



Cambridge International AS Level

 CANDIDATE
NAME


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ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER
8021/23

Paper 2 Comprehension

May/June 2026
1 hour 45 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen. You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.

 This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

1 (a) Considering the advantages, explain why Davide and Romia would be **more** likely to choose to buy Hacienda Reddale as a holiday home for the family.

Answer in continuous prose.

[10]





(b) Explain **three** reasons why Tansay might prefer Casa Carlat as a holiday home.

Do **not** refer to Hacienda Reddale.

1

.....

.....

2

.....

.....

3

.....

.....

[6]

(c) With reference to the Additional Information **only**, state the **one** piece of information which is the least relevant when deciding which holiday home to choose.

.....

..... [1]

(d) (i) Explain why Noella might **not** want her parents to buy a holiday home in Boatby.

Do **not** refer to Casa Carlat or Marly Forest National Park.

.....

.....

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.....

.....

..... [3]





- (ii) Explain why Casa Carlat might **not** offer the relaxing weekend experience Davide and Romia are hoping for.

Do **not** refer to Hacienda Reddale or Boatby.

.....

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.....

.....

..... [3]

- (e) Using your own knowledge, suggest why relaxation at the weekend is important.

Do **not** repeat material from Section A.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

[Total: 25]





Section B

Read the material for Section B in the insert before answering the questions in Section B.

- 2 (a) Identify why the author senses she is in an unfamiliar place.

.....
 [1]

- (b) Identify **two** reasons why the author says 'my backpack feels closer to me since arriving'.

1

 2
 [2]

- (c) Using **only** lines 1–12 of the material, identify the **exact** word or phrase in the material that means the following:

- (i) make me notice

..... [1]

- (ii) (the) outset

..... [1]

- (iii) (a) major component

..... [1]

- (iv) orientate myself

..... [1]

- (v) effortlessly

..... [1]





- (d) Explain why solo adventure can be described as a special and unique opportunity (lines 13–23).

Answer **in about 40 words** using continuous prose.

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..... [4]

- (e) At line 24 the author writes ‘find yourself through travel’. Identify **two** statements which show the author’s understanding of this statement.

1

.....

2

.....

[2]

- (f) Compare how the author feels when she is at home with when she is travelling (lines 34–38).

Answer **in about 20 words** using continuous prose.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]



- (g) Explain how a lack of travel can encourage a fear of the unknown (lines 39–44).

Answer **in about 20 words** using continuous prose.

.....

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..... [2]

- (h) Identify **two** things the author has learned about herself during her solo travelling.

.....

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.....

..... [2]

- (i) Using your own words as far as possible, state the **exact** meaning of the following **five** phrases as used in the material.

- (i) to reveal (line 39)

..... [1]

- (ii) (a) truer version (line 39)

..... [1]

- (iii) change in perspective (line 48)

..... [1]

- (iv) (the) entirety of myself (line 54)

..... [1]

- (v) fraught moments (line 54)

..... [1]

[Total: 25]





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