



International Baccalaureate<sup>®</sup> Baccalauréat International Bachillerato Internacional

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

Thursday 13 November 2008 (morning) Jeudi 13 novembre 2008 (matin) Jueves 13 de noviembre de 2008 (mañana)

2 hours / 2 heures / 2 horas

## 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) According to David Crystal, "There is a language dying out somewhere in the world every two weeks or so." With reference to this statement and your study of this option, why do you think so many languages are disappearing and what might be done to prevent their loss?

or

(b) To what extent does a language define cultural identity? Discuss with reference to your study of this option.

### Media and culture

- **2.** *Either* 
  - (a) "Advertising creates and sustains a consumer culture that does not deliver on its promise for happiness, wealth and prestige." Discuss this statement with reference to your study of media and culture.

or

(b) In what ways do newspapers and magazines distort or exaggerate people's lives? Discuss with reference to specific examples studied in media and culture.

#### **Future issues**

**3.** According to the Earth Charter, "We stand at a critical moment in our history, a time when humanity must choose its future." In the light of this statement, discuss two future issues you have studied.

#### **Global issues**

4. Are some global problems too big to overcome and therefore impossible to solve? Discuss with reference to one or two global issues you have studied.

#### Social issues

5. Some social issues polarise people. With reference to your study of this option, consider one such issue and explain why it creates such strong, opposing reactions.

# Literary questions

## 6. *Either*

(a) In literature characters who have faults or flaws are the most interesting. Discuss with reference to at least two works you have studied.

-3-

or

(b) Friendship marks a life even more deeply than romantic love. Consider this idea with reference to at least two works you have studied.

or

(c) Discuss the use of symbolism in at least two works you have studied.