



Cambridge International AS & A Level

THINKING SKILLS

9694/21

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

October/November 2020

1 hour 45 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **8** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Study the evidence and then answer questions 1 and 2.

Source A**The Life of Christopher Marlowe (online encyclopaedia article)**

Christopher (Kit) Marlowe was born in Canterbury, England in February 1564. He was educated at The King's School in Canterbury and the University of Cambridge. He was absent from Cambridge for part of his time as a student, most probably because he was travelling in Europe as a spy for the Government. Marlowe wrote several plays, such as *Doctor Faustus*, as well as poems. Marlowe died in a drunken brawl in Deptford, south east London, in 1593.

Source B**Report of Inquest on the Death of Christopher Marlowe**

On 30th May 1593, Christopher Marlowe, Ingram Frizer and two other men spent the day eating, drinking and talking in a house in Deptford, where they had rented a room for the occasion. After supper, a disagreement broke out about paying the bill. Marlowe's and Frizer's two companions have testified that Marlowe attacked Frizer with a dagger and Frizer killed him in self-defence. Ingram Frizer is therefore not guilty of murder.

Source C**Book Review, 2002**

Mei Trow's book, *Who Killed Kit Marlowe?*, casts doubt on the official account of the death of Christopher Marlowe. Trow, a historical novelist, has discovered that Marlowe's companions on the fatal day were all employed by the Government and were promoted soon after the death and inquest had taken place. Trow has studied documents written at the time of Marlowe's death, which reveal that he was facing interrogation and trial as part of an investigation into illegal beliefs and practices amongst men in high positions; several other people had already been convicted and executed as a result of this investigation. If Marlowe had been interrogated under torture, he would probably have implicated powerful men in these crimes. Trow's theory is that these political leaders paid Ingram Frizer to murder Marlowe and bribed the other two men to give false evidence at the inquest.

Source D

The Marlowe Society was founded in 1955, in order to develop and encourage education about the works of Christopher Marlowe and his contemporaries. Many members of the Marlowe Society believe that Marlowe's death in 1593 was faked. They think he escaped to France or Italy, where he lived under a false name. Most of those who accept this theory believe that Marlowe continued to write poetry and plays, sending them to England, where the actor/impresario William Shakespeare published them under his own name. Throughout the years, reputable scholars have doubted whether William Shakespeare could have written the plays and poems that bear his name. This is because he was from a humble background and received only limited education.

Source E**An Introduction to Shakespeare for High Schools**

Many people have found it unbelievable that the greatest writer in English should have been someone from a poor background, with little education. Various theories have been put forward, suggesting that the works attributed to Shakespeare were really written by someone of higher status and superior education. The most eccentric of these theories is that the dramatist Christopher Marlowe, who died in a drunken brawl in 1593, mysteriously survived his own death, lived undetected for the remainder of his life, and passed his writings to his friend Shakespeare, who published them under his own name. Admittedly, Shakespeare's first published work appeared a few weeks after Marlowe's death, but the theory that Marlowe was the author of Shakespeare's plays relies on too many unlikely coincidences to be believed. Genius can strike anywhere and knows no boundaries of social class or education.

Source F**Retired teacher's blog**

Questions about the authorship of Shakespeare's plays are being raised yet again. This reminds me of the time, more than 50 years ago, when I was studying 16th century English Literature in my first year at university. In my opinion, Christopher Marlowe was the only one of the authors we studied who could conceivably have gone on to write the plays attributed to Shakespeare.

- 1 (a) Is Source B an argument? Justify your answer. [2]
- (b) How useful is Source C in determining how Christopher Marlowe died? [3]
- (c) When the Marlowe Society erected a memorial to Marlowe in Westminster Abbey, they put a question mark next to the date of his death. To what extent does this strengthen the claim that Marlowe's death was faked? [2]
- (d) How well does Source E counter the claims in Source D? [4]
- (e) How reliable is Source F? [3]

- 2 *You are advised to spend some time planning your answer before you begin to write it.*

'Christopher Marlowe was killed in self-defence.'

To what extent do you agree with this claim? Write a short, reasoned argument to support your conclusion, using and evaluating the information provided in Sources A–F. [8]

Section B

Read the following passage and then answer questions 3, 4 and 5.

- 1 So many traditional male jobs have been taken over by computers or robots in the last four decades that it is no longer realistic to expect everyone to work for their living. Wealthy, developed countries should therefore introduce a system of Universal Basic Income (UBI) for their citizens. UBI shares out fairly the benefits of technological advances, because it gives everyone enough money for a basic standard of living. It also enables people to strike a personal balance between enjoying leisure time and earning an increased income by working if they choose to do so.
- 2 Opponents of this proposal claim that countries cannot afford to introduce UBI, but it is actually funded from taxation on the earnings of those who choose to do paid work. The scheme is affordable, because earnings are taxed at a fairly high rate – although not so high as to discourage people from working.
- 3 The biggest benefit of UBI is that it improves family life. Both mothers and fathers are able to devote as much time to parenting as they choose. Supporting their children at school and in leisure activities can become a priority and a joy, instead of a chore. Giving parents greater control over the use of their time also promotes the mental health of teenagers; surveys have consistently shown that the most important things adolescents want from their parents are availability and a listening ear.
- 4 The introduction of UBI enhances the quality of individual and community life, because it gives people time to engage in voluntary work. The state cannot afford to pay for many tasks which need to be performed for the benefit of individuals and the community. However, volunteers have become less available, as budgetary pressures have forced governments to raise the age of retirement and unemployed people have been expected to spend most of their time looking for work.
- 5 Under UBI, unemployed people no longer have to endure embarrassing medical tests or to prove that they are actively seeking paid work. They are free to use their time in the way they choose, without being expected to feel guilty about it. UBI helps the poorest members of society.

- 3 (a) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify the *main conclusion*. [2]
- (b) Using the exact words from the passage as far as possible, identify **three** *intermediate conclusions*. [6]
- (c) Identify the following element in paragraph 2:
'countries cannot afford to introduce UBI' [2]
- (d) Identify an *unstated assumption* required by the reasoning in paragraph 2. [2]
- 4 (a) Identify and explain **two** weaknesses in the reasoning in paragraph 3. [4]
- (b) Explain how the reasoning in paragraph 4 is weakened by the flaw of *confusion of necessary and sufficient conditions*. [2]
- (c) Identify an *inconsistency* between the reasoning in paragraph 4 and the argument as a whole. [2]

- 5 *You are advised to spend some time planning your answer before you begin to write it.*

'Everyone who is capable of working for their living should do so.'

Write your own short argument to support **or** challenge this claim. The conclusion of your argument must be stated. Credit will not be given for repeating ideas from the passage. [8]

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