



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

CANDIDATE
NAME



CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--



FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/12

Paper 1 Reading

May/June 2025

2 hours

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- 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 or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

This document has **12** pages.



Read **Text A, Food trucks**, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

(a) What were the first food trucks called, according to the text?

..... [1]

(b) **Using your own words**, explain what the text means by:

(i) 'sample delicacies' (line 2)

..... [2]

(ii) 'conventional options' (line 3).

..... [2]

(c) Reread paragraph 2 ('Unlike modern ... journalists.').

Give **two** differences between modern food trucks and chuckwagons.

•

•

[2]

(d) Reread paragraph 3 ('The modern ... parked.').

(i) Identify **two** reasons why food trucks are becoming more popular with customers.

•

•

[2]

(ii) Explain why many business people prefer operating mobile food trucks to running restaurants in permanent locations.

.....

.....

..... [3]





(e) Reread paragraph 4 ('Successful food ... ready!').

Using your own words, explain why it might be challenging to establish a unique food truck business nowadays.

.....
.....
.....

[3]





Read **Text B, Clever uses for old buses**, in the insert and answer **Question 1(f)** on this question paper.

(f) According to Text B, how **and** why are old buses being used?

You must **use continuous writing** (not note form) and **use your own words** as far as possible.

Your summary should not be more than 120 words.

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





DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

[15]

[Total: 30]

[Turn over]





Read **Text C, Our big red bus ride**, in the insert and then answer **Questions 2(a)–(d)** on this question paper.

Question 2

(a) Identify a word or phrase from the text which suggests the same idea as the words underlined:

(i) Any interested person watching might notice that this large bus was different from the buses they sometimes saw in their country.

..... [1]

(ii) The bus company was still really helpful after the bus had been sold.

..... [1]

(iii) The disastrous end to their journey was when the bus ended up in a river.

..... [1]

(iv) The writer and their fellow travellers showed incredible immaturity to think that they could make such a journey without mishap.

..... [1]

(b) Using your own words, explain what the writer means by each of the words underlined:

It's difficult to enviseage how cut off from our previous lives we were back then. Mobile phones and emails weren't yet invented. There was no internet linking different countries and cultures. To phone home was expensive and public phones weren't easy to find. I was away two years and managed to phone home twice.

(i) envisage

[1]

(ii) linking

[1]

(iii) expensive

[1]





(c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests the attitude of the owner of the orange juice.

Use your own words in your explanation.

This is the story of that big, red double-decker bus. This isn't a children's story, and if you try reading it to children, they'll soon lose interest in the increasingly petty details of our daily life. In one early letter to my parents, I wrote: 'We had yet another meeting yesterday to sort out grievances.' This latest inquest had been into who'd drunk someone's orange juice from the fridge. The devastated owner knew some had been 'stolen' because he'd marked the level of the liquid in the bottle.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

[3]





(d) Reread paragraphs 5 and 6.

- Paragraph 5 begins 'Our world ...' and describes the inside of the bus.
- Paragraph 6 begins 'That bus ...' and describes where, when and how the bus travelled.

Explain how the writer uses language to convey meaning and to create effect in these paragraphs. Choose **three** examples of words or phrases from **each** paragraph to support your answer. Your choices should include the use of imagery.

Write about 200 to 300 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer.





DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

[15]

[Total: 25]

[Turn over





Reread **Text C, Our big red bus ride**, in the insert and then answer **Question 3** on this question paper.

Question 3

You are Vic. Shortly after the whole trip ends, you write a letter to a friend telling them about your experience.

In your letter you should:

- describe the preparations for the trip **and** how you came to be involved
- outline the different challenges faced once the journey began **and** how these were resolved
- explain what you think everyone learned through the experience **and** looking back what you all should have done differently and why.

Write the words of the letter.

Base your letter on what you have read in **Text C**, but be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullets.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.





DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN

[25]





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.

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.

