



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE  
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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.

- .....
- .....

..... [2]

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

.....

..... [1]

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

- .....
- .....

..... [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: .....

.....  
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Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....

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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).

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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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A series of horizontal dotted lines providing a template for writing or calculations.

**[Total: 20]**

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Reading Passage

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