



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

9093/13

Paper 1 Reading

May/June 2025

2 hours 15 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question is shown in brackets [ ].

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

**Section A: Directed response****Question 1**

Read the following text, which is an article about making journeys on sleeper trains.

- (a) You work for a railway company. Write the opening text for a brochure advertising the launch of your company's new sleeper train journeys. Use 150–200 words. [10]
- (b) Compare the text for your brochure with the article, analysing form, structure and language. [15]

**Why sleeper trains are being revived across Europe**

*There's no doubt that Julia Senninger is a train aficionado<sup>1</sup>.*

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‘People want to get away from the stress of the airport, and once they travel by train and see more scenery from the window, and saunter to the hotel easily when they arrive in the city, they want to do it again.’

## Section B: Text analysis

### Question 2

Read the following text, which is an extract from a non-fiction book about mindfulness<sup>1</sup>.

Analyse the text, focusing on form, structure and language.

[25]

### THE INVISIBLE ARMY

One autumn night a few years back, our home was broken into while we were sleeping and many of our belongings were stolen. The thieves took our wallets, passports, cameras and other personal items that were lying around the house. The following day, my partner and I awoke to the aftermath and the police were called and reports filed. The next few days were filled with an overwhelm of emotions, our fears flooding our minds with a feeling of helplessness and hurt. Would the culprits be back? Were we still in danger? Could we afford to replace everything that had been stolen? Would we be able to sleep soundly again?

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Over the next few days, as we spoke to neighbours and friends, the support we received was truly beautiful. Our elderly neighbour, who is nearing ninety years old, offered to stand guard outside the house during the night so that we could sleep soundly, and family friends offered to lend us their teenage boys to sleep on the sofa for a few days in case anyone came back to try again. Over the next week, more and more messages poured in.

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I have been reminded that, fundamentally, we are creatures of community and it is in our nature to ensure that others are OK. Even distance or time apart cannot dull the flames of friendship and the power of love, and people will continue to cheer us on even if we have lost touch or not seen them for a while. I have learned through this experience five things about support that remind me how much stronger we are together and how much impact a supportive environment can have on our wellbeing.

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First, people are innately helpful and will always support where they can. In the case of hardship or misfortune, people will go to extraordinary lengths to ensure you feel safe and loved.

Second, we must remember to be proactive with our support. In our case, we did not overtly ask for help, but it came flooding in. Do not always wait for people to ask for your help; sometimes, their situation is too traumatic for them to reach out straight away. Be persistent and do not let your ego or emotions get in the way of your efforts; sometimes, their resistance itself is a cry for help.

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Third, never underestimate the power of real human connection. Pick up the phone to say hi and check in; in a digital world, there is nothing more warming than the sound of friends or family. Real support comes from real connections: do not be efficient when it comes to love and kindness.

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The fourth thing is that when support is offered to you, try to say yes: do not let your pride get in the way. Almost everything in life is easier when the work is shared. If you are struggling to pay the rent, or make ends meet, be honest, share your troubles, and you will be pleasantly surprised at the lengths people will go to to help you back on your feet. If you are struggling mentally or emotionally, do not feel you are a burden to others; you never need to suffer alone, there are always people who are happy to listen.

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And finally, support is not a measure of equal exchange, it is not an agreement of reciprocity or future repayment. Give it freely if you can, but do not expect anything in return. Support need not be rewarded; let it always simply be love in action.

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<sup>1</sup>*mindfulness*: a state of awareness of the present moment; used as a therapeutic technique

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