

ENTRY TEST FOR THE IB DIPLOMA

ENGLISH

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read **Text A** very carefully and answer the questions below in the spaces provided. You should not spend more than **20 minutes** on reading and answering these questions
- Read **Text B** very carefully and write a literary analysis of **500 – 700 words**. Your literary analysis should be written in a **formal essay** style (introduction, body, conclusion). The body of your analysis should consist of comments regarding the text's **genre, plot summary, context, audience, purpose, themes, message, symbols, use of language, persuasive techniques and devices (such as imagery, use of titles, structure, quotes, narrative voice, flashback, repetition, foreshadowing, tone, atmosphere, personal opinion etc)** You should spend approximately **50-55 min** reading this text and writing this analysis. This analysis should be written on the lined spaces provided.

Text A

HOME FEATURES LIFESTYLE TRAVEL MUSIC ABOUT ME CONTACT ME

Is Education the most powerful investment in our future

More than two decades of experience in development have shown me how education can make a lasting difference to children's lives. Moreover, investing in education isn't just the right thing to do, it's smart economics.

Education can put people on a path towards good health, empowerment and **5** employment. And the benefits of girls' education extend to their own children who are often healthier and more educated because their mothers went to school.

The children who would most benefit from an education are those most denied it through no fault of their own. Perhaps their families are poor. Perhaps they live in remote areas or belong to nomadic communities.

10 So, what do we have to do to get more children in school and learning?
First, we must invest more in education.

Second, we must invest more effectively: in learning; expanding preschool; abolishing school fees; improving learning assessment; and being more accountable to communities for education results.

15 And third, the investment must be more equitable so that the children who are most in need have access to quality learning.

Consider this: on average, in low-income countries, about half of all public education resources are allocated to the 10 % of students that are most educated.

Evidence shows that, [- X -], each additional year of education boosts a person's **20** income by 10 % and increases a country's GDP* by 18 %. Some researchers estimate that [- 9 -] every child learned to read, around 170 million fewer people would live in poverty.

[- 10 -], there's an education crisis. Right now, in 2015, more than 120 million children are out of school. [- 11 -], we face a learning crisis. An estimated 130 million children cannot read or count [- 12 -] reaching Grade 4.

25 So, there is no time to lose. Educated children are at the heart of healthy, productive and prosperous societies. If that is the future we want tomorrow, we must invest today.

Adapted from www.blogs.unicef.org (2015)



* GDP: "Gross domestic product" is a measure of a country's total economic activity.

Text A – QUESTIONS — Is education the most powerful investment in our future?

Answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. Which word between lines 1 and 3 is the closest in meaning to “moral”?

.....

2. According to lines 4 to 9, what might the next generation gain by having an educated parent?

Give one example.

3. According to lines 4 to 9, which group of children stand to gain the most from investment in education?

.....

4. Which two phrases between lines 25 and 26 sum up the writer’s need for swift and effective action? [2 marks]

(a)

(b)

Find the word in the right-hand column that could meaningfully replace one of the words on the left. Match the number with the letter.

Example: remote (line 8) b

5. accountable (line 13)	a. well-off
6. equitable (line 15)	b. isolated
7. allocated (line 18)	c. given
8. prosperous (line 26)	d. productive
	e. just
	f. deserted
	g. charged
	h. suitable
	i. responsible
	j. reasonable

Which words go in the gaps between **lines 19 and 24**? Choose the words from the box and write them in the spaces provided.

because	despite	for example	if	on average
besides	even though	however	in contrast	similarly

Example: [– X –] -on average.....

9. [-9-]

10. [-10-]

11. [-11-]

12. [-12-]



Article

A long journey: The story of Ishmael Beah

From a child in war to renowned author, human rights activist and Goodwill Ambassador.

UNICEF



UNICEF/UNI229572/Tremeau

11 November 2020

“I had no desire to survive because I had lost everything. I thought I would become crazy...” The voice of Ishmael Beah still trembles when he recalls the horror of being a child in the midst of one of the deadliest modern-day armed conflicts.

Beah has told the story of his life many times and in many countries. To some of the most influential people in the world, as well as to children who were enrolled in armed forces and groups – just as he had been.

The civil war in Sierra Leone lasted 11 years, killing over 50,000 people and forever marking the lives of thousands of children. In 1991, like many other children, Ishmael lost his immediate family – both his parents and his brothers.

A few months later at the age of 13, he was forcibly [recruited into the armed forces](#).

“Being a child in war is difficult. You learn to function in madness very quickly. You have to adapt to your situation in order to survive, and often you are exposed to extreme levels of violence you have never even heard of,” explains Ishmael, who, years later, wrote his memories in a book entitled *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*.

The long months of wandering in the endless tropical forest, the blood on his hands, the cruelty of the manipulation and the emptiness of the sudden loss of friends – Ishmael’s story contains everything that should never happen to a child.

“There was a lot of hardship. We had lots of arms and ammunition, but no food and no medicine. Yet, lots of drugs. When you have lost your family and everything, you quickly learn to belong to this group – but to belong to this new group requires violence. Violence becomes the way of showing loyalty.”

For Ishmael, the deadly spiral of violence broke when a group of people came to his regiment and asked for the immediate demobilization of all children recruited by armed forces.

“Every time you save a child from war, there is hope.”

“They put us in a car and told us we would become children again.” At this point, a new, transformative journey started for young Ishmael.

He still remembers how hostile he was to his first teachers, and the anxiety he felt when his rifle was taken from him. “I was actually very upset, because I knew what it meant to not have a weapon in the context I was in.”

Ishmael spent eight months in a UNICEF-supported demobilization centre in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and slowly recovered from the war. The kindness of the people he met there changed the way he saw the world. By this time, UNICEF had helped trace his uncle Tommy. Even though Ishmael had never before met his uncle, the reunion was a strong emotional moment.

Ishmael was warmly welcomed into his uncle’s family. At that time, Ishmael also joined Saint Edward’s Secondary School, where he discovered the pleasure of writing.



UNICEF/UNI229568/Tremeau

Ishmael in Kabumbeh village, Bimbali district, in Sierra Leone, talks with students learning life skills to support the healthy development of young people.

“UNICEF’s help gave me hope. It took me out of a very difficult situation, and this is what made all the other things possible for me,” explains Ishmael.

His story continues with an eye-opening trip to the United Nations Headquarters in New York, where he learned that his life could be an inspiration for others.

“After I came out of this experience of being a child in war, I thought to myself: What can I do to give back and make child soldiers understand the possibilities on the other end?” So, I decided to be an example, for people coming out of the struggle, but also for the people who are doing the work to assist people coming out of that struggle.”

Today, as a [UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador](#), Ishmael continues to give hope to many children and young people around the world. As his father once told him, “If you are alive, there’s the possibility that something good will happen to you...”

Since the mid-1980s, UNICEF and its partners have advocated for, and secured the release of, children from armed forces in conflict-affected countries, including Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.

More than 100,000 children have been released and reintegrated into their communities since 1998 in over 15 countries affected by armed conflict.

[Help the work of UNICEF TODAY](#)

<https://www.unicef.org/stories/long-journey-story-of-ishmael-beah>

