

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Duration : 1 ½ hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

1. This paper contains ONE question and comprises SEVEN printed pages, excluding the cover page.
2. You are not allowed to bring in materials or a dictionary to the examination.
3. You may use page 3 to plan and organise your ideas for the essay.
4. Write your essay on the lined pages provided in this booklet.
5. Use a pen for this test. You are not allowed to use a pencil.

Name of Student: _____

Identity Card /
Passport number: _____

Examination venue: _____ Seat number: _____

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This examination assesses your ability to summarise and write in response to a prompt based on the given text.

Write an **essay** of about **500-600 words** to a university lecturer in response to the following prompt:

Food waste is a serious problem which occurs during and after harvest time in many developing countries. You are to summarise the problem and its causes given in the text in about 150-200 words, and provide suggestions on how to solve the problem in 350-400 words.

Use information from the text, your knowledge and experience to support your point of view. You are required to use **your own words** when you summarise the text. When you use information from the text for the solutions, paraphrase and **do not copy the text**. You are to acknowledge information taken from the text using proper academic conventions.

You will be assessed on:

- Content
 - Fulfillment of task
 - Sophistication and sufficiency of ideas
 - Successful integration of relevant ideas from the reading text in the essay
- Organisation
 - Clarity of overall structure, e.g. effective use of thesis statement, topic sentences and cohesive devices
 - Logical development of ideas
- Language
 - Accuracy: grammar, punctuation and spelling
 - Fluency and complexity: all types of well-formed sentences and a wide range of precise and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
 - Academic tone

Text: Wasting Food in a Hungry World

Hunger is a complex problem, exacerbated by financial pressures, volatile commodity prices, natural disasters, and civil wars. Fortunately, we can take an enormous step toward winning the global campaign against malnutrition, simply by investing in improved infrastructure and in agricultural research and development.

One-quarter of all the food in the world is lost each year, owing to inefficient harvesting, inadequate storage, and wastage in the kitchen. Halve that waste, and the world could feed an extra billion people, making hunger yesterday's problem.

Over the last 25 years, the world has fed an extra two billion people, and the developing world as a whole has almost halved its hunger rate. However, the challenge is to sustain this progress. By 2050, demand for food will have nearly doubled for two reasons. Firstly, by

2050 the world will have added another two billion mouths to feed; secondly, there will be the growing appetite of a surging new middle class.

At the moment, the UN is considering 169 new development targets to succeed the Millennium Development Goals, hunger being one target area among many. These targets are crucial because they will determine how more than \$2.5 trillion in development money is spent on everything from climate change to malaria.

Our research on food security shows that there are smart ways to feed many more on the planet; but they have little to do with the campaigns against waste seen in most of the rich world. In the rich world, the focus is on food wasted by the consumer. This makes sense: more than half of the rich world's losses take place in its kitchens. In Britain, for example, the greatest waste is in salads, vegetables, and fruits, considered luxuries when compared with the cheap calories contained in grains and root vegetables consumed throughout the developing world. In rich countries, smaller households waste more per person, because not everything is used, while richer households add waste when they buy extra "just to be on the safe side." By contrast, the world's hungry poor waste very little, simply because they cannot afford to. In Africa, daily food waste averages 500 calories per person. In reality, consumers account for only 5% of this loss. More than three-quarters of the waste occurs well before the kitchen, because birds and rats eat crops during harvest, for example, or pests spoil grain stores.

There are many remedies for this kind of waste, from the "curing" of root vegetables to minimize damage, to more expensive refrigeration. So why are these technologies, widely used in richer countries, not adopted in the developing world? The answer is a lack of infrastructure. With a lack of roads linking fields to markets, farmers cannot easily sell their surplus produce, which may then spoil before it can be eaten. Improving road and rail capacity enables farmers to reach buyers, and fertilizer and other agricultural inputs to reach farmers. Supplying reliable electricity permits grains to be dried and vegetables to be kept cool.

It is estimated that the overall cost of approximately halving post-harvest losses in the developing world would be \$239 billion over the next 15 years, and would generate benefits worth more than \$3 trillion, or \$13 of social benefits for every dollar spent. This would make food more affordable for the poor. By 2050, better infrastructure could mean that 57 million people, more than the current population of South Africa, would no longer be at risk of hunger, and that about four million children would no longer suffer from malnutrition. Most of these gains would be in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, the world's most deprived regions.

Adapted from:

Lomborg, B. (June 18, 2015). Wasting Food in a Hungry World [Blogpost]. Retrieved from <http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/wasting-food-hungry-world-by-bjorn-lomborg-2015-06#RS4wUEz2KAtyaIc8.99>

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SAMPLE UEE PAPER

Lined writing area for the sample paper.

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