



Raffles Institution
2022 Year 6 Preliminary Examination
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

GENERAL PAPER

8807/01

Paper 1

29 August 2022

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your index number, CT group and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do **not** use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **one** question.

Note that up to **20** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **2** printed pages.

Paper 1

Answer **one** question.

Answers should be between 500 and 800 words in length.

- 1 Consider the view that a more sustainable future lies in the way we eat, not in renewable energy.
- 2 'Obedience is a virtue.' Is this an accurate reflection of your society?
- 3 To what extent should traditional art forms be preserved in a world driven by innovation?
- 4 'Big companies are concerned only with profits.' Is this a fair assessment?
- 5 Will technology completely replace the role of humans in the future?
- 6 'Small countries are helpless in shaping global politics.' Do you agree?
- 7 'People with special needs are no longer invisible.' Is this true of the world today?
- 8 The way that people tend to argue online makes things worse.' How true is this of your society today?
- 9 To what extent has the media hindered scientific progress?
- 10 'Workers today have never had it better.' Is this an accurate view?
- 11 'The modern world is obsessed with statistics.' To what extent is this a fair viewpoint?
- 12 Is conflict inevitable in today's volatile world?



**Raffles Institution
2022 Year 6 Preliminary Examination
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1**

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

29 August 2022

INSERT

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains the passage for Paper 2.

This document consists of 4 printed pages.

Tracy Lindeman discusses the attitudes and issues surrounding architecture and design in Canada.

- 1 When Ottawa unveiled the design of its new central library in 2020, the mayor promised it would be 'more than just a building with books'. The design of the \$192 million edifice, 'connects the facility to Ottawa's rich history and natural beauty', the city elucidated. 'Its shape is reminiscent of the Ottawa River; its stone and wood exterior reflects the adjacent escarpment and surrounding greenspace'. While some members of the public felt the building was magnificent, not everyone was so generous with their praise. CBC's¹ Facebook polls showed that some were indifferent, some were hoping for better, and many others saw the price tag and wondered why the city was bothering at all: 'Giant waste of tax dollars to pacify a very small number of people and mostly just the employees. Times have changed, people!!!'. All of this, dear readers, is why Canadians cannot have nice architecture. 5 10
- 2 But beautiful spaces are critical for the life of a community. Think of the places you love most in your community and consider how they make you feel. What comes to my mind are fond memories of roaming the narrow corridors of Diocletian's Palace, in Croatia; savouring a cup of coffee on the lively piazzas of Rome; experiencing the thrill of fireworks over the Old Port of Montréal. These are spaces built for people. All kinds of people want to use a lovely library, bike through a lush park, visit a poignant outdoor monument, even use the rooftop patio of their condo building. Consider our COVID-19 experience, which has seen people clamouring for communal outdoor spaces where they can be safely together. When all this is over, buildings will again be gathering points. Do we not deserve beauty? 15 20
- 3 Today, barring the newish Halifax and Calgary central libraries (which opened in 2014 and 2018, respectively), one wonders whether the average Canadian could name a building constructed in the past thirty years the country could be proud of. This is not only a matter of aesthetics: for a country that is ostensibly concerned about climate change, we do not do much to push the envelope on environmental design. That is not to say there are no good, sustainable modern buildings in Canada; there are always exceptions to any rule. They certainly are exceptions, though. It is true that the modernist era was incredible for architecture, abroad and in Canada. The movement inspired Montreal's Lego-like Habitat 67 and more discrete gems like Bauhaus master Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's gas station, which in 2020 was repurposed into an intergenerational community centre in Montreal. 25 30
- 4 Since modernism, though, architecture in Canada has taken a real nosedive. One possible explanation is increasing suspicion of government spending, especially if it appears to involve frivolous design. Then came sprawling suburbanisation, the economic recession of the 1980s, the spread of the megamall, and the fast-and-furious office tower and condo boom that cast a shadow of sameness across cities. In many places, officials ceded visions for cities to private developers, which is why you can now find massive condo towers in low-rise neighbourhoods. Sometimes it feels like 'design' has become a dirty word. 35 40

¹ Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

- 5 The reason Canadian cities look so *blah* compared to, say, European ones is only partly because ours are much younger. When it comes to architecture—and, truth be told, a lot of things—University of Calgary architecture professor Graham Livesey suspects that Canadians do not want to make a fuss. 'I don't think Canadians are any less informed than anybody else in the world. We are fairly educated, we are fairly sophisticated, and we travel', says Livesey. 'But,' he continues, 'I think Canadians—and it's not just particular to architecture—are just a bit passive. You could say the same when it comes to the environment. We're really not doing that much for the most part, and Canadians aren't really demanding that their politicians do very much either'. 45
- 6 There is a lot of truth in Livesey's estimation, but I suspect our commitment to accepting 'good enough' is not merely about a lack of empowerment or abundance of ignorance. Fundamentally, it represents our aversion to risk. The predominant approach to the design and construction of buildings, especially multi-unit residential housing across Canada, has been, 'why rock the boat when something functional and cheap will suffice?'. Furthermore, in many instances, 'build cheap' also means 'build ugly'—not because good design necessarily costs more but because we have conned ourselves into believing that it does. In reality, good design simply means making more creative choices with the money you have—something that is simply beyond the capabilities of the people with the rubber stamps. In many ways, our devotion to fiscal conservatism has caused us to settle for buildings that do not meet even the most basic standards of environmental sustainability. 50
55
60
- 7 While Livesey is not so cynical to think that Canadian architecture as a whole is a chore to look at, he sees many newer private-sector buildings suffering from various ailments. Canada's downtowns are stuffed with cranes piecing together gleaming towers with floor-to-ceiling glass—a design choice that sucks up excessive amounts of electricity in both the summer and winter months. Private developers push for this kind of design because it is relatively easy and inexpensive to construct; it almost always gets approved by cities, and when combined with cheap materials, it is the quickest way to get returns into the pockets of investors. Unfortunately, these motivations come at a cost. In 2014, the CBC reported glass panels falling off the facades of newly built hotel towers in downtown Toronto, including the Shangri-La luxury hotel, where the most basic room goes for a minimum of \$575 a night. In a Toronto high-rise, residents contend with wildly fluctuating water temperatures due to improperly installed valves. Then there is Vancouver's enduring leaky condo crisis, in which tens of thousands of homes built in the 1980s and 1990s have been flagged for water leaks. 65
70
75
- 8 Why we accept it is a patently Canadian phenomenon: our national psyche has us much more interested in checking boxes than in taking chances. Our standard process for contracting buildings often gives projects to the lowest bidders, even if a vastly more beautiful design is just a little bit more expensive. The tendency has been to make fairly functional, reasonably inoffensive, generally mediocre buildings. And those buildings then set the standard. Why succeed and produce a jewel when you are in a sea of mediocrity? We have become so devoted to frugality and bureaucracy, and are so readily appeased by basic functionality, that we have lost the fortitude to take and demand risks, even if the outcome could be the most beautiful thing we have ever seen. 80
- 9 Can we hope that passive, suspicious, and cheap Canadians will one day believe that good design exists and that it is an expense worthy of our tax dollars? When the city of Calgary got its award-winning central library, it was striking to see how public opinion shifted. For a long time while it was still in the planning and construction stages, people asked, 'What are you doing building a library? Aren't libraries dead? And why is it so expensive?'. People shut up after the library opened, in 2018, to global adulation, however. 'Suddenly', the discussion was, 'Wow, that's really cool. Did you know that was in the New York Times?'. 85
90

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Raffles Institution 2022



Raffles Institution
2022 Year 6 Preliminary Examination
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

Candidate's Name	CT Group	GP Tutor's Name

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

29 August 2022

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, CT group and GP tutor's name in the spaces at the top of this page.
 Write in dark blue or black pen.
 Do not use paper clips, glue, correction fluid or correction tape.

Answer **all** questions.

The Insert contains the passage for comprehension.

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.

For Examiner's Use	
Content	/35
Language	/15
TOTAL	/50

This document consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page

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

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 or phrases from the passage.

1 In lines 5-10, what is the author implying about public reaction to the design of the library?

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

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Use

2 In lines 13-16, how does the author illustrate that beautiful spaces affect how we feel? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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.....
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..... [3]

3 Explain the author's use of the word 'clamouring' in line 19. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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..... [2]

For
Examiner's
Use

4 From lines 24-26, why does the author doubt that the recently constructed Canadian buildings are something 'the country could be proud of' (line 24)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

5 What does the word 'ceded' (line 38) suggest about the author's attitude towards the officials mentioned in lines 37-39?

.....
..... [1]

6 What does the author's use of the word 'blah' (line 41) suggest about Canadian cities?

.....
..... [1]

7 Why does the author include the phrase 'and, truth be told, a lot of things' (lines 42-43) in dashes?

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

9 What criticisms does the author raise of Canadians' attitudes towards architecture in lines 82-83? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

*For
Examiner's
Use*

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..... [2]

10 In paragraph 9, why does the author say that it was 'striking to see how public opinion shifted' (lines 86-87)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

8

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For Internal Circulation Only

2022 RAFFLES INSTITUTION
YEAR 6 GENERAL PAPER PRELIMINARY EXAM
PAPER 2 SUGGESTED ANSWER SCHEME + MARKERS' COMMENTS

Note:

- **Words in bold are meant to be paraphrased**
- **Underlined words are key ideas that need to be captured**
- **Brackets indicate optional elements OR are instructions to markers**

1. In lines 5-10, what is the author implying about public reaction to the design of the library? [2]

From the passage/Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
		<i>The author is implying that...</i>	
While <u>some members of the public felt the building was magnificent, not everyone was so generous with their praise.</u> CBC's* Facebook polls showed that <u>some</u> were indifferent, <u>some</u> were hoping for better, and <u>many others</u> saw the price tag and wondered why the city was bothering at all [lines 5-8]	a	There are (too many) <u>diverse views</u> [Context] <u>on the design/building of the library</u> <i>Note: to capture the diversity of views</i>	1
" <u>Giant waste of tax dollars to pacify a very small number of people and mostly just the employees.</u> Times have changed, <u>people!!!</u> " [lines 8-10]	b	as well as <u>strong/emphatic</u> opinions about how [context] <u>public/taxpayers' money</u> should be spent. <i>Note: to capture strong opinions about public money spent</i>	1
Note: (i) <i>The answer cannot be a simple lift of the text since question asks for implication.</i> (ii) <i>The context must be captured accurate in both parts (a) and (b).</i>			

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2. In lines 13-16, how does the author illustrate that beautiful spaces affect how we feel? Use your own words as far as possible. [3]

From the passage/Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
	a	[method] The author illustrates this by giving examples of beautiful/historic spaces that evoke feelings of	Refer to table below
Fond memories (of roaming the narrow corridors of Diocletian's Palace, in Croatia) [line 14]	b	nostalgia/happy recollection (of exploring)	
savouring a cup of coffee on the lively piazzas of Rome [line 15]	c	enjoying/relishing/feeling the pleasure of (being in a vibrant space/watching the world go by)	
experiencing the thrill of fireworks over the Old Port of Montréal. [lines 15-16]	d	and feeling the delight/excitement (of watching celebrations)	

1 point	2-3 points	4 points
1 mark	2 marks	3 marks

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3. Explain the author's use of the word 'clamouring' in line 19. Use your own words as far as possible. [2]

From the passage / Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
Consider our <u>COVID-19</u> experience [line 18]	a	[Context] Given people's lives <u>during the pandemic</u>	Refer to table below
which has seen people clamouring [lines 18-19]	b	[Meaning of clamouring] there is a strong desire/demand/longing Note: must capture 'strong' or its equivalent	
for communal outdoor spaces where they can be <u>safely</u> together [line 19]	c	[clamouring for what] to have shared external places/areas where people can gather <u>without risk</u> .	

1-2 points	3 points
1 mark	2 marks

4. From lines 24-26, why does the author doubt that the recently constructed Canadian buildings are something 'the country could be proud of' (line 24)? Use your own words as far as possible. [2]

From the passage/Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
		<i>The author expresses doubt because</i>	
This is not only a matter of aesthetics [lines 24-25]	a	Canadian buildings are not well designed Accept: beautiful (but make sure that context of buildings is clear)	1
for a country that is ostensibly concerned about climate change, we don't do much to push the envelope on environmental design. [lines 25-26]	b	for a country that appears to place emphasis on climate change, the actions are not aligned with this stance. OR and there is also a discrepancy / mismatch / difference between the claim that Canada cares about climate change and its actual effort to design eco-friendly buildings. <i>Note: Examiner should not have to infer the meaning of 'ostensibly' for the student. The student must reasonably show the contrast between what Canadians claim and what they actually do.</i>	1

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5. What does the word 'ceded' (line 38) suggest about the author's attitude towards the officials mentioned in lines 37-39? [1]

From the passage / Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
		<i>It suggests that</i>	
In many places, officials ceded visions for cities to private developers, which is why you can now find massive condo towers in low-rise neighbourhoods. [lines 37-39]	a	[function] the author is critical of / disapproving of [context] the officials for giving up the plans for cities to private companies.	1

6. What does the author's use of the word 'blah' (line 41) suggest about Canadian cities? [1]

From the passage/Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
The reason Canadian cities look so <i>blah</i> compared to, say, European ones [line 41]		They are mediocre/less attractive/dull/insipid/uninteresting (in comparison to European ones).	1
<p>Note:</p> <p>(i) The point of this question is to expose the students to colloquialism by native speakers and tests the understanding of an expression to make a suggestion about Canadian architecture.</p>			

7. Why does the author include the phrase 'and, truth be told, a lot of things' (lines 42-43) in dashes? [2]

From the passage/Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
When it comes to architecture— <u>and, truth be told, a lot of things</u> —University of Calgary architecture professor Graham Livesey suspects that Canadians don't want to make a fuss. [lines 42-44]	a	[function] She wants to <u>emphasise</u> <i>Note: double dashes single out this phrase hence 'emphasis'</i> <i>Do not accept: show</i>	1
	b	how passivity in Canadian culture/the aversion to making a scene is not just limited to architecture <u>but also applies to other issues.</u>	1
<p><i>Learning point: Students must answer fully, include the context, read the line carefully.</i></p> <p><i>Note: the answer must minimally capture what 'a lot of things' means. Truth be told cannot be explained in isolation.</i></p>			

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8. Summary

Using material from paragraphs 6 and 7 only (lines 50-75), summarise what the author has to say about why Canadians accept their architecture as being 'good enough' (line 51) and the possible consequences of their general passivity.

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.**

The author says Canadians accept mediocre architecture because...

From the passage	Point	Suggested answer
Not <u>merely</u> about a lack of empowerment	A	it <u>goes beyond</u> not having the agency/ability to make decisions
Or <u>abundance</u> of ignorance	B	or being <u>very/extremely uninformed</u>
<u>Fundamentally</u> , it represents our aversion to risk	C	<u>essentially</u> , it reflects their reluctance to try new things/to go beyond their comfort zone/take chances <i>Note: 'Gamble' not accepted</i>
The <u>predominant</u> approach to the design and construction of buildings	D	The <u>most common/main</u> attitude towards architecture is
why rock the boat	E	why challenge the system/status quo
functional	F	when practical
and cheap will suffice?"	G	and inexpensive will be good enough.
in many instances, "build cheap" also means "build ugly "	H	Often, this leads to unattractive buildings <i>Note: If only Point G is given/without Point F, link to building cheap must be evident.</i>
not because good design <u>necessarily</u> costs more	I	not because good design <u>has to/actually</u> does cost more
But because we have conned ourselves into believing that it does	J	but because Canadians have fooled themselves into trusting/thinking that it does.
making more creative choices with the money you have	K	People are not making more imaginative/innovative/inventive choices with their budget
something that is <u>simply beyond</u>	L	because it completely/totally exceeds
the capabilities of the <u>people with the rubber stamps</u>	M	the abilities of their <u>bureaucrats/administrators</u> .
Our devotion to fiscal conservatism	N	Their obsession with financial prudence/saving money
Has caused us to settle for	O	has resulted in compromises,
Buildings that do not meet <u>even</u> the most basic standards of environmental sustainability	P	leading to buildings that have <u>very poor/low</u> environmental standards <i>Note: the essence is to pick out how low the standard is</i>
many <u>newer</u> private-sector buildings suffering from various ailments	Q	Numerous <u>more recent</u> private developments/buildings are plagued by many problems .
Canada's downtowns are stuffed with cranes	R	[inf] City-centres have excessive construction activity
piecing together gleaming towers with floor-to-ceiling glass—	S	[inf] constructing buildings with <u>excessive</u> amounts of glass

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(a design choice) that sucks up <u>excessive</u> amounts of electricity (both the summer and winter months)	T	that use up <u>too much</u> energy/are <u>extremely</u> energy-inefficient. <i>Note: Accept idea of unsustainable design</i>
Private developers push for this kind of design	U	Private developers lobby for design like this
because it is <u>relatively</u> easy	V	as it is <u>comparatively</u> straightforward,
and <u>inexpensive</u> to construct	W	and <u>cheap/cost-effective</u> to build,
<u>almost always</u> gets <u>approved</u> by cities	X	<u>frequently allowed/endorsed</u> by the authorities/cities,
and when <u>combined</u> with <u>cheap</u> materials	Y	and <u>together with</u> low-cost materials
it is the <u>quickest</u> way to <u>get returns</u> into the pockets of investors	Z	is the <u>fastest</u> way to <u>make money</u> for investors.
[inferred] glass panels falling off the facades of <u>newly</u> built hotel towers in downtown Toronto, including the Shangri-La luxury hotel, where <u>the most basic room goes for a minimum of \$575 a night</u>	A1	[inf] As a result, even <u>many new and expensive</u> buildings/hotels <i>Note: the connector as a result is needed to show the negative consequences [A1-A3] that happens because of the actions of private developers [U-Z]</i>
glass panels falling off the facades of <u>newly</u> built hotel towers in downtown Toronto or In a Toronto high-rise, residents contend with wildly fluctuating water temperatures due to <u>improperly installed valves</u>	A2	have <u>construction defects</u> .
Vancouver's enduring leaky condo crisis, <u>in which tens of thousands of homes</u> built in the 1980s and 1990s have been flagged for water leaks.	A3	which <u>affect many/is a wide-spread issue</u> .

Pts	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15/15+
Marks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

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9. What criticisms does the author raise of Canadians' attitudes towards architecture in lines 82-84? Use your own words as far as possible. [2]

From the passage / Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
		The author's criticisms show that	Refer to table below
We have become <u>so devoted</u> to frugality and bureaucracy, [line 82]	a	Canadians have become <u>overly committed / dedicated</u> to spending little and paperwork <i>Do not accept: 'very' – it does not capture the intensity of 'so'</i>	
and are <u>so readily appeased</u> by <u>basic functionality</u> , [lines 82-83]	b	and are <u>too easily assuaged</u> by <u>simple practicality / utility</u> that	
that we have <u>lost</u> the <u>fortitude</u> to take and demand risks. [line 83]	c	they <u>no longer have the strength / courage</u> to make daring decisions.	

1 point	2-3 points
1 mark	2 marks

10. In paragraph 9, why does the author say that it was 'striking to see how public opinion shifted' (lines 87-88)? Use your own words as far as possible. [2]

From the passage / Lift		Suggested Answer	Marks
		The author says it was striking because	2 or 0 marks
For a long time while it was still in the planning and construction stages, people asked, 'What are you doing building a library? Aren't libraries dead? And why is it so expensive?'" [lines 88-90]	a	while it was in the planning/building stage, the <u>animosity/criticisms</u> towards the Calgary library <u>was very strong / intense / OR lasted for many years.</u> <i>whereas (a contrasting connector is needed to show the striking shift)</i>	
People <u>shut up</u> after the library opened, in 2018, to global adulation, however. "Suddenly, the discussion was, 'Wow, that's really cool. Did you know that was in the <u>New York Times</u> ?''" [lines 90-92]	b	after the library opened, the criticism <u>abruptly/surprisingly</u> stopped as people were very impressed by the building/the <u>reaction</u> to the building.	

