



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9-1)

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/12

Paper 1 Reading

May/June 2023

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 **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Read **Text A, *Working a winter season at a ski resort***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

- (a) Give **two** qualities that are required to work a winter season at a ski resort, according to the text.

-
- [1]

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

- (i) 'staff quit' (line 5):

-
 [2]

- (ii) 'variety of positions' (line 7):

-
 [2]

- (c) Re-read paragraph 3 ('If you have dates.').

Give **two** reasons why it might be difficult to ensure that you put in your application in time.

-
- [2]

- (d) Re-read paragraphs 4 and 5 ('How long snowflakes.').

- (i) Identify the **two** main decisions you will need to make before applying for a job in a ski resort.

-
- [2]

- (ii) Explain the specific features of powder snow that make it the best snow to ride.

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 [3]

(e) Re-read paragraph 6 ('Online guides flights.').

Using your own words, explain why some people might decide **not** to apply through a recruitment organisation.

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[3]

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

Question 1

(f) According to Text B, what are the advantages **and** disadvantages of taking a seasonal job?

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 the writing.

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Dotted lines for writing.

[15]

[Total: 30]

Read **Text C, *Wanaka***, 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 writer felt that the training presentation had been designed to emphasise that the least attractive job on the resort was being a liftie.

..... [1]

(ii) As well as guests staying in hotel accommodation, there were great numbers of hikers passing through the resort who needed somewhere to stay.

..... [1]

(iii) The writer struggled to walk, almost falling, as he arrived back at his accommodation.

..... [1]

(iv) Boss expressed himself in a tone of gloating satisfaction.

..... [1]

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

Here are the answers:

- No ‘quick-laps’ in week one. Apparently, they’re a trick used by experienced lifties who take turns to run the lift they’re working on – each person doing two people’s jobs, while their partner takes the lift to the top and skis or snowboards back down again. It’s a great way to get a sneaky bit of extra riding in, and generally overlooked by bosses – providing each person crewing the lift is capable of running it on their own. I wasn’t.
- ‘Back-country’ was everything outside the marked boundaries of the ski-area (avoided for fear of avalanches).

(i) overlooked [1]

(ii) crewing [1]

(iii) avoided [1]

- (c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests his opinion of the training provided.

Use your own words in your explanation.

Our Lift Supervisor ('Boss') marched us around every lift in the ski-field. 'So now you know the lifts,' he informed us. 'See you all bright and early tomorrow!'

And that was it: training was over! I'd never pushed a button, had only the flimsiest concept how a ski lift even worked, much less how to fix one if something went wrong, didn't know how to test the equipment, use the radio in case of emergency or assist guests on and off the lift. Ski lifts spin all day, every hour transporting skiers and riders of all ability levels up the mountain. I didn't know how many things I didn't know about my new job – but suspected there were plenty.

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[3]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 6 and 8.

- Paragraph 6 begins ‘Next morning ...’ and is about the process of getting up and down the mountain each day.
- Paragraph 8 begins ‘One Wednesday ...’ and describes the consequences of bad weather on the mountain.

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.

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

Question 3

You are a journalist writing an article about the job of a ski-lift attendant (liftie) as part of a series on interesting seasonal jobs for young people.

In your article you should:

- explain what attracts visitors to Wanaka **and** why
- describe what being a liftie involves **and** what might appeal to young people about this job
- suggest what someone might find challenging about working as a liftie **and** useful advice for any young person considering applying for any job at this resort.

Write the words of the article.

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

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.

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