

BioMedical Admissions Test

Specimen

30 minutes

SECTION 3

Writing Task

Instructions to Candidates

Please read this page carefully, but do not open the question paper until you are told that you may do so.

This paper is Section 3 of 3. A separate answer sheet is provided for this section. Please check you have one. You must complete the answer sheet in **black pen**.

Please complete the answer sheet with your:

- Name
- BMAT candidate number
- Centre number
- Initials

This question paper contains a choice of three tasks, of which you must complete only **one**. There is space on the question paper for preliminary notes. **Your answer must be written on the answer sheet provided and in English.** No additional answer sheets may be used. **Candidates with permission to use a word processor must not exceed 550 words.**

The tasks each provide an opportunity for you to show how well you can select, develop and organise ideas and communicate them effectively in writing.

Before you begin writing, take time to think carefully about what you need to say and the ways in which the organisation and layout of your response might help convey your message. Diagrams etc. may be used if they enhance communication.

Take care to show how well you can write and be concise, clear and accurate.

You can use the question paper for rough working or notes, but **no extra paper** is allowed.

Remember that when you are told that you may begin you will have only 30 minutes to choose and complete your task, and that your complete response must be contained on the single page provided for your answer. You **must** complete the answer sheet within the time limit. The disciplines involved in this are regarded as key features of the task.

Dictionaries and calculators may NOT be used.

Please wait to be told you may begin before turning this page.

This paper consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.

Use this space and the back page for notes etc. if you wish. Remember that your response must be written on the single page answer sheet provided.

YOU MUST COMPLETE ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TASKS

Please indicate which task (1, 2 or 3) you have chosen in the 'Task Chosen' box on the answer sheet.

Each of the tasks consists of a statement in bold followed by three prompts. It is important that you address all three parts of your chosen task.

1 'A little learning is a dangerous thing.' (Alexander Pope)

Explain what this statement means. Argue to the contrary to show that a little learning is not dangerous. To what extent do you think learning can be a dangerous thing?

2 'Our belief in any particular natural law cannot have a safer basis than our unsuccessful critical attempts to refute it.' (Karl Popper)

Explain what this statement means. Argue to the contrary that science may not proceed by attempting to refute hypotheses. To what extent do you think this statement accurately reflects the nature of scientific method?

3 It is ridiculous to treat the living body as a mechanism.

Explain what this statement means. Argue to the contrary. To what extent do you think this apparent contradiction can be resolved?

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