



CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Cambridge Ordinary Level · May/June 2026

SUBJECT	CLASS	TIME ALLOWED	MAXIMUM MARKS
English Language 1123/21	O Level	—	—

Name: _____ Date: _____

Section A: Directed Writing

Read **both** texts and answer **Question 1**.

Text 1: A teenager's view on video gaming

Text 2: A parent's view on video gaming

2

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I know that some parents worry about the impact that gaming has on they only look at the don't think about the benefits.

doing more hard work solving the made-up buttons; it's good for your brain. Players need problems in games. She needs to chat to us to solve problems, plan their moves and over dinner or spend time with her sister, not make quick decisions. Some video games shut herself away in her room, missing out on are even used in schools to help us learn family time.

about things like climate change. There are physical benefits too; studies have shown

Research shows that gaming for long periods that playing games improves reflexes and of time is linked to being unfit, headaches and coordination, which can be useful in lots poor eyesight as well as other physical health of situations.

problems, and I don't want these for my daughter. Research also shows that sleep can My parents worry that playing video games

be affected by too much time looking at a means I am missing out on socialising, but

when I play games online, I am connecting friends, not just from school, but from all over the world! So, working with

teammates in multi-player online games that you are not only getting a mental

you're also developing your

parents also worry that I am

instead of doing my

day at school, I

helps me to

escape from reality for a while to relax, and

this helps me to study better afterwards.

These are the reasons I limit my daughter's

So, with all these benefits, parents don't need

time gaming, and I would encourage other

to worry!

parents to do the same.

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My daughter is a keen video gamer, but I negative don't allow her to play games for too long teenagers, but

because I worry about the problems this could downsides and

cause. After a long day at school, she needs to give her brain time

to rest, rather than Video gaming isn't just about bashing doing more hard work solving the made-up buttons; it's good for your brain. Players need

problems in games. She needs to chat to us to solve problems, plan their moves and

over dinner or spend time with her sister, not make quick decisions. Some video games

shut herself away in her room, missing out on are even used in schools to help us learn

family time.

about things like climate change. There are physical benefits too; studies have shown

Research shows that gaming for long periods that playing games improves reflexes and

of time is linked to being unfit, headaches and coordination, which can be useful in lots

poor eyesight as well as other physical health of situations.

problems, and I don't want these for my daughter. Research also shows that sleep can My parents worry

that playing video games

be affected by too much time looking at a means I am missing out on socialising, but

when I play games online, I am connecting screen. This could lead to her not doing so with my

friends, not just from school, but from well at school because of tiredness.

all over the world! So, working with

teammates in multi-player online games It isn't just physical health which is at risk. If means

that you are not only getting a mental young people spend too much time gaming workout, but

you're also developing your on their own rather than doing real-world social skills. My

parents also worry that I am activities with other people, this can cause spending time gaming

instead of doing my mental health problems. Playing games with homework, but after a long

day at school, I content which is unsuitable for their age can need a mental break. Gaming

helps me to also be harmful to young people's

escape from reality for a while to relax, and mental health.

this helps me to study better afterwards.

These are the reasons I limit my daughter's

So, with all these benefits, parents don't need

time gaming, and I would encourage other

to worry!

parents to do the same.

Like **Comment** **Share**

- 1 You feel strongly about the impact of playing video games on young people. After reading two blog posts, you decide to write an article for your school magazine, giving your views on how video gaming impacts young people.



Write your **article** for the school magazine.

In your article, you should:

- evaluate the ideas and opinions in **both** texts
- give your own views about how video gaming impacts young people, based on what you have read in the texts.

Base your article on what you have read in **both** texts but be careful to use your own words.

Address both of the bullet points.

Begin your article with a suitable heading.

Write about **250** to **350** words.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing.

[25]

Section B: Composition

Answer **one** question.

Write about **350** to **450** words on **one** of the following questions.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer and up to 15 marks

Up to 10 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer and up to 15 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.

EITHER

Descriptive writing

2 Describe the scene on a busy street during

OR

Descriptive writing



[25]

2 Describe the scene on a busy street during a popular festival. [25]

3 Describe the scene at a shopping centre in the middle of the day **and** when it is about to close. [25]

OR

Narrative writing

4 Write a story in which you experience a pleasant surprise.

OR

Narrative writing

a letter addressed to someone else

his opportunity is too good to miss

4 Write a story in which, by mistake, you open a letter addressed to someone else and get a [25]

5 Write a story which includes the sentence: 'This opportunity is too good to miss; we have to take it!' [25]

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