



# **Cambridge IGCSE™ (9-1)**

CANDIDATE  
NAME

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## **FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0990/12**

Paper 1 Reading

**October/November 2023**

**2 hours**

  
\*9942035909\*

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

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### **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.

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This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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

**Question 1**

(a) Re-read paragraph 1 ('Vietnam is home ... 200 metres.'). Give **two** examples of spectacular landscapes (apart from the Mountain River Cave) in Vietnam.

.....

.....

[1]

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

(i) 'located in the heart' (line 3): .....

.....

[2]

(ii) 'formed between' (line 4): .....

.....

[2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 2 ('Mountain River Cave ... he'd found the cave entrance.'). Give **two** reasons why Ho Khanh might have felt wary about investigating Mountain River Cave further.

• .....

• .....

[2]

(d) (i) Re-read paragraphs 3 and 4 ('The cave was ... millions of years.'). Identify **two** reasons why a member of the public might be unable to visit the cave.

• .....

• .....

[2]

(ii) Re-read paragraphs 3 and 4 ('The cave was ... millions of years.'). Give the evidence that Mountain River Cave has existed for a very long time.

.....

.....

.....

[3]

(e) Re-read paragraph 5 ('To reach Mountain River Cave ... Mountain River Cave entrance.'). **Using your own words**, explain why the journey to Mountain River Cave might be seen as difficult.

.....

.....

.....

[3]

Read **Text B, Visiting a cave**, in the insert and then answer **Question 1(f)** on this question paper.

(f) According to Text B, what could make visiting a cave dangerous?

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.**

[15]

[Total: 30]

Read **Text C, The lost cave**, 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) The ivy completely covered the rock face.

.....

[1]

(ii) Shaima thought about a time in the future when she might be able to attend a live excavation.

.....

[1]

(iii) Shaima did not know what was happening in the garden.

.....

[1]

(iv) Rohaan looked closely into the cave mouth.

.....

[1]

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

Rohaan lifted himself to his elbows. He hadn't broken, twisted or pulled anything important, and he freed himself from the remaining foliage.

(i) lifted .....

[1]

(ii) freed .....

[1]

(iii) remaining .....

[1]

(c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests Rohaan's feelings when he first sees the cave entrance.

**Use your own words in your explanation.**

He looked at what was left of the rock face. A gaping hole stared defiantly back at him, as if inviting a stand-off. Rohaan dropped his eyes to break the gaze and received an immense surprise. Half a metre from the base was the floor of a cave entrance. It was surely inviting him to look inside.

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

[3]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 5 and 10.

- Paragraph 5 begins 'In the garden ...' and is about how Rohaan becomes momentarily covered by ivy when it suddenly comes loose from the rock.
- Paragraph 10 begins 'Armed now with a torch ...' and is about Rohaan's first experiences as he enters the cave.

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.**

[15]

[Total: 25]

Re-read Text C, *The lost cave*, in the insert and then answer **Question 3** on this question paper.

### Question 3

You are Shaima. A year after Rohaan discovered the cave in your garden, you have written a book about the experience and what has happened since then. You are interviewed for a television show to promote your book.

The interviewer asks the following three questions only:

- Can you outline what Rohaan was doing at first in the garden **and** how he discovered the cave?
- What made him realise that his discovery was significant?
- How did the discovery affect your plans for the garden **and** have your lives changed since then?

## **Write the words of the interview.**

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

Begin your interview with the first question.

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.**



## 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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