



**Cambridge International Examinations**  
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE  
NAME

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CENTRE  
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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/12**

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core)

**October/November 2017**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces provided.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** the questions in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

The Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passages for use with **all** questions on this Question Paper. The Reading Booklet Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

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

This document consists of **9** printed pages, **3** blank pages and **1** Reading Booklet Insert.

Read carefully **Passage A, *The Incident on the Express Train***, in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer **Questions 1 and 2** on this Question Paper.

Answer all questions using your own words as far as possible.

**Question 1**

(a) Which **one** word suggests that Joe is annoyed about losing his way (paragraph 1)?

.....[1]

(b) **Using your own words**, explain why Joe is uncertain about what he sees happening in the train carriage (paragraph 2).

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

(c) **Using your own words**, explain what is meant by the phrase: 'Not one feature of the two men in the carriage remained clear' (lines 17–18).

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

(d) How does Joe explain to himself what he thought he saw through the carriage window (paragraph 4)?

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

(e) **Using your own words**, explain why Joe is confused and exhausted (line 22).

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

(f) **Using your own words**, explain what it is about Joe's behaviour that the railway worker is worried about (lines 28–31).

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

(g) Complete parts (i) and (ii) to answer **Question 1(g)**.

(i) Re-read paragraphs 1 and 2. **Using your own words**, explain what the writer means by the words in *italics* in **each** of the following phrases:

(a) 'The *thunderous* roar of a train emerging from the depths of the earth' (line 5)

(b) '...burst out with the *dazzling* glare of its great big round eye' (line 8)

(c) 'The train flew past at such a *whirling* speed' (line 11).

Meaning of the word in *italics*: .....  
.....[1]

Meaning of the word in *italics*: .....  
.....[1]

Meaning of the word in *italics*: .....  
.....[1]

(ii) Explain **how** the language **in each of the phrases in Question (g)(i)** helps to suggest experience of watching the train pass.

Explanation:  
.....  
.....[2]

Explanation:  
.....  
.....[2]

Explanation:  
.....  
.....[2]

**[Total: 20]**

**Question 2**

Imagine that you are Joe from **Passage A**. The morning after these events you write a letter to your sister in which you explain what has happened. **Write your letter.**

In your letter you should explain:

- what you were doing and what you saw
- your later doubts about whether or not you had imagined what you saw
- how you helped the signalman and what you both discovered.

Base your letter on what you have read in **Passage A**, but do not copy from it. Be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullet points.

Begin your letter: ‘Dear Sister, I am writing to tell you...’.

Write about 200 to 300 words.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.**

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**[Total: 15]**  
**[Turn over**

Read carefully **Passage B, *Travelling by Train in India***, in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer **Question 3(a)** and **(b)** on this Question Paper.

**Question 3**

Answer the questions in the order set.

**(a) Notes**

What can be learned about the Indian Railways **and** what impressed the writer about travelling on them, according to **Passage B**?

Write your answers using short **notes**. **Write one point per line.**

You do **not** need to use your own words.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer.**

What can be learned about the Indian Railways **and** what impressed the writer about travelling on them?:

1 .....

2 .....

3 .....

4 .....

5 .....

6 .....

7 .....

8 .....

9 .....

10 .....

[10]







Additional Page

If you use the following lined page to complete the answer(s) to any question(s), the question number(s) must be clearly shown.

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