

Paper A 2015

ENGLISH 11+



Name:

Candidate Number

Seat Number

You have 40 minutes in which to complete this paper.

Focus on using correct spelling and punctuation.

Make sure that your work is original.

Read the questions carefully.

Total marks available are 50.

Spend at least 15 minutes on Question 6
which is worth 20 marks.

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Read the following text, and then answer the questions below.

Aruba

Why choose Aruba for your Caribbean vacation? Well, there's the reliably near-perfect weather. You've worked hard all year; now it's time for a vacation. Guarantee yourself a vacation full of ideal tanning conditions, unwaveringly sunny skies, warm temperatures, and cooling breezes. Because Aruba is more of a desert than a rainforest, the humidity is low and it seldom rains, but when it does, it's usually only a short shower. Aruba is far south of the tropical-storm belt meaning hurricanes don't often visit.

And beaches? Aruba boasts some of the best in the Caribbean, some say in the world for that matter. Legendary Eagle and Palm beaches are home to resorts large and small, super luxurious and laid back, with miles of white, sugary sand; warm, gentle surf, turquoise and aqua seas, and plenty of space. When you tire of lazing on the beach, there's scuba diving, snorkeling, great windsurfing, and all the other watersports you expect from a sun-and-sea vacation. On land you can golf, ride a horse, hike, or drive an all-terrain vehicle over the island's wild and woolly Cunucu (countryside).

Away from the beaches Aruba is a desert island full of cacti, iguanas, goats, donkeys, strange boulder formations and even the remains of a Spanish gold mine. Contrasting sharply with the resort area's serene beaches, the north coast features craggy limestone cliffs, giant sand dunes, and crashing breakers. You'll find the overwhelming majority of Arubans are genuinely friendly and welcoming. With little history of racial or cultural conflicts, the island has no cause for animosity.

1) List three adjectives that make the weather sound appealing. (3)

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

2) Explain the meaning of the following words, in the context used in the passage: (6)

a) Unwaveringly _____

b) Craggy _____

c) Animosity _____

3) Imagine that you are on holiday in Aruba. Describe how you might spend your day, using the information from the passage about what tourist activities are on offer. (9)

4) Find one synonym from the passage for each of the following words: (6)

a) Calm _____

b) Select _____

c) Rarely _____

d) Remnants _____

e) Holiday _____

f) Untamed _____

5) Using what you have learnt about Aruba from the text, suggest three reasons somebody might have for not wanting to visit there. Explain each reason fully. (6)

6) Describe a holiday destination in England and try to persuade the reader to take a holiday there. (20)
