



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/11

Paper 1 Reading Passage (Core)

October/November 2011

1 hour 45 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Reading Booklet Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **6** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** Insert.



Question 1

Read carefully the passage *Night Train to Mumbai (The Superfast Express)* in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer all the questions.

- (a) Explain what the writer means by 'But the train traveller sees a different Jaipur' (lines 3–4).

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.....

..... [2]

- (b) Which **one** word in the first paragraph tells you that some of the buildings in Sanganer were in a poor condition?

..... [1]

- (c) Explain, **using your own words**:

- (i) why the writer felt that the name 'Superfast' was not suited to the train.

.....

..... [1]

- (ii) why the speed of the train was 'consoling' to the writer (line 15). Give **two** reasons.

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..... [2]

- (d) Why does Mr Gupta think 'Planes are a problem.' (line 21)?

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..... [1]

- (e) Give **two** reasons why there are now fewer tigers in this part of India.

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..... [2]

(f) Explain, **using your own words**, what the writer means by:

(i) 'it sprawls to the horizon' (line 5);

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

(ii) 'peering from the ornate walls' (line 32);

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

(iii) 'part of the panorama' (line 43).

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

(g) Re-read lines 34–40. Choose **three** short phrases which the writer uses to describe what he saw from the train window.

Explain how each of these phrases helps to create a picture in your mind of the people and their surroundings.

Phrase:

Explanation:

.....
.....

Phrase:

Explanation:

.....
.....

Phrase:

Explanation:

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..... [6]

[Turn over for Question 1(h)]

(h) Explain, **using your own words**, the contrast between the city of Kota and the surrounding countryside (lines 40–46).

*For
Examiner's
Use*

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..... [2]

(i) Re-read the whole passage. Write a summary of what you learn about the lives and interests of the writer and Mr Gupta.

Write a paragraph of about 50–70 words.

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..... [7]

[Total: 30]

[Turn over for Question 2]

Question 2

Imagine you are Paul Theroux, the writer. After you arrive in Mumbai, you spend some days relaxing and catching up on note taking before continuing with your journey.

Write your journal entry in which you should give:

- your thoughts and feelings about your recent journey and the people you have met
- the reasons why you would want to return and spend more time in the area.

Begin your journal entry, 'Today I finally reached Mumbai...'

You should base your ideas on what you have read in the passage, but do not copy from it.

You should write between 1 and 1½ sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

Up to ten marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to ten marks for the quality of your writing.

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Reading Passage

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