



Qualifying Examination for the Post of Correctional Officer within the Correctional Services Agency September 2024

Subject: English
Date: 17th September 2024
Time: 11:00 – 12:30 (One and a half hours)

This examination paper consists of TWO sections (Section A and Section B). Candidates are requested to attempt ALL sections and to read carefully the instructions within each section.

Write your answers in the space available on the examination paper.

UK VISITOR FIGURES TO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES AT THEIR HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE RECORDS BEGAN



274,792

Performances, exhibition and film screening days by our National Portfolio Organisations in 2011 / 2012

89,415,012

People attended performances, exhibitions and film screenings by our National Portfolio Organisation in 2011/2012

ARTS & CULTURE AUDIENCE



Arts and Culture experiences make our lives richer and our communities more resilient

www.artscouncil.org.uk/culturematters

337,797

learning sessions for children and young people in 2011

£36.9 m

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND INVESTMENT

IN THE 2012 CULTURAL OLYMPIAD
43 MILLION PUBLIC EXPERIENCES

11,893
SCHOOL PERFORMANCES BY OUR FUNDED ORGANISATIONS IN 2011

1 billion global viewers of the 2012 opening ceremony, 68% UK viewers said it made them feel

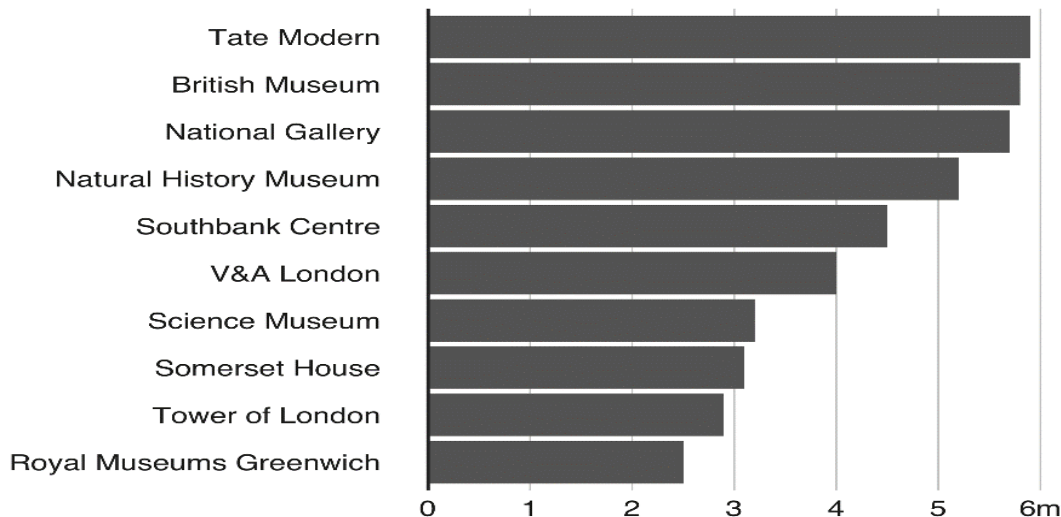
PROUD TO BE BRITISH



51%
OF UK ADULTS VISITED A MUSEUM OR GALLERY IN 2011/2012

The most visited attractions in the UK

Millions of visitors, 2018



Source: Association of Leading Visitor Attractions



Adapted from: <https://www.thecreativeindustries.co.uk/>

Section A: Reading

Task A1

(10 marks)

Read the text on page 2 and answer the questions which follow.

Look at the infographic and underline the correct answer.

5 marks

1. This text is mainly (positive, negative, neutral).
2. Visits to museums and galleries have (increased, decreased, remained constant).
3. (More than, Less than, As many as) 275,000 events were shown by the National Portfolio Organisations.
4. Engaging in cultural activities and events makes the community (closer, more competitive, stronger).
5. (An email, A website, A postal) address is provided to the readers.

According to the information provided, are the following sentences True (T) or False (F)? Tick (P) the correct answer below.

5 marks

		T	F
1.	The Arts Council sponsors schools.		
2.	The British audience felt honoured with the opening ceremony at the Cultural Olympiad.		
3.	Galleries are popular amongst children in the UK.		
4.	All this information in the text is based on UK data gathered in 2018.		
5.	The British Museum attracted the most visitors.		

Task A2

(40 marks)

Read the text below and answer all the questions that follow.

Prisons have been the subject of several films. Some are overdramatic and sensational and provide an exaggerated picture of life in prison. **Others** successfully manage to give the viewer a glimpse of the true-life experiences of both detainees and prison staff. Here are four classic prison motion pictures that are still popular today.

(A)-The Green Mile (1999)

The main character in the film is Paul Edgecombe, a correctional officer. He makes friends with John Coffey, a detainee on his prison block. Coffey has been sentenced to death for murder, but **he** has a miraculous healing ability. Paul starts to question Coffey's guilt. With the help of other guards, he looks for the real reasons why Coffey is in prison. It seems that the true killer might be another detainee. Sadly, the law stops Paul from preventing Coffey's execution. The movie is based on the bestselling 1996 Stephen King novel of the same name. **It** stars Tom Hanks as Paul Edgecombe and Michael Clark Duncan as John Coffey.

(B)-The Shawshank Redemption (1994)

The Shawshank Redemption is set in a prison in the United States. In this film, Tim Robbins plays the part of Andy, a banker who has been sentenced to life in prison for murder. Over the years, he forms a friendship with another detainee known as Red. Andy is respected by the guards, but the film also shows how hard prison life is. The film has a powerful ending in **which** Andy and Red settle down to life outside prison. Although the movie deals with the difficulties of prison life, it is the characters that make this film a classic. **Their** struggles and triumphs will continue to inspire people for a long time. The film is based on the 1982 Stephen King short novel called *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption*.

(C)-Escape from Alcatraz (1979)

This film tells the story of the daring escape from the top security Alcatraz prison in 1962. It is an exciting film which stars Clint Eastwood as the detained individual Frank Morris. He plans and carries out an almost impossible escape. But before the escape attempt itself, **we**'re introduced to the daily routines of prison life. It's in these scenes that the director, Don Siegel, displays his special talent. The characters say little, but the camera explains the action. The film was highly praised and one of the highest grossing of 1979. This American prison film was based on the 1963 non-fiction book of the same name by J. Campbell Bruce.

(D)-Birdman of Alcatraz (1962)

This film tells the story of a convicted murderer Robert Stroud, who is transferred to Alcatraz prison. The movie *Birdman of Alcatraz* follows Stroud's life inside the prison, where he raises and studies birds. Stroud's passion for birds transforms him from a violent criminal into a respected scientist. The climax of the film, where Stroud's request for parole is denied despite his good behaviour, is an emotional moment. The film provides a powerful picture of the prison system and its impact on the lives of those who are caught up in it. Although based on the biography written by Thomas E. Gaddis, the film *Birdman of Alcatraz* takes liberties with the facts. In reality, Stroud kept birds while serving time in other prisons; he was never allowed to keep any birds after his transfer to Alcatraz.

Adapted from <https://www.imdb.com/list/ls026379126/>

Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

1. Which is the best title for the text?
 - a. Popular Films
 - b. Prison Films
 - c. Police Films

2. This text is taken from

1 mark

- a. an online newspaper article.
- b. a website with film reviews.
- c. a personal social media blog post.

3. Below are the missing subheadings for the four films A to D in the text. Write the correct letter of each paragraph in the space below. One subheading is extra. 4 marks

Subheading	Film
Fighting in prison	
A well-planned break out	
A lasting friendship	
An execution is ordered	
A positive transformation	

4. Tick (✓) the 6 correct answers.

6 marks

Which movie	A	B	C	D
stars Tim Robbins?				
is the most recent?				
was a box-office success?				
has scenes that did not happen in the book?				
has a correctional officer playing a leading role?				
relies on camera work rather than dialogue?				

5. In your own words, why can some films seem unrealistic? 2 marks

6. In the film *The Green Mile*, what happens to Coffey in the end? 1 mark

7. Underline the correct answer: 1 mark

The phrase 'Their struggles and triumphs will continue to inspire people...' means that people

- a. might find it hard to understand this film in the future.
- b. who lived in the 90s can understand this film best.
- c. in the past and future feel encouraged by this film.

8. Copy a phrase of 3 words from the text that shows that *Escape from Alcatraz* was well-received by the audience. 1 mark

9. In a paragraph of between 60 to 70 of your own words, summarise the facts about Robert Stroud and his time in prison found in paragraph D.

10 marks

10. Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give a reason. 6 marks

a. Paul Edgecombe carries out his investigation on his own.

T/F because _____

b. One of Stephen King's novels is called *The Green Mile*.

T/F because _____

c. Andy is sent to prison because he was a bank fraudster.

T/F because _____

d. Andy has a good relationship with the prison guards.

T/F because _____

- e. Don Siegel is considered to be a very good film director.
T/F because _____
- f. The movie *Escape from Alcatraz* is about an escape from prison amongst other things.
T/F because _____

11. What do the following words, found in bold in the text, refer to? 3 marks

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| a. Others | d. which |
| b. he | e. Their |
| c. It | f. we |

12. From the first three paragraphs, find ONE word which means: 3 marks

- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| a. many | d. unfortunately |
| b. look | e. avoiding |
| c. curing | f. successful |

13. After reading this article, which one of the following video clips might interest the reader?
Tick (✓) the correct answer. 1 mark









Section B: Writing

(50 marks)

Task B1

(10 marks)

Answer the following question.

You are Sam White. When you reported to work this morning, you realised that the canteen had been vandalised and your line manager asked you to fill in the Incident Report Form below.

INCIDENT REPORT FORM	
Title: _____	
Time of Incident: _____	Date of Incident: _____
Venue: _____	
Name of Officer filling in this report: <u>Sam White</u>	
Brief Description of Incident:	

Witnesses: (Names and Contact numbers)	
<u>Pat Stone</u>	- <u>(00356)99999991</u>
<u>Jordan Peters</u>	- <u>(00356)99999992</u>

Task B2

(40 marks)

Write between 180 and 200 words on ONE of the titles below.

You are advised to

- pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation
- keep your writing to the number of words indicated.

You will be penalised if you write less than 180 or more than 200 words.

- a. As a new officer, you have received a tremendous amount of help from your superiors. Write an email in which you thank them and explain why their help has been so useful to you.

Start your email by copying the details below.

From: andysmith@dmail.com
To: alexdobbin@hr.com
Subject: Thank you!

or

- b. You made a mistake while at work. Write an email to your superiors apologising for your mistake and explain how you will make up for it.

Start your email by copying the details below.

From: maxnewton@dmail.com
To: lucabutler@stpcompany.com
Subject: Apology

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