



EDUCATION ADMISSIONS ASSESSMENT

CONTENT SPECIFICATION

2017

Sample Materials for the Education Admissions Assessment

The assessment will take the form of a critical response to a text or other stimulus. The material may be a piece of academic writing, a newspaper report, a video, a policy document, or other material relevant to the content of the Education Tripos. You should note that Colleges will use a variety of different materials during an admissions round, and that not all candidates will be asked to comment on the same stimulus. You will not be able to see the material in order to prepare before the assessment, but you will have fifteen minutes to read/watch/listen to the material at the beginning of the assessment, and then 45 minutes to write your response.

Your written response will be judged on the following criteria:

- intellectual engagement with, and critical discussion of sources giving a personal insight
- development and presentation of an argument, analysing a range of information
- evidence of an understanding of the purpose, and of the social and political contexts of educational practices

Samples of the kind of materials you might encounter in the test are given below:

www.drmartinlutherkingjr.com/thepurposeofeducation.htm

<https://thenferblog.org/2014/05/22/what-is-the-point-of-education/> (blog post only – please disregard comments)

www.ted.com/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity?language=en
(you are likely to be asked to comment on a portion of such a video, and not the entirety)

In each case, you will be asked to read/watch/listen to the material and then answer a question. The following is an example of the type of question you might be asked.

Critically discuss the article you have just read in the context of at least one current educational issue in the UK.