

GENERAL PAPER I

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions

1. What influences world politics more: businesses or governments?
2. Is masculinity inherently toxic?
3. Should we attempt to rescue beached whales?
4. Humans will never make it to Mars. Discuss.
5. When an actor talks and there is no one to hear them, are they still an actor?
6. Defend animal testing in research.
7. What makes one equation more beautiful than another?
8. Was the first marathon under two hours a victory for the shoe industry or the runner?
9. 'We die. That may be the meaning of life. But we do language. That may be the measure of our lives' (TONI MORRISON). What does it mean 'to do language' in the age of Large Language Models?
10. Are dumb phones better for a good life?
11. Should fireworks be banned?
12. Humans have rights. Animals have rights. What about machines?
13. 'Art is I; science is we' (CLAUDE BERNARD). Discuss.
14. Is there any place for heredity in democracy?
15. Was there ever a rules-based order?
16. Who decides what you eat?
17. 'I wasn't the one who had a dog. You were the one who had a person' (CLARICE LISPECTOR). To what extent is this true?
18. Which media, if any, should be age-restricted?
19. Has a civilisation ever died?

20. If you could add one story to the syllabi of all schools on Earth, which one would you choose and why?
21. Should people be more like lichens?
22. Does architecture affect the thoughts of the people within it?
23. Is there a finite number of melodies?
24. What is friendship?
25. Should AI use be liberalised in schools?
26. Is there freedom in religion?
27. Does it make sense to describe a human action as thwarting God's will?

GENERAL PAPER II

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions

1. Were differences tolerated in classical antiquity?
2. Is a state that cannot control its borders a failed state?
3. What makes you hopeful in modern politics?
4. Should artists receive a guaranteed basic income?
5. 'Every great movement must experience three stages: ridicule, discussion, adoption' (JOHN STUART MILL). Discuss.
6. Is postmodern historiography dead?
7. Should universities take political stances?
8. Why does the Anglophone world have low rates of housebuilding?
9. Is there a difference between arbitrary government and bad government?
10. Will Classics be superseded in the West by the study of Ancient Chinese culture?
11. Has your education failed you in understanding our current political environment?
12. Does a just state imprison people?
13. How far can historians rely on ego-documents?
14. Is gender a capacity?
15. When executives of large companies engage in politics, are they compromising their duties to their shareholders?
16. Should the Euro be recognised as legal tender in Northern Ireland?
17. How does contemporary rhetoric affect **EITHER** migrants **OR** LGBTIQ+ populations?
18. Are there moral limits to fantasy?
19. How did the ancient Greeks and/or Romans perceive the world of written culture?
20. Is all history inevitably human-centric?
21. 'Reading is never passive' (BEN OKRI). Really?
22. Has classical archaeology become post-colonial?

23. Is adherence to the rule of law an ideal for private persons, or only for public officials and bodies?
24. 'A "happy ending" [depends] on a distribution at the last of prizes, pensions, husbands, wives, babies, millions, appended paragraphs, and cheerful remarks' (HENRY JAMES). Are there such things as happy endings?
25. Should the family be abolished?
26. Is inequality the root of modern discontents?
27. Should historical writing always be transnational?
28. Why are countries increasingly pursuing economic objectives in unconventional ways?
29. Does it make sense to describe an action as thwarting the will of God?
30. 'What is metafiction and why are they saying such awful things about it?' (PATRICIA WAUGH)