



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE  
NAME

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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/12**

Paper 1 Reading Passage (Core)

**May/June 2012**

**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.

**For Examiner's Use**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>1(a)</b>      |  |
| <b>1(b)</b>      |  |
| <b>1(c)</b>      |  |
| <b>1(d)</b>      |  |
| <b>1(e)(i)</b>   |  |
| <b>1(e)(ii)</b>  |  |
| <b>1(f)</b>      |  |
| <b>1(g)(i)</b>   |  |
| <b>1(g)(ii)</b>  |  |
| <b>1(g)(iii)</b> |  |
| <b>1(h)</b>      |  |
| <b>2</b>         |  |
| <b>Total</b>     |  |

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



**Question 1**

**Read carefully the passage *A New Tutor* in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer all the questions.**

(a) From paragraph one (The consul's home ...), give **three** details about the consul's flat.

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

(b) Re-read paragraph one (The consul's home ...). Choose **three** phrases used by the writer which convey the rich and colourful nature of the area in which the consul lived.

Explain how each of these phrases brings the area to life for the reader.

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....  
.....  
.....

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....  
.....  
.....

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....  
.....  
..... [6]

(c) Explain, **using your own words**, how the consul set out to test Gerald's knowledge of French.

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

(d) Which word in line 15 tells you that the consul was friendly by nature?

• .....

[1]

(e) Explain, **using your own words**:

(i) how the consul reacted in lines 18–19;

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

Explain, **using your own words**:

(ii) what Gerald's **two** thoughts were immediately following the reactions of the consul.

• .....

.....

• .....

..... [2]

(f) When he saw the consul fire the gun, what was Gerald thinking about why the consul did this? Give **one** explanation (lines 29–31).

• .....

..... [1]

**[Turn over for Question 1(g)]**

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

(i) 'frantic haste' (line 22)

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

(ii) 'incessant fusillade' (line 33)

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

(iii) 'humane service' (line 42)

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

(h) Re-read the whole passage. Write a summary of Gerald's thoughts and feelings about the Belgian consul.

Write a paragraph of about 50–70 words.

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..... [7]

**[Total: 30]**

**Question 2**

Imagine you are Gerald Durrell. You return home and talk with your mother about your first lesson with your new tutor. During the conversation your mother asks the following:

- Tell me about your journey to your tutor's house.
- What did you do in your first lesson today?
- What were your impressions of your tutor?

**Write the words of the conversation between Gerald and his mother.**

Begin your conversation:

'Mother: Tell me about your journey to your tutor's house.  
Gerald: Well, it was interesting ...'.

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 10 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.**

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**[Total: 20]**



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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Reading Passage

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