



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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**THINKING SKILLS**

**9694/21**

Paper 2 Critical Reasoning

**October/November 2010**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer **all** the questions.

Start each question on a new answer sheet.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question.

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This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

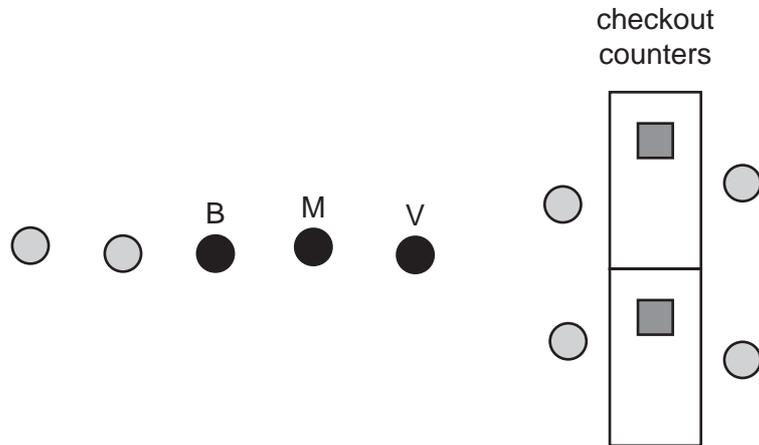


\* 9 5 6 2 2 7 8 0 6 6 \*

1 Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.

During an incident in a supermarket, Bruce Robinson, a tourist from Australia, died. Prakash has been charged with Robinson's murder. Marika Saunders has been charged with deliberately inciting violence which led to murder.

V = Vladimir Jones  
M = Marika Saunders  
B = Bruce Robinson



**Source A**

**Marika Saunders' Statement to the Police**

We were going to visit my boyfriend Angus's family. We stopped at the supermarket. Angus stayed in the car while I went to buy a cake and some drinks to take with us. A man in the queue, Vladimir, thought I pushed him, and he started shouting and threatening me and I was scared, because he was a lot bigger than me. He put his hands on me and I thought he was going to hurt me. I phoned Angus, and he came and stood with me and I felt a lot safer. While I was paying for our things, another man fell over, and people started accusing Angus of hitting him. But he didn't. And my purse had been taken. I think it was the horrible man in front of me.

**Source B**

**Vladimir Jones's Statement to the Police**

I was buying some bread. A small woman, Marika, elbowed me and said something I didn't understand. She seemed to be in a hurry. I told her she should be patient. Life is too short to be hurrying. The woman stumbled on her high heels and trod on my foot; I think it was deliberate. I helped her get her balance and she shouted at me as if I had done something wrong. Then she started to shout into her phone. While I was paying for my bread a muscular man, Angus, came and punched the man, Bruce, who was standing behind Marika. Bruce fell to the floor. Marika shrieked at Angus and pointed at me. I left the supermarket very quickly. I am a big man, but I do not like to fight. They chased me out of the supermarket.

**Source C****Paramedic's Statement to the Police**

I was called to the supermarket on Commercial Road to treat the victim of an assault, Vladimir Robinson. There were marks on his neck consistent with a single, hard punch. He had fallen over backwards and hit his head on a shelf. His heart had stopped beating and he was not breathing, so I gave him emergency treatment. He was taken to hospital. When I arrived at the supermarket, security guards were leading people I now know to be Marika Saunders and Angus Prakash into the supermarket. Marika was shouting at Angus. All I heard was, "stupid idiot" and "wrong one". I do not know what she meant.

**Source D****Other Evidence**

The security camera's view of the incident was largely blocked by a supermarket employee who was unloading a large container of fresh produce onto the shelves. However, the employee moved the container for a short time towards the end of the incident. It was possible to see a small, angry woman pointing at a man running away. There was a muscular man beside her and a man lying on the floor by their feet.

Marika's purse was found in bushes outside the supermarket. It still contained her money and credit cards. It did not have Vladimir's fingerprints on it.

- (a) How reliable is Vladimir's account of the incident? Justify your answer. [3]
- (b) How useful is the paramedic's evidence in deciding what actually happened during the incident? Justify your answer. [3]
- (c) Suggest **one** piece of additional information that it would be useful to have about this incident. Explain how this would help you make a decision about what happened. [3]
- (d) How likely is it that Marika intended Angus to use violence?  
Support your answer with critical reference to the evidence and a consideration of the plausibility of different possible courses of events. [6]

- 2 Study the evidence and answer the questions that follow.

### Source A

#### Experiment

Researchers from Plymouth University, UK, conducted an experiment to see how doodling affects our memory. There were 40 test subjects, 35 women and 5 men, all members of the British public aged between 18 and 55 years.

They were asked to listen to a dull phone message which lasted for two and a half minutes. It included places and the names of people who could and could not attend a party. Half the group was asked to doodle by shading squares and circles. The other half did not doodle.

The test subjects were then asked to write down the names of eight people who could attend the party and eight place names. The test subjects who had doodled remembered on average 7.5 names and place names. Those who had not doodled remembered only 5.8.

### Source B

#### Newspaper Report

## You should doodle in dull meetings

Experiments show that doodling improves your memory.

Experts from the University of Plymouth explained this effect by suggesting that doodling

stops you from daydreaming, which allows you to concentrate better on a dull task.

The experiment showed that doodlers remembered 29% more.

### Source C

#### Blog and Reactions to Newspaper Report

##### *JayZeeTee*

Our psychology teacher used to encourage us to doodle. She said it linked images and memories of physical movement to concepts being taught. She didn't say anything about daydreaming.

##### *PurpleDog*

Doodling is distracting. I take notes. I never read them, but they help me keep focused on what is being said.

##### *VroomZoom*

Note-taking and doodling are different and they work in different ways. Note-taking keeps you focused on what is being said. Doodling just stops you getting too interested in anything else (like daydreaming).

##### *Ellie\_Jay*

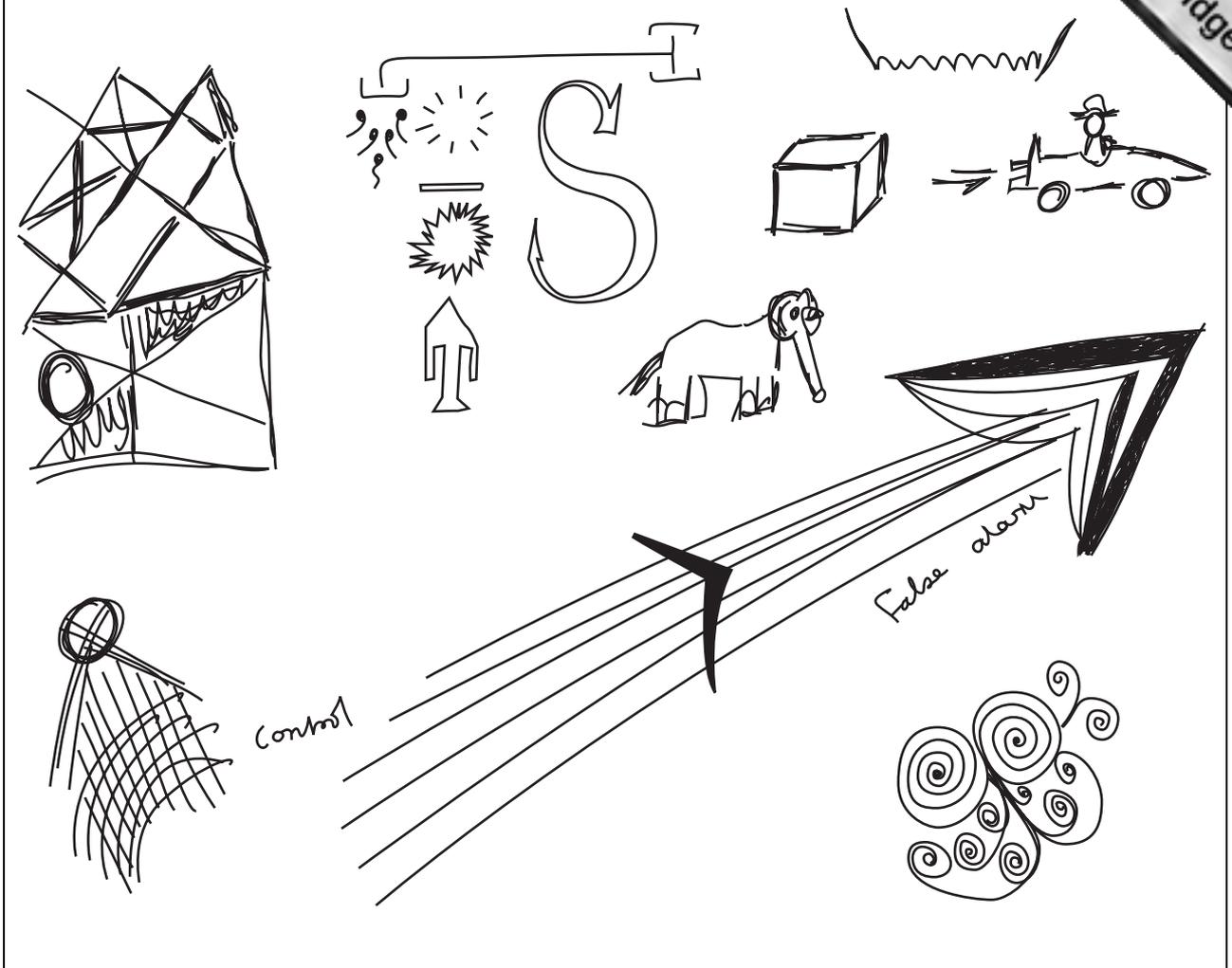
I think there's more to doodling than anyone's suggested. I think it does two things. It brings your creative right brain into action and allows it to work on what you're listening to. It also helps to put you into a sort of mental state where what you hear goes straight into your memory instead of getting lost in the conscious bits of your brain.

##### *RhubarbandCustard*

wow i must be smart i doodle in my margins in science and english!!!

## Source D

## Samples of Doodles by Different People



\* To doodle: to draw pictures or patterns while thinking about something else or when you are bored.

- (a) Consider the test subjects in the experiment (Source A). How representative is this sample? Justify your answer. [3]
- (b) Consider the task used in the experiment (Source A). Is this a reasonable test of whether doodling affects memory? Explain your answer. [3]
- (c) "wow i must be smart i doodle in my margins in science and english!!!" (Source C). Explain what is wrong with this reasoning. [3]
- (d) Does doodling improve memory because it stops daydreaming? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Sources A to D. [6]

3 Read the passage and answer the questions below.

- 1 Reality TV should be banned from our televisions. At the moment entire channels are devoted to reality TV. This is a potential disaster both for vulnerable individuals and for society as a whole.
- 2 Vulnerable people are put under a great deal of pressure during and after the filming of reality TV shows. They want fame, but do not realise how stressful it is to always be watched, to be on trial, and to have your struggles and weaknesses highlighted and broadcast to the world. On reality talent shows, judges can be brutal in their assessment of a candidate's performance, often going beyond honesty to nastiness. Telling a singer that his voice is not good enough is one thing; telling him he is good for nothing is quite another. In other cases, people who are given the chance to change their lives simply can't deal with the pressure. One talented boxer took his own life because he could not take the stress of life in front of the cameras. He is not alone.
- 3 Very few participants in reality TV shows gain long-term stardom. They have their fifteen minutes of fame, and are then supposed to fit back into normal life. One television company cancelled a woman's cosmetic surgery because it didn't fit in with the makeover show's production schedule. She was not even offered counselling by the television show to help her deal with the disappointment. We can see that reality TV treats people like garbage.
- 4 It is argued that we should accept reality TV because people like it – but people like witch hunts and public executions too. That doesn't mean we should accept them. This kind of television show destroys people's lives.
- 5 Reality TV also encourages a superficial view of humanity because it is based on a freak-show mentality. It is not good for us all to spend so much time laughing at other people's attempts to sing, dance or improve themselves.

- (a) Identify the main conclusion. [1]
- (b) Identify **three** reasons given to support the main conclusion. [3]
- (c) Evaluate the reasoning in the argument. In your answer you could consider any strengths, weaknesses, flaws and unstated assumptions. [6]
- (d) "People should be allowed to make their own choices, even foolish ones."  
Write your own short argument to **support** this claim. [5]



