



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9-1)

CANDIDATE
NAME

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/12

Paper 1 Reading

October/November 2022

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, *Why dance?***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

(a) Give **two** pieces of evidence that humans possess an urge to dance, according to the text.

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- [1]

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

(i) 'uncomplicated happiness' (line 6)

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- [2]

(ii) 'pent-up emotions' (line 7).

-
- [2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 4 ('Experiments have proved ... went up.').

Give **two** reasons why dancing is better for you than sitting quietly or cycling on an exercise bike.

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- [2]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 5 and 6 ('Another big draw ... those who don't.').

(i) Identify **two** reasons why people are drawn to dancing.

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- [2]

(ii) Re-read paragraphs 5 and 6 ('Another big draw ... those who don't.').

Explain why even an untrained dancer might be persuaded to dance.

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..... [3]

(e) Re-read paragraph 7 ('These factors compensate ... unnecessarily early.').

Using your own words, explain why some people might **not** want to take up dancing as a career.

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..... [3]

Read **Text C**, *The dancer*, 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) Grandma thinks that she shouldn't cause trouble between her son and daughter-in-law.

..... [1]

(ii) Veda's mother starts to talk seriously.

..... [1]

(iii) Veda's plans for a future career are not ones that her mother considers worthy.

..... [1]

(iv) At school Veda used to try very hard but found it difficult.

..... [1]

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

All my life Ma's dreamt I'll do well at science and mathematics so that I could end up being what she wanted to be: an engineer. All my life I've been waiting for her to appreciate my compulsion to do the one thing I excel at: dance.

(i) dreamt [1]

(ii) compulsion [1]

(iii) excel [1]

- (c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests the dance teacher's happiness at Veda's performance.

Use your own words in your explanation.

My dance teacher's stick clatters heavily to the floor. He claps spontaneously. 'Perform like that and you're sure to win.' I can see tears brimming like dew-drops in his eyes.

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[3]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 9 and 12.

- Paragraph 9 begins ‘I think back ...’ and is about Veda’s memories of what her grandmother said about the early evidence of her dancing ability.
- Paragraph 12 begins ‘I leap and land ...’ and is about Veda practising for her dance competition while her teacher taps the beat.

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**, *The dancer*, in the insert and then answer **Question 3** on this question paper.

Question 3

You are Veda. It is a few months later and you have started studying at your new dance school. You write a letter home to your parents, reflecting on your past experiences.

In your letter you should explain:

- why dancing has always been so important in your life
- how the adults in your life felt about your dancing **and** how this made you feel
- your thoughts now about the conversation you had with your parents after you won the competition.

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 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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