Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

First Language English

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core)

October/November 2017

1 hour 45 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

No Additional Materials are required.

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 passages for use with all questions on this Question Paper. The Reading Booklet Insert is not assessed by the Examiner.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
Read carefully **Passage A, Train Journey in a Snowstorm**, in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer **Questions 1 and 2** on this Question Paper.

Answer all questions using your own words as far as possible.

**Question 1**

(a) What does the conductor think he has seen ahead on the railway line (line 2)?

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(b) (i) Why is Fred concerned by what the conductor says (line 3)?

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(ii) What does Fred think has caused the conductor to say this?

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(c) Give two details about the stationmaster’s reaction to Fred that show he does not agree with Fred’s suggestion (paragraph 2):

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

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

(d) Using your own words, explain what you understand by the phrase: ‘…his face lacerated by the gusts…’ (line 26).

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(e) State two expressions which suggest that Fred finds driving the train painful (paragraph 6).

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

(f) State two reactions of Mr Beeching that suggest he does not want to help Fred (lines 34–39).

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(g) Complete parts (i) and (ii) to answer Question 1(g).

(i) Re-read paragraph 5. Explain, using your own words, what the writer means by the words in **italics** in each of the following phrases:

(a) ‘...the train was struggling in the immense white whirlwind’ (lines 17–18)
(b) ‘In this uncertain light nothing could be distinguished’ (line 18)
(c) ‘...this wilderness of snow’ (lines 20–21).

Meaning of the word in **italics**: ...........................................................................................................................................[1]

Meaning of the word in **italics**: ...........................................................................................................................................[1]

Meaning of the word in **italics**: ...........................................................................................................................................[1]

(ii) Explain how the language in each of the phrases in Question (g)(i) helps to suggest the harshness of the weather conditions.

Explanation:

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Explanation:

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Explanation:

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[Total: 20]
Question 2

Imagine that you are the stationmaster, Mr Beeching, from Passage A. It is the day after these events. The train was badly delayed because of the snow and you are being interviewed by local radio about the reasons for the delay. Write the words of this interview.

In your interview you are asked three questions:

- Can you tell us what the conditions were like yesterday and what effect they were having on the train service?
- Why did you not agree with your driver’s request for an extra engine?
- Can you reassure listeners by telling us what you will be doing to ensure this does not happen the next time that there is a snowstorm?

Base your interview on what you have read in Passage A, but do not copy from it. Be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullet points.

Begin your interview with the first question.

Write your interview with the first question.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.
Read carefully Passage B, *Travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway*, in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer Question 3(a) and (b) on this Question Paper.

**Question 3**

Answer the questions in the order set.

(a) **Notes**

What are the possible problems you might experience when travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway and advice on dealing with them given by the writer, according to Passage B?

Write your answers using short notes. Write one point per line.

You do not need to use your own words.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer.

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(b) Summary

Now use your notes to write a summary of what Passage B tells you about possible problems you might experience when travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway and advice on dealing with them given by the writer.

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

Your summary should include all 10 of your points in Question 3(a) and must be 100 to 150 words.

Up to 5 marks are available for the quality of your writing.

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