



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9-1)

CANDIDATE
NAME



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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/12

Paper 1 Reading

October/November 2024

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, *The forest elephant***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

- (a) Which type of African elephant can many children identify just from a picture, according to the text?

.....
 [1]

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

(i) 'Very little' (line 4)
 [2]

(ii) 'highly elusive' (lines 4 and 5).
 [2]

- (c) Re-read paragraph 3 ('In March 2021 ... their preservation.').

Give **two** possible reasons why the IUCN updated the forest elephant's status to 'critically endangered'.

-
 -
- [2]

- (d) Re-read paragraphs 4 and 5 ('Genetic analysis ... curved tusks.').

- (i) Identify **two** methods by which scientists could tell that the savannah elephant and the forest elephant were different types.

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 -
- [2]

- (ii) Explain how the physical features of forest and savannah elephants are different.

.....

 [3]





(e) Re-read paragraph 6 ('If we care about ... many other animals.').

Using your own words, explain how the rainforest may be affected if the forest elephant ceases to exist.

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[3]





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[15]

[Total: 30]





Read **Text C, River Game Reserve**, 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) Different terrains and landscapes were spread far and wide over River Game Reserve.

..... [1]

(ii) The rain on the night that the elephants arrived was extremely heavy.

..... [1]

(iii) The elephants escaping the game reserve were moving quickly and with heavy footsteps towards their former home.

..... [1]

(iv) Celia was strong enough to have pulled Lawrence into the elephant enclosure.

..... [1]

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

Just as the trucks pulled into the game reserve, a tyre exploded, and the vehicle tilted dangerously in the mud. My heart froze at the elephants' terrified trumpeting and screeching. It wasn't until dawn that we managed to get them into the secure enclosure.

(i) exploded [1]

(ii) froze [1]

(iii) screeching [1]





- (c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests Lawrence's feelings about the situation with the elephants.

Use your own words in your explanation.

Night after night, Lawrence stayed as close to the secure enclosure as he dared, singing to those angry elephants, talking to them and telling them stories until he was hoarse. With tender determination and no shortage of foolhardiness, Lawrence breached Celia's terror of humans and gained her trust.

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[3]





(d) Re-read paragraphs 1 and 2.

- Paragraph 1 begins ‘Whenever Celia, the lead elephant, ...’ and is about Celia and her elephant babies visiting the narrator and Lawrence’s home on River Game Reserve.
- Paragraph 2 begins ‘Celia has a soft spot ...’ and is about Celia’s attitude to Lawrence.

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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[15]

[Total: 25]





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

Question 3

You are Lawrence. You are interviewed about the elephants in River Game Reserve for a magazine article about animal conservation.

The interviewer asks you the following three questions only.

- How did you come to be responsible for the elephants **and** what were your concerns before they arrived?
- What challenges did you face when the elephants came into your care **and** how did you deal with them?
- How are the elephants settling now **and** what advice would you give other game reserve owners about elephants?

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 bullets.

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.

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[25]





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Additional Page

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