

RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1
JC2 Preliminary Examination

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

1 September 2021

INSERT

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains the passage for Paper 2.

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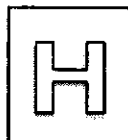
Archie Viszt considers the value of museums.

- 1 The report commissioned by French President Emmanuel Macron was frank: continuing to hold artefacts taken from Africa amounts to depriving their people of the “spiritual nourishment that is the foundation of their humanity”. This report concluded that French museums should return the thousands of artefacts taken during colonialism. It went on to argue that “Africans find themselves struggling to recover the thread of an interrupted memory”. Macron endorsed the report, and started to act by returning 26 artworks to the Kingdom of Benin, effective immediately. 5
- 2 The report added fuel to an ongoing debate about the housing of artefacts in museums miles away from their place of origin, often taken by colonial authorities or acquired through other unjust means. This was a conversation that the UN started in 2007 with Article 11 of its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which urged countries to restore “cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property” taken from indigenous people without their “prior and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs”. Indeed, all around the world, ex-colonialists continue to display their spoils of conquest in gleaming glass cabinets and resplendent pedestals. While some bask in the reverence of these artefacts, for others, they suffer the indignity of having to knock on the doors of thieves to catch only a glimpse of what had been stolen from them. For those with the resolve to build themselves up, museums continue to harbour the spectacle of their past humiliations, reminding them of their place in the world. The multitudinous plundered relics of China’s Old Summer Palace continue to sit (mockingly) in the halls of the British Museum, as protests from an ascending China continue to fall on deaf ears. 10 15 20
- 3 Some may argue that the importance of withholding and preserving the world’s cultural artefacts remains a sensitive issue. This comes after the destruction of the ancient Assyrian archaeological site of Nimrud in Iraq, and then of Palmyra in Syria by ISIS. Syrian archaeologists are currently experiencing uncertain conditions while struggling to restore the ruins at Palmyra, recently reclaimed by Syrian and Russian forces. Meanwhile, the Syrian government continues to face an uphill task to recover artefacts stolen and sold on the black market by ISIS. Such events, some argued at the time, should serve as a “wake-up call” to Western museums to be protective of their collections and unapologetic in disputes over contested remains. According to them, important antiquities should be treated as the common property of mankind. In fact, there is a strong case to be made where artefacts are better off cradled in the loving arms of museums. 25 30
- 4 Through decades of consolidation, valuable artefacts can be better protected from potential harm and neglect in museums with the necessary infrastructure and support. For example, fragile papyrus documenting ancient Egyptian writings has to be stored within a climate-controlled room in which the temperature and humidity are maintained at a constant level, and with UV light protection, lest its ink fades away into oblivion. Faithful patronage from wealthy benefactors also allowed some museums to assemble a team of world-renowned paleontologists to study and preserve the fragile remains of fantastic beasts from millions of years ago. Museums also have access to experts who are more than capable of carrying out restoration works, particularly on delicate works of art. One need only look at how an ill-advised private art collector in Valencia hired a furniture restorer to have the picture of the Immaculate Conception cleaned. The job did not go as planned, of course, and the face of the Virgin Mary was left unrecognisable despite two separate attempts to restore it to its original state. Simply 35 40 45

put, some countries just do not have the resource nor infrastructure to care for these artefacts.

- 5 Beyond safekeeping and restorative works, museums also allow us to safely ponder upon the artefacts of long-forgotten civilisations that transcend the jurisdiction of today's countries. Looking at relics from the vast Mongolian Empire, which once stretched from the Volga River in Russia to the Yangtze River in China, who can truly lay claim to these artefacts? Why not let a museum be the steward for these artefacts, instead of offering them to a single country and inadvertently opening a geo-political can of worms? In fact, let the museums take a closer look! After all, technological advancements have also allowed us to glean further back into history and catch that which our eyes cannot see. 50 55
- 6 From addressing key social issues to transforming how we see the future, museums have the power to shape our society. While no museum can claim to provide a complete picture, the lessons we can learn from the past, both its wonders and tragedies, are priceless. This is especially true in these tumultuous times, when it is impossible to ignore the escalating tensions between nations and even communities. Museums help people establish a common ground and to see that we are not too different from one another. The modern study of history has also made us more aware of how narratives inform our realities, and as such, museums tend to be more mindful of portraying history in as objective a manner as possible. While state-sponsored museums may get in the way, more often than not, we see museums build bridges rather than allow chasms to widen. Through intellectual discourse, we learn how to bring humanity forward. 60 65 70
- 7 Museums are also an oasis from the blaring metropolis that overwhelms us. The stillness of the air in a place where time has stood still allows people to collect their thoughts unhurriedly. It is amidst these wondrous and profound artefacts that a weary soul can derive some inspiration and motivation before returning to the suffocating world outside. Beyond seeking reprieve, museums can also be a space where we can meet like-minded people and build new acquaintances. With talking points found at every turn, a day with a friend at the museum can fly by without us noticing. Special exhibitions with high-tech bells and whistles can also help sustain regular footfall and introduce different demographics to the museum. With activities keeping it busy all year round, from the curator to the part-time gift shop assistant, to the baristas at the adjacent cafes, museums also contribute significantly to local employment. 75 80
- 8 Indeed, museums are a nexus for reflection and change. However, we cannot forget that what gives museums their soul are these artefacts. As we nourish our minds with their reverence, we need to remember that somewhere else, halls would continue to ring hollow in their absence. This means that we should work to cultivate an environment that is safe for the repatriation of these artefacts as long as these artefacts have a safe place to go. By working closely with governments and institutions in the home countries of these artefacts, museums can share their expertise, and in doing so, foster good will, while leaving room for greater collaborations in the future. 85
- 9 Even when museums give back what they have taken, they would not lose too much. After all, while their exhibition halls are rich with relics put up for display, a richer trove lies hidden away in storage rooms, never to see the light of day. Perhaps the best way for us to treat artefacts as "the common property of mankind" is to truly flourish as the stewards that we were meant to be. 90

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RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

JC2 Preliminary Examination

Candidate name	
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GENERAL PAPER

Paper 2

8807/02

1 September 2021

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, index number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

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

For
Examiner's
Use

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. What is the purpose of the author's opening sentence?

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

2. In paragraph 1, suggest what the report could be referring to in its use of the phrase 'an interrupted memory' (line 6).

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

3. What does the author mean by the phrase 'added fuel to an ongoing debate' (line 8)?

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

4. From lines 14 -18, explain **two** ways in which the author uses language to criticise the 'housing of artefacts in museums miles away from their place of origin'. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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

5. How does the author illustrate his claim in lines 18–19 that ‘for those with the resolve to build themselves up, museums continue to harbour the spectacle of their past humiliations, reminding them of their place in the world’? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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.....[3]

6. What is the author implying about museums with his use of the phrase ‘cradled in the loving arms of museums’ (line 33–34)?

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

7. In relation to the preservation of important antiquities, how does the author contrast the situation in Iraq and Syria in paragraph 3 with the capabilities of museums mentioned in paragraph 4? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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

8. Explain the author's use of the question in lines 52–54. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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

9. According to the author, what is the benefit of a museum being a 'steward' (line 54) for artefacts? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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

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2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

1. What is the purpose of the author's opening sentence? (1 mark)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
The report commissioned by French President Emmanuel Macron was frank: continuing to hold artefacts taken from Africa amounts to depriving their people of the "spiritual nourishment that is the foundation of their humanity"	<p>To (A) introduce the topic of (B) museums taking artefacts that do not belong to them/ the value of artefacts.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Do not accept "value of museums"</i> <i>Do not accept "artefacts and museums"</i> <i>(need an issue, not just a noun)</i></p> <p>To (A) act as a hook (B) by quoting a person of power.</p> <p>To (A) draw attention to (B) the severity of what Western museums have done to Africa.</p> <p>To (A) show the (B) credibility of his view by quoting a report.</p> <p>To (A) introduce (B) one perspective on the debate about whether museums should hold on to other countries' artefacts.</p>

2. In paragraph 1, suggest what the report could be referring to in its use of the phrase 'an interrupted memory' (line 6). (1 mark)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
...taken during <u>colonialism</u>	It could be referring to colonialism/ the subjection of African countries to Western rule/ Western imperialism/ the conquering of African countries.
...continuing to hold artefacts taken from Africa	the removal of the artefacts from Africa...
...depriving African people of the "spiritual nourishment that is the foundation of their humanity"	...which cut African people off from their history/ source of identity/ source of self-esteem.
	<i>Any answer for 1 mark</i> <i>Allow for lifting</i>

3. What does the author mean by the phrase 'added fuel to an ongoing debate' (line 8)? (1 mark)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
The report (C) added fuel to an (A) ongoing (B) debate about the housing of artefacts miles away from their place of origin...	<p>The report made the (A) contemporary/ current (B) discussion/ argument/ controversy (C) more intense.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Allow omission of (A)</i></p>

2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

4. From lines 14 -18, explain **two** ways in which the author uses language to criticise the 'housing of artefacts in museums miles away from their place of origin'. Use **your own words as far as possible**. (2 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
Indeed, all over the world, ex-colonialists continue to display their spoils of conquest in gleaming glass cabinets and resplendent pedestals .	He <u>highlights the irony</u> of housing such controversial items in such impressive displays. OR He uses words such as "gleaming" and "resplendent" to show how impressive the displays are, which <u>contrasts greatly</u> with the unethical act of stealing the items.
While some bask in the reverence of these artefacts, for others, they suffer the indignity of having to knock on the door of thieves to catch only a glimpse of what had been stolen from them.	He <u>highlights the irony</u> of countries having to ask for permission to view items that were originally theirs.
Indeed, all over the world, ex-colonialists continue to display their spoils of conquest... OR ... knock on the door of thieves...	He uses <u>provocative words/ words with negative connotations</u> to describe the countries who have taken cultural items from other countries/ what these countries have done. <i>Any 2 points for 2 marks</i>

2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

5. How does the author illustrate his claim in lines 18–19 that ‘for those with the resolve to build themselves up, museums continue to harbour the spectacle of their past humiliations, reminding them of their place in the world’? Use your own words as far as possible. (3 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
The (A) multitudinous (B) plundered relics of China’s old Summer Palace continue to sit (C) (mockingly) in the halls of the British museum,	The author uses the example of how the British museum displays (A) many (B) stolen items from China, which (C) makes them remember China’s humiliation/ feel ridiculed.
as (D) protests from an ascending China continue to (E) fall on deaf ears .	Their (D) objections/ complaints/ unhappiness (E) go unheeded/ are ignored, which also makes them feel small. <i>1-2 points: 1 mark 3-4 points: 2 marks 5 points: 3 marks</i>

6. What is the author implying about museums with his use of the phrase ‘cradled in the loving arms of museums’ (line 33–34)? (1 mark)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
In fact, there is a strong case to be made where artefacts are better off cradled in the loving arms of museums.	Museums have the ability to protect these artefacts. <i>Accept ‘care for artefacts’ and other reasonable answers.</i>

2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

7. In relation to the preservation of important antiquities, how does the author contrast the situation in Iraq and Syria in paragraph 3 with the capabilities of museums mentioned in paragraph 4? **Use your own words as far as possible.** (2 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
<p>(Iraq and Syria) This comes after the (A) destruction of the ancient Assyrian archaeological site of Nimrud, and then of Palmyra in Syria by ISIS.</p> <p>(Wealthier countries) ...valuable artefacts can be better protected from potential harm and neglect in museums with the necessary infrastructure and support. For example, fragile papyrus...</p>	<p><i>(Destruction/ Plundering vs. Protection)</i> While Iraq and Syria (A1) have not been able to prevent their archaeological sites from being demolished/ plundered</p> <p>Wealthier nations have the expertise to (A2) take good care of the artefacts under their care.</p>
<p>(Iraq and Syria) Syrian archaeologists are currently (B1) experiencing uncertain conditions....</p> <p>(Wealthier countries) (B2) Faithful patronage from wealthy benefactors...</p>	<p><i>(Unstable vs. Stable)</i> While the situations in Iraq and Syria have been (B1) volatile/ unstable,</p> <p>Wealthier nations enjoy (B2) a steady stream of income.</p>
<p>(Iraq and Syria) while (C1) struggling to restore the ruins at Palmyra, recently reclaimed by Syrian and Russian forces.</p> <p>(Wealthier countries) ... a team of world-renowned palaeontologists...</p> <p>Museums also have access to experts who are more than capable of carrying out restoration works, particularly on delicate works of arts.</p>	<p><i>(Difficulty in restoring vs. Having experts)</i> While Syrian archaeologists have found it (C1) difficult to touch up/ work on/ study artefacts</p> <p>Wealthier nations have famous/ the best (C2) specialists/ professionals to work on this.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Any 2 pairs for 2 marks</i></p>
<p>(Iraq and Syria) The Syrian government continues to face an uphill task to recover artefacts stolen and sold on the black market by ISIS.</p> <p>(Wealthier nations) Museums also have access to experts who are more than capable of carrying out restoration works, particularly on delicate works of arts. OR ...valuable artefacts can be better protected from potential harm and neglect in museums with the necessary infrastructure and support. For example, fragile papyrus...</p>	<p><i>(Difficult vs. easy)</i> While it is difficult for the Syrian government to even get their artefacts back from terrorist groups.</p> <p>It is easy for museums for them to take good care of their artefacts as they have professionals/ expertise/ help needed/ money.</p>

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8. Explain the author's use of the question in lines 52–54. Use your own words as far as possible. (2 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
Looking at relics from the (B) vast Mongolian Empire, which once stretched from the Volga River in Russia to the Yangtze River in China, (A) who can truly lay claim to these artefacts? OR civilisations that (B) transcend the jurisdiction of today's countries	The author uses a rhetorical question to highlight (A) how no country can say that they are the rightful owners of ancient artefacts, as these artefacts come from (B) past kingdoms that span different countries. <i>2 points for 2 marks</i>

9. According to the author, what is the benefit of a museum being a 'steward' (line 54) for artefacts? Use your own words as far as possible. (2 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
Why not let a museum be a (A) steward for these artefacts, instead of (B) offering them to a single country and inadvertently (C) opening a (D) geopolitical can of worms?	As (A) <u>custodians/ caretakers/ entities</u> that do not own the artefacts, museums (B) will not give these artefacts to a specific nation, <u>and so (C) avoid causing conflicts/ complications/ igniting controversies (D) between nations</u> <i>1-2 pts: 1 mark</i> <i>3-4 points: 2 marks</i>

10. Using material from paragraphs 6–8 only (lines 59–89), summarise what the author has to say about the value of museums.

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.

Museums are valuable because they....

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	Text	Paraphrased/ inferred ideas
A	addressing key social issues (line 59)	reflect/ highlight important community problems,
B	transforming how we see the future (line 59)	changes our views/ perspectives of/ attitudes towards what is coming
C	shape our society (line 60)	and influences our countries'/ communities' behaviours/ choices.
D	the lessons we can learn from the past (61)	Museums teach us about history
E	both its wonders and tragedies (line 61)	humanity's beauty/ achievements and horrors
F	are priceless (line 62)	which is/ are valuable
G	especially true in these tumultuous times (line 62)	particularly since the world is volatile,
H	escalating tensions between nations and even communities (line 63)	with heightened anxieties across countries/ within societies.
I	help people establish a common ground (line 64) and to see that we are not too different from one another (line 64)	Museums help us to create mutual understanding OR and to understand we have similarities
J	The modern study of history has also made us more aware of how narratives inform our realities , and as such, (line 65)	Museums show us how stories affect current societies.
K	museums tend to be more mindful of portraying history in as objective a manner as possible (line 67)	Museums carefully select objects for display since they know that they influence our understanding of the past.
L	museums build bridges (line 68)	Museums create linkages
M	bring humanity forward (line 70) ... and change (line 82)	so that the world will be a better place/ mankind can advance.
N	an oasis from the blaring metropolis that overwhelms us (line 71)	Museums offer calm/ peace in busy cities,
O	allows people to collect their thoughts unhurriedly (line 72) (<i>Nexus for reflection...</i> (line 82)	for people to pause, ponder, ruminate
P	a weary soul can derive some inspiration and motivation before returning to the suffocating world outside (line 73)	and rejuvenate if they are worn down by the pressures of life.
Q	meet like-minded people (line 76)	Kindred spirits/ people with similar interests can gather,
R	build new acquaintances (line 76)	and make more friends

2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

S	with talking points found at every turn (line 76)	as museums offer interesting topics for discussion.
T	Special exhibitions ... introduce different demographics to the museums (line 77)	Thematic exhibitions draw varying groups of people and
U	contribute to local employment (line 81)	museums create jobs.
V	museums can share their expertise (line 88)	Museums exchange knowledge/ skills which
W	foster goodwill (line 89)	encourage friendliness/ kindness
X	while leaving room for greater collaboration in the future (line 89)	and subsequently, more cooperation.

Points	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-11	12-14	15-17	18 +
Marks	1m	2m	3m	4m	5m	6m	7m	8m

Sample summary paragraph	points
<p>Museums reflect crucial community problems, changing our perspectives about what is to come and influencing our community. Containing valuable points about humanity's beauty and horrors, museums are particularly important in today's volatile world which has heightened geopolitical anxieties. Museums show similarities among different communities. Museums are neutral and influence our understanding of history. Besides creating linkages for the world to be a better place, they offer peace in busy cities for tired people to pause and rejuvenate. With interesting topics for discussion, kindred spirits can gather and make new friends. Thematic exhibitions also draw varying groups of people. Besides job-creation and the exchange of knowledge, museums encourage camaraderie and subsequently, more cooperation. (112 words)</p>	<p>a, b c, d, f e, g, h, i k l, m, n, o, p, s q, r, t u, v, w, x</p>

11. What reasons does the author give for saying that museums 'would not lose too much' (line 90)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** (2 marks)

From text	Paraphrase/ Inference
<p>Even when museums give back what they had taken, they would not lose too much. After all, while their exhibition halls are rich with relics put up for display, (A) a richer trove (B) lies hidden away in storage rooms, never to see the light of day. Perhaps the best way for us to treat artefacts as (C) "the common property of mankind" is to truly flourish as the stewards that we were meant to be.</p>	<p>Museums have (A) many other artefacts OR valuable artefacts</p> <p>(B) that are not exhibited.</p> <p>Another reason is because (C) it belongs to everyone anyway.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Any two points for two marks</i></p>

2021 RVHS J2 GP Prelims Paper 2 Answer Key

12. The author presents various ideas about the value of museums. How far do you agree with these observations, relating your arguments to your own experience and that of your society?