



CATHOLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE
JC2 Preliminary Examination 2023
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

CANDIDATE
NAME

CLASS

GENERAL PAPER

Paper 2

8807/02

22 August 2023
1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name and class on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

Note that up to **15** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

For Examiner's Use		
Content	Short-Answer Questions	/17
	Summary	/8
	Application Question	/10
Language		/15
Total		/50

Read the passage and then answer **all** the questions. Note that up to fifteen marks will be given for the quality and accuracy of your use of English throughout this Paper.

For Examiner's Use

NOTE: When a question asks for an answer **IN YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE** and you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it. Little credit can be given to answers which only copy words and phrases from the passage.

From Passage 1

- 1 What is the author's definition of meritocracy in paragraph 1? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

 [1]

- 2 State **three** reasons why meritocracy is 'so popular' (line 7) to most people today. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

 [3]

- 3 Explain the author's use of the metaphor 'palace of illusions' (line 22) to describe meritocracy.

.....

.....

 [2]

[Turn over

For Examiner's Use

4

From paragraph 4:

On what basis do meritocracy's advocates argue that it does a better job than its alternatives?

.....

 [2]

5

From paragraph 6:

Why does the author mention the fact that women make up more than half of university places in Western countries and Kamala Harris is vice-president of the United States?

.....

 [2]

From Passage 2

- 6 According to the author, in what way is meritocracy commonly perceived as an 'even playing field' (line 3)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

 [1]

- 7 From paragraph 2:
- Why does the author use the word 'intervenes' (line 10) to describe the role of luck?

.....

 [1]

- 8 From paragraph 5:
- Explain in your own words, the 'paradox of meritocracy' (line 26).

.....

 [1]

[Turn over]

- 9 From paragraph 6:
- What does the word 'self-congratulatory' (line 31) imply about meritocracy?

.....

 [1]

For Examiner's Use

10

According to the author in paragraph 7, why should meritocracy be abandoned? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

11

[Turn over
Using material from paragraphs 3–5 only (lines 14–28), summarise what the author has to say about why meritocracy is detrimental and why its detriments may be surprising.

For Examiner's Use

Write your summary in **no more than 120 words**, not counting the opening words which are printed below. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

Growing research suggests that

[illegible]

[Turn over

Adrian Wooldridge argues that meritocracy should be embraced, while Clifton Mark argues that it should be abandoned.

How far do you agree or disagree with the views expressed in these **two** passages? Illustrate your answer with examples of how you and your society regard meritocracy.

[illegible]

[illegible]

For Examiner's Use

[illegible]

END OF PAPER

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