answer **ALL** the questions in the answer booklet provided. Do not place any answers on this question paper.

Unless otherwise indicated, **ALL** answers must be based on the information presented in the passage.

In answering questions 1–4, write down the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the most appropriate answer.

1. The meaning of the word “**condemned**” as it is used in line 8 of the passage is:
 - A. sentenced to prison
 - B. forced into an activity
 - C. given grounds for conviction
 - D. judged a person

[1]

2. Grace Meadows’ yawn (line 19) suggests that in a more traditional career she might have been:
 - A. exhausted by the demands of the work;
 - B. unchallenged by the work involved;
 - C. exhilarated by the job requirements;
 - D. made drowsy by the work conditions.

[1]

3. Howard Sampson’s parents (page 3) refused to pay for his college tuition because he:
 - A. was disgusted by the sight of blood;
 - B. wanted to teach carpentry;
 - C. wanted to become a tradesman;
 - D. desired to serve his country.

[1]

4. Tino Bowles’s interview (page 4) reveals that he is:
 - A. wealthy
 - B. an amateur
 - C. impoverished
 - D. entitled

[1]

5. Explain why Grace Meadows (page 2) named her business, “Nailed It!”

[2]

6. Shavard Arnett (page 4) texts his response to the interviewer’s questions. Identify and explain **TWO** techniques he uses to make his feelings visually stand out to the readers. Be sure to explain why he uses these techniques.

[4]

7. Aside from their enthusiasm for their trade, the seamstress, Wendyra Bowleg (page 3) and the hairstylist, Shanny Anderson (page 3) are very different. Using your own words as far as possible, write a paragraph of about 100 words in which you:
- (a) show how their backgrounds are different.
 - (b) describe **ONE** way in which they differ in personality. [10]
8. Though it may be rewarding to choose a trade-oriented career, it may also have several disadvantages. In approximately 150 words, write a paragraph explaining what these disadvantages may be. Use your own words as far as possible. [10]
9. Imagine that you are a recruiter from a vocational/technical college and you are visiting a college fair. Write the speech you would present to high school students to convince them of the benefits of pursuing a career in trade.

Your speech should be no more than 350 words and should be based on information from the passage. [15]

When writing the speech, **BE SURE TO:**

- (a) demonstrate a sense of audience – use an appropriate tone
- (b) clearly explain the benefits of learning a trade.
- (c) provide support for points – move beyond merely listing points by exploring at least seven (7) specific benefits of learning a trade.
- (d) provide evidence by way of your style that a speech has been written.

PAPER TOTAL MARKS [45]

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 4 – EXTENDED COMPREHENSION & DIRECTED WRITING 1310/4

Monday **14 JUNE 2021** 9:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M.

Additional materials:
Answer booklet

(including 10 minutes
reading time)

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and initials in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.

Answer **ALL** the questions.

Number your answers clearly.

Special attention should be given to the directions for each question.

Work should be neat and well-organised.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks available for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.



This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

SECTION A

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer the questions that follow. In it, the young narrator tells the story of how an engaging Greek called Spiro became an unofficial part of his family when they moved from England to the island of Corfu in Greece, in the 1930s. You should spend no more than one hour on this section.

The following morning Mother had decided that we would hire a car and go out house-hunting on our own. She herded us down to the taxi-rank in the main square. The taxi-drivers, perceiving our innocent appearance, scrambled from inside their cars and flocked round us like vultures, each trying to out-shout the others. Their voices grew louder and louder, their eyes flashed, they ground their teeth at one another, and then they laid hold of us as though they would tear us apart. To us it looked as though we were in danger of our lives.

"Can't you do something, Larry?" Mother squeaked, disentangling herself with difficulty from the grasp of a large driver. Just explain that we don't understand."

Margo, simpering, stepped into the breach.

"We English," she yelled at the gesticulating drivers; "we no understand Greek."

"If that man pushes me again I'll poke him in the eye," said Leslie, his face flushed.

At that moment everyone was startled into silence by a voice that rumbled out above the uproar, a deep, rich, vibrant voice, the sort of voice you would expect a volcano to have.

"Hoy!" roared the voice, "whys donts yous have someones who can talks your own language?"

Turning, we saw an ancient Dodge parked by the kerb, and behind the wheel sat a short, barrel-bodied individual, with ham-like hands and a great, leathery, scowling face. He opened the door of the car, surged out on to the pavement, and waddled across to us. Then he stopped, scowling even more ferociously, and surveyed the group of silent cab-drivers.

"Thems been worrying yous?" he asked Mother.

"No, no," said Mother untruthfully; "it was just that we had difficulty in understanding them."

"Yous wants someones who can talks your own language," repeated the new arrival; "thems ba#@*\$*#s would swindles their own mothers. Excuses me a minute. I'll fix them."

He turned on the drivers a blast of Greek that almost swept them off their feet. Gesticulating, angry, they were herded back to their cars by this extraordinary man. Having given them a final blast of Greek, he turned to us again.

"Wheres yous wants to gos?" he asked.

"We are looking," said Mother firmly, "for a villa with a bathroom."

The man brooded like a great, sun-tanned gargoyle, his black eyebrows twisted into a knot of thoughtfulness.

"Oh, I knows a villa with a bathrooms," said the man. "I was wondering if its was goings to be bigs enough for yous. I'll takes yous. Gets into the cars."

We climbed into the spacious car, and our driver hoisted his bulk behind the steering-wheel. We shot through the twisted streets, swerving in and out among the loaded donkeys, the carts, the groups of peasant women, and innumerable dogs, our horn honking a deafening warning. During this our driver seized the opportunity to engage us in conversation. Each time he addressed us he would crane his massive head round to see our reactions, and the car would swoop back and forth across the road like a drunken bird.

"Yous English? Thought so. ... English always wants bathrooms. ... Spiro's my name, Spiro Hakiaopulos ... they alls calls me Spiro Americano on accounts of I lives in America.... Yes, spent



eight years in Chicago.... That's where I learnt my goods English.... Then after eight years I comes
backs to Greece ... brings this car ... best on the islands ... no one else gets a car like this." 40

We sped down a white road covered in a thick layer of silky dust that rose in a boiling cloud
behind us. At last we roared to the top of a hill, and Spiro crammed on his brakes and brought the car
to a dust-misted halt.

"Theres you ares," he said, pointing with a great stubby forefinger; "thats the villa with the
bathrooms, likes you wanted." 45

Spiro was pointing at a gentle curve of hillside that rose from the glittering sea. Halfway up
the slope, guarded by a group of tall, slim cypress-trees, nestled a small strawberry-pink villa. The
cypress-trees undulated gently in the breeze, as if they were busily painting the sky a still brighter
blue for our arrival. 50

The villa was small and square, with shutters faded by the sun to a delicate creamy-green. In
the garden roses dropped petals as big and smooth as saucers, flame-red, moon-white, glossy, and
un-wrinkled. In the low growth the pansies pushed their velvety, innocent faces through the leaves,
and the violets drooped sorrowfully under their heart-shaped leaves. The warm air was thick with the
scent of a hundred dying flowers, and full of the gentle, soothing whisper and murmur of insects. As
soon as we saw it, we wanted to live there. 55

Having lumbered so unexpectedly into our lives, Spiro now took over complete control of our
affairs. It was better, he explained, for him to do things, as everyone knew him, and he would make
sure we were not swindled.

"Donts you worrys yourselves about anythings, Mrs. Durrells," he had scowled; "leaves
everything to me." 60

So he would take us shopping, and after an hour's sweating and roaring he would get the price
of an article reduced by perhaps two 'drachmas. This was approximately a penny; it was not the cash,
but the principle of the thing, he explained. It was Spiro who, on discovering that our money had not
yet arrived from England, subsidized us, and took it upon himself to go and speak severely to the bank
manager about his lack of organization. That it was not the poor manager's fault did not deter him in
the least. It was Spiro who paid our hotel bill, who organized a cart to carry our luggage to the villa,
and who drove us out there himself, his car piled high with groceries that he had purchased for us. 65

That he knew everyone on the island, and that they all knew him, we soon discovered was no
idle boast. Wherever his car stopped, half a dozen voices would shout out his name, and hands would
beckon him to sit at the little tables under the trees and drink coffee. His compatriots respected his
honesty and above all they adored his typically Greek scorn and fearlessness when dealing with any
form of Governmental red tape. On our arrival, two of our suitcases containing linen and other things
had been confiscated by the Customs. So, when we moved out to the villa and the problem of bed-
linen arose, Mother told Spiro and asked his advice. 70

"Gollys, Mrs. Durrells," he bellowed, his huge face flushing red with wrath; "whys you never
tells me befores? Them ba#@\$*#s in the Customs. I'll take you down theres tomorrows and fix
thems: I knows them alls, and they knows me." 75

The following morning he drove Mother down to the Customs-shed. We all accompanied
them, for we did not want to miss the fun. Spiro rolled into the Customs-house like an angry bear. 80

"Wheres these peoples things?" he inquired of the plump little Customs man.

"You mean their boxes of merchandise?" asked the Customs official in his best English.

"Whats you thinks I means?"

"They are here," admitted the official cautiously.

"We've comes to takes them," scowled Spiro; "gets them ready." 85

¹ a former unit of money used in Greece.

He turned and stalked out of the shed to find someone to help carry the luggage, and when he returned he saw that the Customs man who had taken the keys from Mother was just lifting the lid of one of the cases. Spiro, with a grunt of wrath, surged forward, and slammed the lid down on the unfortunate man's fingers.

"Whats fors you open it, you sonofa*#@*?" he asked, glaring. 90

The Customs official, waving his pinched hand about, protested wildly that it was his duty to examine the contents.

"Dutys?" said Spiro with fine scorn. "What's you means, dutys? Is it your dutys to attacks innocent foreigners, eh? Treats them like smugglers, eh? Thats whats you calls dutys?" 95

Spiro paused for a moment, breathing deeply, then he picked up a large suitcase in each great hand and walked towards the door. He paused and turned to fire his parting shot.

"I knows you, Christaki, sos don'ts you go talkings about dutys to me. I remembers when you was fined twelve thousand drachmas for dynamitings fish. I won't have any criminal talkings to me abouts dutys."

We rode back from the Customs in triumph, all our luggage intact and unexamined. 100

Once Spiro had taken charge he stuck to us like a ²burr. He became so much a member of the family that very soon there was scarcely a thing we did, or planned to do, in which he was not involved in some way.

Adapted from "My Family and Other Animals"
by Gerald Durrell, 1956

Your response to the following questions should be based on the information presented in the passage, and should be expressed as far as possible in your own words. You should spend approximately one hour on this section.

1. In a summary of not more than 150 words, point out how the Durrell family benefits from Spiro's thoughtful and protective nature. [10]

2. How does the writer use language and other stylistic devices to make the family's introduction to Greece memorable for you? **In your answer be sure to identify specific techniques, provide examples and comment on the effect each technique has on the reader.** [14]



² a rough or prickly covering of a fruit

SECTION B

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer the questions that follow. You should spend no more than one hour and ten minutes on this section.

Bilingual: the Pros and Cons

Much research has been conducted on bilingualism over the years and studies have found numerous benefits for both children and adults who are able to communicate in two languages. Conversely, a significant number of disadvantages exist.

Firstly, for bilinguals, language becomes more than a communication tool. Those who speak two or more languages often gain a profound appreciation of peoples and their culture. This is a result of bilinguals being given the opportunity to develop relationships with others who speak a different language, something which non-speakers of the language cannot do. Consequently, bilingual individuals interact with diverse traditions, ideas and perspectives from different cultures and learn to respect them. Their second language is the gateway to expanding their worldview and gaining an appreciation of different worlds. This new appreciation creates a cultural awareness of others and encourages open mindedness. Bilinguals develop greater tolerance of cultural differences and, perhaps, become less racist through the understanding of the customs of others. 5 10

Certainly, being bilingual opens up a new social world. Bilinguals can make friends in more than one language, this bringing more opportunities to meet new people, and hence enjoy diverse hobbies and activities. Being able to communicate with people from other cultures is an enormous social advantage and can open up so many more doors in life. 15

Moreover, being bilingual has positive effects on the brain. Studies show that bilingualism has many benefits that involve gaining and retaining knowledge and thinking logically. According to research, speaking a second language means that bilingual adults and children most likely have a better attention span and multi-tasking skills than monolinguals. This is because being bilingual requires people to constantly shift from one language to the other, and this enhances their listening skills and memory. 20

Also to be considered is that being bilingual can benefit an elderly person's health. Numerous studies suggest that speaking a second language can reduce the risk of having a stroke for older bilinguals. There is growing evidence to suggest that bilingualism can delay the onset of Dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Other health benefits of being bilingual include things such as a faster stroke recovery and lower stress levels. 25

Furthermore, the evidence that bilingual children and adults have an educational edge over monolinguals should not be disregarded. Many studies show that those who speak a second language are more likely to be less distracted and more focused on tasks. Children who are educated in their second language, such as Haitian Creole speakers being taught all subjects in English, may initially lag behind their Bahamian peers. However, many eventually catch up and outperform their schoolmates who speak only one language. 30

Not only does bilingualism have the aforementioned benefits but it is said to increase individuals' value on the job market. Being bilingual means more employment opportunities are available. Communication in the workplace is important, and companies, especially those with international offices, consider bilingualism a high priority, especially in fields such as government, law, tourism, technology, medicine, journalism, marketing, and translation. Bilingual applicants could have their application moved to the top of the pile, even when their qualifications are not as impressive as those of monolingual applicants. 35 40

Whether one is traveling for business purposes or for pleasure, speaking a foreign language can be highly beneficial. Of course it is possible to move about in many countries without speaking the language. However, there is much more that tourists or businesspeople can experience if they speak the local language of the place they are visiting. Being able to communicate with the locals and immerse themselves in the language and culture can make individuals' travel experiences so much more enjoyable and less risky. 45

Conclusively, researchers have discovered that the study of a foreign tongue improves the knowledge of one's own language: for example, English vocabulary and grammar skills increase when a Bahamian Standard English speaker learns the grammar and vocabulary of another country. Also, knowing more than one language helps individuals to learn additional languages more easily because language skills reinforce each other. Therefore, if people have learnt a second language already, then learning a third means transferring those skills over. 50

Despite these myriad benefits, disadvantages can possibly arise from being able to understand and communicate in two languages. According to research, when an individual is trying to learn two languages, he or she may take longer to become fluent in both languages, resulting in language fluency delay. This means that speech is slow and often awkward. In extreme cases, some children do not speak at all until they are emotionally comfortable with doing so. Then there is the problem of mixing languages. Bilingual people commonly start a sentence with one language and then finish it with another. People tend to use whatever words they find coming easily to their mind. Therefore, if they lack the words to use in a language, they simply employ words from another language. 55 60

It is easier for bilinguals to be fluent in speech, as speaking is a natural process. However, reading and writing are not. They require much attention, time and effort. Hence, unless a bilingual individual works diligently towards being literate in the minor language, he or she might not be able to read or write in this language. Interestingly, those who are bilingual may end up being what is called receptively bilingual. Receptive bilingualism is the ability of an individual to speak a language and only understand another but be unable to converse in it. Most times this is a result of lack of enough exposure to the second language. 65

Not to be disregarded is the issue of dominance. Bilingual individuals sometimes prefer to speak one language more than the other, making one of the languages dominant. This happens regularly, as they might find one easier than the other and consequently expose themselves to it even more. For immigrants who speak their heritage language, such as Haitian Creole, and their community language, such as Bahamian Standard English, the heritage language sometimes suffers. Often these individuals refuse to communicate with their parents or any other person in their heritage language, probably because the language is less popular within their community. 70

Although there are some bilingual immigrant children whose parents encourage them to learn the language of the country they have migrated to, learning a second language in schools is sometimes not appreciated by parents, as it is seen as an attack on their way of life. This scenario is not common in The Bahamas, but according to the World Economic Forum, in most of Europe, immigrant communities are living separate lives. When immigrant communities experience very little interaction with the culture of the host country, some parents strongly oppose their children learning a second language, as they often mistakenly believe bilingualism reduces their ability to learn in other subjects. 75 80

Finally, prejudice exists in all societies. Both adults and children can be hostile at times, joining forces to attack anybody different from themselves. The reality is that numerous individuals only see bilingualism in people *native* to their country as something positive. Immigrants are regarded differently – as having a strange accent that characterizes them as negatively unusual. Also, bilingual immigrants are sometimes thought to be flaunting their skill with languages, deliberately rubbing 85



other people's noses in their inability to acquire a second language, or desiring to hide what they are communicating. It is a huge challenge for bilinguals to try to blend in and not be seen as arrogant or untrustworthy.

90

Adapted from the articles "Twenty-five Reasons to Study Foreign Languages" <https://cla.auburn.edu/forlang/resources/twenty-five-reasons/>; "Amazing Benefits of Being Bilingual" <https://bilingualkidspot.com/>; and

Language Courses Guide, March, 2019 <https://languagecoursesguide.com/are-there-any-disadvantages-to-being-bilingual/>

3. Discuss the disadvantages of being bilingual, using information from between lines 53 and 90. You should use no more than 200 words in your answer. [12]
4. The Foreign Language Department at your school wants to encourage new 10th grade students to select foreign language subjects. Imagine that you are the Supervisor of the Foreign Language Department. Write the speech that you would give to 10th grade students, explaining the benefits of bilingualism and encouraging them to pursue the study of a foreign language.

In your response you are expected to:

- (a) present ideas based on information from **BOTH** passages.
- (b) include one or two ideas of your own about the benefits of bilingualism. [16]

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 – AURAL COMPREHENSION
TAPESCRIPT – INVIGILATOR'S COPY 1310/2a

Tuesday **11 MAY 2021** 9:00 A.M.–10:15 A.M.

Additional materials:
Compact disc recording
CD player

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
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BAHAMAS GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

DO NOT open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and first initial in the spaces provided on the booklet.

The recording will be played **TWICE**.

FIRST PLAYING

Listen carefully to the **FIRST PLAYING** to gain a general impression of what is being said. **DO NOT** look at the **NOTES SECTION** or the **QUESTIONS** during the first playing.

AFTER THE FIRST PLAYING, turn to the **NOTES SECTION** of the paper. Read through the suggested points. Make any notes you wish on the points listed. Your notes will not be marked. **You will have 3 minutes.**

SECOND PLAYING

Listen again to the recording. You may make additional notes as you listen.

AFTER THE SECOND PLAYING, complete your note making. You will have 3 minutes. **You will be allowed a total of 45 minutes to complete your answers to PART TWO** of the test.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks available for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

Answer **ALL** questions.

Dictionaries are **NOT** permitted.

This tapescript consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

PART ONE

EXAMINER: The recording will be played twice. Listen carefully to the first playing to gain a general impression of what is being said.

Listen to the recording of a number of radio advertisements for various stores in New Providence.

After the **FIRST** playing, make some detailed notes on the points listed on pages 2, 3 and 4 of your test booklet.

Remember that you will need these notes in the second part of the test; therefore, make them as full and as accurate as possible.

LISTEN CAREFULLY.

Music

Examiner: Listen to the following radio advertisement for a store called 'Plaids are Us!'

[Sounds of people in the background can be heard. The setting is a busy mall]

Janet: Hi, Val! Long time! How *are* you?

Valencia: Hey, girl! These can't be your children! Look how grown y'all are, Dwayne, Monique, Sandra, Kelly, Darren! How y'all doing? Hugs, hugs, hugs! *[Kissing sounds are heard]* What are y'all up to, Janet?

Janet: I'm busy shopping for these five children. School will soon open and they need so many things. I'm running from store to store but everything costs 'an arm and a leg'. I don't know if Brian and I will be able to pay rent this month.

Valencia: So, why are you in the Mall? Yeah, there're about a hundred stores in here but you will kill yourself going from one to the next and you *definitely* won't be paying your rent. Go to 'Plaids are Us'.

Janet: Plaids are Us? What *is* that?

Valencia: That's the new store, the huge blue building that just opened on Palm Street. Your husband Brian still works on Palm Street, right? 'Plaids are Us' is right across from his workplace. That store has everything you need and things you don't even know you need.

Janet: Really? I saw the store when I was dropping Brian off this morning but this one car thing is **NOT** easy. Have you shopped there?

Valencia: I just completed my back-to-school shopping there in a few hours *and* saved a ton of money. That's why I'm here in the mall, treating myself, you know, 'making Mama happy' in a few of these designer stores.

Janet: Girl Valencia, I wish I could treat myself! You're lucky. Tell me more about this 'Plaids are Us'.

Valencia: They have uniforms for all schools. It's the most affordable place to get those expensive plaid uniforms and more. They have aisles and aisles of school supplies, too.



Janet: Valencia, you mean to tell me they have school shoes and tennis, too?

Valencia: Yes, Ma'am. They have the ones the children like – Adidas, Sketches, Reebok and Nike. If you go there now, you'll catch their big sale. I've got the flyer right here!

- Buy 4 school shirts, skirts, jumpers, or pants – Get 1 free
- All footwear is 30% off
- All backpacks are 20% off, with two books included
- Pencils, Pens, Rulers and Erasers all \$2.00 a pack

At 'Plaids are Us', you get the best value, custom fitting, great quality and excellent service!

Janet: Thanks for the tip. I have to pick up Brian now so we can get the kids straight for school. Y'all tell Miss Val bye.

Children's voices: *Bye, Miss Valencia*



EXAMINER: Listen to the following advertisement for a shop called “Head to Toe”.

Female voice:

I pledge to always look my best,
No matter the cost, I don't settle for less.
All of my clothes are the latest design,
From dusk 'til dawn, I'm always fine.
Now for my accessories – I'll search for the best store in town,
But I'm tired of having to shop around.
Hold on! Wait! Now I know! I will shop at *Head to Toe!*

The accessories store that will cost you less! They carry everything you need to look your best!

– Hats	– Head bands	
– Belts	– Bags	
– Earrings	– Neck pieces	And so much more!

Complete your look before you go – get the rest from ‘*Head to Toe*’.



EXAMINER: Listen to the following radio advertisement for 'Party Central'.

[Song – 'Celebration' by Kool and the Gang]

Male voice, speaking briskly

Have a party to throw, but can't find the right inspiration to make it unforgettable?

Is your princess leaving her teen years?

Does your prince want an after-prom party?

Will you be 'tying the knot' soon and do **NOT** know where to have your wedding reception?

Party Central is the place for you!

Party Central has everything you need to take your planning in the right direction and to get the best results – the party of a lifetime!

We have supplies for every occasion imaginable, such as sweet sixteen parties, christenings, birthdays, weddings and more.

You might just find the right inspiration. Party Central has all the help you need!

We design invitations, provide entertainment, offer themed decorations, cater meals, *and* supply catering equipment.

Our spacious activity hall is available for rent, too.

AND... If you don't have the time or patience to make your special event a reality, we can organise it for you.

DON'T WORRY – Leave everything in our hands. We'll do the planning and everything else.

Just show up with your guests. We offer:

- Reliable
- Efficient
- and Affordable Services

Come visit us at # 24 Balloon Lane or on line at www.partycentral.com

EXAMINER: Listen to the following advertisement for 'Cyber World'.

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful teenage girl named Cinderella.

Her evil stepmother and stepsisters would not let her use their devices. Cinderella spent her days cleaning and her nights dreaming of the day when she would get a chance to enter the fascinating world of technology.

She was tired of entertaining herself by watching mice play in the kitchen. She could only communicate with other people when her stepmother took her to church once a month and she wished she could capture memories of her few happy moments with the friends she made at church.

Day after day she listened to her stepsisters as they talked on their cell phones, and she watched as they took selfies and posted them.

Cinderella was as sad as could be in her primitive, unsophisticated life, but her fairy godmother heard her cries and granted her one wish.

Cinderella wished to be taken to a place where she could get all of the latest technology!

With one tap of her fairy godmother's magic selfie stick and ... hooray! She was in **CYBER WORLD!**

Cinderella shopped for televisions, stereo systems, DVD players, cameras, camcorders, laptops, tablets, cell phones, video games and drones.

Satisfied with her new life, Cinderella lived happily ever after, using her devices to listen to church services when she was left at home, calling her friends, taking and posting pictures on instagram and binge watching her favourite television shows.

You don't have to wait for your fairy godmother. Jump in your car and come on over to **'Cyber World'** or visit our Facebook page.

Your life will never be the same!

Music



PART ONE

EXAMINER: Turn to page 2 of your test booklet. You now have **THREE MINUTES** to make notes on the **TEN** headings listed on pages 2, 3 and 4 of the booklet.

– Three-minute Pause –

EXAMINER: The recording will now be played again; complete your notes as you listen.

– Second Playing of Recording –

EXAMINER: This concludes **PART ONE** of the test. You have **THREE MINUTES** to check and revise your notes.

– Three-minute Pause –

PART TWO

EXAMINER: Write your answers to the **TEN** questions printed in your booklet. Base your answers on the notes you took when you listened to the recording in **PART ONE**.

You have **45 MINUTES** to complete the questions.

– Forty-minute Pause –

EXAMINER: You have **5 MINUTES** left to complete your work.

– Five-minute Pause –

EXAMINER: You must **STOP WORK NOW**.

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