



**ENGLISH A2 – HIGHER LEVEL – PAPER 2**  
**ANGLAIS A2 – NIVEAU SUPÉRIEUR – ÉPREUVE 2**  
**INGLÉS A2 – NIVEL SUPERIOR – PRUEBA 2**

Monday 12 May 2008 (morning)  
Lundi 12 mai 2008 (matin)  
Lunes 12 de mayo de 2008 (mañana)

2 hours / 2 heures / 2 horas

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.

INSTRUCTIONS DESTINÉES AUX CANDIDATS

- N'ouvrez pas cette épreuve avant d'y être autorisé(e).
- Traitez un sujet de composition.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LOS ALUMNOS

- No abra esta prueba hasta que se lo autoricen.
- Conteste a una pregunta.

Write an essay on **one** of the following. You must base your answer on the cultural options **or** literary options you have studied in class. References to other subjects or literary works are permissible but should not form the main body of your answer.

### Language and culture

1. *Either*

- (a) Should a country protect its minority languages? If so, why and how? If not, why not?

*or*

- (b) Consider the idea that language is never pure. Your answer might consider the notion of linguistic purity at the level of the nation, community, and/or individual.

### Media and culture

2. *Either*

- (a) It has been argued that certain places should be free of advertising. What makes advertising inappropriate in certain places?

*or*

- (b) “News is not simply reported by the media; it is created by the media.” Discuss.

### Future issues

3. What current developments in science or technology will contribute most to bringing the people of the world closer together in the future, and why?

### Global issues

4. Some have argued that the environment is the most pressing global issue of the early twenty-first century. Others see it as poverty. Others see it as health. With reference to your study of this option, what do you think is the most pressing global issue?

### Social issues

5. Identify and discuss the most important social issue faced by a community, society, or subculture studied in class.

**Literary questions**

**6. *Either***

- (a) The definition of a good leader is central to many literary works. Compare the ways in which at least two works studied in class define the qualities of a good leader.

*or*

- (b) One writer argued that “humour is essentially a comforter, reconciling us to things as they are in contrast to things as they might be”. But it is also true that humour can discomfort an audience. Discuss the role and effects of humour in at least two works studied in class.

*or*

- (c) “You can never go home again.” Consider this idea with reference to two or more works studied.
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