



# Cambridge International AS Level

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ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/21

Paper 2 Comprehension

May/June 2021

INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

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## INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.



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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## Material for Section A

### Background

Since Bo moved into his new-build, two-bedroomed house two years ago, he has had to rent out the spare bedroom in order to afford his monthly mortgage payments. His current housemate is starting a new job in a month's time 100km away; on learning of this Bo immediately advertised for a new housemate. Bo invited three people to come and view his house.

### The three possible housemates

**Darin** is a 23-year-old post-graduate student, studying music (performance and composition) at the local university.

**Edvard** is the 30-year-old night manager of The Excelsior, a medium-sized four-star hotel in the city centre.

**Kwame** is a 21-year-old graduate, just about to start work at a local bank, GoldStar Premier Banking (GSPB), on their graduate training scheme.

### Responses given to Bo's question 'How do you like to spend your spare time?' during the viewings

Darin: (*in a loud voice, and with big gestures*) Just got into cooking. Learnt loads from the internet. Watching all those great chefs creating masterpieces. I'm really into Japanese cuisine at the moment. Love trying out new restaurants, too.

Edvard: (*in a low, thoughtful tone*) Love to just wander around the house or garden to de-stress. Had a vegetable patch at my last place. Love to go to an exhibition, a show, a concert. Helps me in my job as I can recommend things for our guests to do in the city.

Kwame: (*enthusiastically*) Well, love to kick a football around, shoot a few basketball hoops, practise some karate moves. You know, anything to do with sport. And watching it on a high-definition television – nothing better!

### Brief details about Bo's house

The kitchen is very clean and tidy, but it is too small for the fridge – which is therefore located in the cupboard under the stairs.

The spare bedroom is spacious, with a small shower room attached, but it overlooks a noisy street.

The sitting room is big enough for four people to sit and chat comfortably, and has a small television tucked away in the corner.

There is no garden as such – just a very small courtyard with a few pots of flowers, which are slowly dying through lack of attention.

Storage space is limited. For example, the loft is already full up with Bo's things.

It is in a row of houses. The one to the left of Bo's does not look as if it is well cared for, unlike Bo's.

It is located in a new residential area lacking in facilities, so residents have to drive if they want to go shopping or socialising.

### **Additional Information**

1. Bo is a 32-year-old accountant, keen to keep moving up the career ladder at A2Z Ace Accountants, where he works, as he is very ambitious.
2. Darin's parents own a gorgeous holiday home on a tropical island.
3. Kwame is a very tidy person, no stranger to vacuuming the house and polishing furniture.
4. Recently, despite the owners' vehement denials, there have been persistent rumours circulating the city that The Excelsior might be having financial difficulties.
5. Darin's parents, wealthy business owners whose accounts are audited by A2Z Ace Accountants, will be paying Darin's rent for him as they want him to concentrate on his studies.
6. A2Z Ace Accountants and GSPB are located in neighbouring office blocks in the city centre.
7. Edvard studied English literature at university before going into the hospitality business.
8. Darin told Bo that he wants to move out of student accommodation as he feels he does not fit in with the younger students now and needs to change environments.
9. Bo has become a calmer character in recent years, moving on from his younger self who wanted to go out every night with friends.
10. Edvard likes to relax on a sofa and watch comedy programmes when he comes home from his tiring night shifts.
11. GSPB employees have access to free car parking spaces because the directors realise that it is so hard to park in the city centre.
12. Kwame's home is 200km away. This will be the first time he will have lived away from home.
13. Unfortunately for Bo, as petrol has become so expensive, he is only able to drive a small car now.
14. Edvard is keen to become the manager of a big, luxurious, five-star hotel somewhere abroad in the near future.
15. At university, Kwame was surrounded by old school friends and so enjoyed an excellent social life.
16. Over the past month, there has been a big increase in the number of house robberies in the area.
17. Bo would like to go on expensive holidays all over the world.
18. Bo asks his housemates to give him at least a week's notice of any visitors they might invite to come to the house.
19. To unwind, Bo likes to read quietly in the sitting room, whilst listening to relaxing music, for a couple of hours in the mornings at weekends.

## Material for Section B

An online article by Hayley Corzo, posted on a travel company's website.

### Seven best ways to spend your summer abroad in Spain

Ahh sweet summertime. A change in the seasons that brings warm air, the art of sunbathing, and refreshing drinks to sip with friends. At least that's what summertime brings if you plan on spending it in Spain!

*Who doesn't want to spend a fabulous summer in Spain?!*

Spice up your summer the Spanish way by taking a journey to one of the many beautiful cities of Spain! Visit Seville, famous for Spain's traditional flamenco dancing, or take a trip to Barcelona and get ready to dive into the deep blue Mediterranean Sea. Wherever you decide to go, you can guarantee there will be fun, SUN and fiestas.

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*Why spend your summer abroad in Spain?*

Spain is a summer destination that offers more than the normal tourist attractions. Although you may still catch yourself dancing around La Sagrada Família\*, you will also be invited into a culture of art, rich tradition and lively celebrations. The best part about a summer in Spain is that you can experience this culture in many different ways! Summer programmes in Spain will give you unparalleled access to Spanish culture.

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If you've dreamed of studying abroad while soaking up some sun, Spain has got you covered. If you seek to get away from your studious side and uncover the adventure traveller within you, Spain has programmes that will set your heart racing. Did someone say back-packing, scuba-diving and bungee jumping?! You'll be leaping into an adrenaline-filled summer that is truly unforgettable.

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Get ready to 'ooh & aah' over beautiful views – every day.

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*Programmes:*

#### 1. Study abroad

If you truly want to immerse yourself in the Spanish culture and take your language speaking skills to the next level, a summer in Spain studying language and culture is the ultimate learning experience. An amazing bonus is that you can study in many popular cities, like Madrid and Barcelona, or cities a bit further out. No matter your Spanish proficiency level, this programme allows you to learn the language in the most authentic way possible, while also allowing you to explore some of the most historically beautiful cities in Europe.

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#### 2. Intern abroad

Having international work experience is one way to make yourself stand out amongst other students and future job applicants. Although many cities in Europe offer these placements, Spain's cities offer some of the greatest cultural hubs in which to take courses such as business, engineering and Spanish. With this programme in Barcelona, you will use your Spanish speaking skills to work with locals in one of the most whimsical cities of the world. Bustling Barcelona offers work experience in over 100 fields so you are sure to find the perfect one for you!

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### 3. Teach abroad

Take your passion for teaching English or tutoring and share it with others around the globe during your summer in Spain! You'll love spending your days working alongside a Spanish teacher at a local school while coming home to your host family at night to share traditional meals. If tutoring is your strong suit, you may be placed as a home tutor with a host family. Either option allows you to become part of a real Spanish community.

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### 4. Work abroad

Dreaming of working abroad can feel exactly like that – a dream. Fear not! There are ways of making dreams come true with a summer in Spain like working in hospitality, education and being an au pair! Becoming a live-in nanny lets you stay with a loving family and create an unforgettable bond with the children you help take care of.

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### 5. Back-packing

Pack lightly, and smartly, because your feet are going to be roaming many kilometres on this summer back-packing tour! Travelling through the most famous cities in Europe in only nine days can seem like an impossible task, but these short trips are common and packed as full as your back-pack will be! This Mediterranean journey begins and ends in Barcelona where the Spanish will welcome you, then send you on your way once you've completed your summer adventure.

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### 6. Scuba-diving

Become a master scuba-diver while travelling in Spain next summer!

The Spanish island of Tenerife is opening up its land and its waters to anyone seeking the ultimate sea adventure. Swim laps with friendly dolphins, earn a course credit with a whale and dolphin conservation course, or gain valuable experience in journalism on this stunning island. You will visit beach paradises, scuba-dive in crystal blue waters and also broaden your education.

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### 7. Volunteer abroad

Volunteering in Spain is a must if you're looking to take part in a meaningful experience abroad. Spain offers many opportunities for visitors to give back and make a difference. Travel to Barcelona for a volunteer programme, where you will spend your time in a non-profit hospital or school working on projects that are important to you and the people around you!

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If you think you're ready to dance the night away and share tapas meals, you're right! The only thing left to determine is what summer programme in Spain is the best one for you. The diversity in Spain can be seen from all areas of the country. Whatever area you land in will be different from the last, and full of lively people dedicated to living the good life.

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\*the large, unfinished church in Barcelona, designed by Antoni Gaudí

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