



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

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER



**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/12**

Paper 1 Reading Passage (Core)

**May/June 2014**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

**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** 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 passage for use with **all** questions on this Question Paper. The 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 the passage *The Wild Side of the Solomon Islands* in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer all the questions on this Question Paper.

**Question 1**

(a) From paragraph one (We rise...) give **two** details about the writer's state of mind.

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

(b) From paragraph one (We rise...) to paragraph two (...unexpected treasures), give **two** details about Tetepare's location.

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

(c) How did the Solomon Islands get their name (paragraph three: How fitting...)?

..... [1]

(d) Explain, **using your own words**, why the writer believes the ecosystems of the Solomons are so special (paragraph 4: The Solomon Islands' real...).

..... [2]

- (e) From paragraph five (The jumping-off point...) give **one fact** the writer provides about Fatboys and **one opinion** he has of the resort.

Fact: .....  
..... [1]

Opinion: .....  
..... [1]

- (f) Explain, **using your own words**, what the TDA did in the 1980s and what the TDA does now (paragraph seven: Leaving the dolphins...).

**The 1980s:** ..... [1]

**Now:** ..... [1]

- (g) Explain, **using your own words**, what the writer means by the words in italics in the following phrases:

- (i) 'both *terrestrial* and *marine*' (line 17)  
.....  
..... [2]

- (ii) 'a *mosaic* of volcanic islands *fringed by coral reefs*' (lines 21–22)  
.....  
..... [2]

- (iii) 'the *abundance* of creatures that *thrive* there' (line 30)  
.....  
..... [2]

(h) Re-read paragraph two (Even though...), paragraph five (The jumping-off point...) and paragraph seven (Leaving the dolphins...).

The writer uses the following phrases to describe the scenery and atmosphere of the islands.

Choose **three** of the phrases and explain how each one of them helps you to gain an impression of their atmosphere:

- *'the Solomons today are a sleepy backwater'* (line 9)
- *'an unremarkable stretch of concrete shop fronts and offices with a lively fish market'* (line 25)
- *'has a castaway feel to it'* (line 27)
- *'etched in sharp relief against a pale blue sky'* (lines 34–35).

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....

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

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....

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

Phrase: .....

Explanation: .....

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



**Question 2**

Imagine that you are a journalist for a national newspaper.

**Write the words of an interview that you had with Allen Bero**, a guide on the Solomons working for the TDA.

You ask the following three questions only:

- What are the benefits of living in the Solomons?
- What are the challenges of living there?
- How do you think the area will develop in the next few years?

Begin your interview with the first question.

Interviewer: What are the benefits of living in the Solomons?

Bero: Where do I begin? There are so many... .

You should base your ideas on what you have read in the passage, but do not copy from it. Address each of the three bullet points.

**Write between 1 and 1½ sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.**

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

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

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