



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (9–1)

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/01

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core)

For Examination from 2019

SPECIMEN READING BOOKLET INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passages for use with **all** the questions on the Question Paper.

You may annotate this Reading Booklet Insert and use the blank spaces for planning.
This Reading Booklet Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

Part 1

Read **Passage A** carefully, and then answer **Questions 1** and **2** on the Question Paper.

Passage A: Tiger Encounter

The following passage is set in Bandhavgarh National Park, India. The writer is describing a meeting with a Bengal tiger, one of the world's endangered species. The writer is accompanied by other visitors and a guide called Anil.

It's early morning and the sunlight is just breaking through the trees of the deep Bandhavgarh forest. We're driving down a dirt lane when suddenly the road is blocked by the massive grey bulk which is Gautam, the lead elephant used for patrols, tiger monitoring, and tourist forays into the jungle. Sitting astride Gautam, is Kuttapan, the keeper and 'driver' of the elephant. He has been at Bandhavgarh for 24 years and knows more about its tigers than anyone. Kuttapan gets my attention and points to something on the road. It's the distinct impression of a tiger's body which has recently lain there. The imprint – torso, fore-paws and tail – lies clearly over any tracks or disturbances which may have come in the night. 5

Suddenly we hear the distinct 'bleep-bleep' – the alarm call of the deer, announcing the presence of a predator. Kuttapan and Gautam go off to investigate and we begin to drive around to intercept them on the other side of the forest. Ten metres down the road, we hear a loud 'varoom', the call of the tiger, and we slide to a halt. Walking directly towards us, at a distance of 100 metres, is a large male tiger. It is one of the 3-year-old males known to share this territory with his brother. 10

We sit in stunned silence in open-topped jeeps. Some cameras continue to click and some knuckles begin to whiten as grips tighten on the roll bars of the jeep. The tiger continues his casual stroll directly towards us. About 20 metres from our jeep, he walks into a small clearing off the road, turns to mark a tree with his scent, then comes back and walks past us, just a metre away from the jeep. Suspension of all breathing is the easiest thing in the world at a moment like this. 15

When the tiger is about 50 metres away, we hear a commotion in the forest across the road. Anil, our guide, whispers loudly, 'Wolves!'. There, propped up like little statues in a clearing, are two Indian grey wolves. Rigid, alert, clearly in a state of alarm and agitation, they begin yelping at the tiger. The tiger spins around and charges off into the forest after them. 20

We drive down the road to where we were originally going to meet Kuttapan and Gautam. There, in an open clearing, stands the tiger, looking around as if to ask, 'Where'd they go?'. We park the jeeps and watch a silent drama unfold. 25

Out of the forest emerges the larger of the wolves, probably the male. The tiger turns his head and the wolf scampers back into the forest. The tiger continues to walk away down the road. Out of the forest comes the larger wolf again, moving cautiously to within a safe distance from the tiger. This time the tiger turns round and glowers at the wolf, probably assessing the distance between them and the speed it would take to catch the wolf. They stare at each other; the tiger is still, and the wolf is nervously pacing back and forth. The muscles of the tiger begin to twitch and off goes the wolf into the forest again. Finally, after one more of these encounters, the tiger moves some distance away and the wolf disappears into the forest for one last time. We can only assume that the aggressive and bold behaviour of the wolf meant he was protecting some cubs and wanted to drive the tiger out of his territory. 30 35

The tiger, now left in peace, continues his stroll.

Part 2

Read **Passage B** carefully and then answer **Question 3** on the Question Paper.

Passage B: Tiger Tourism

The following article explores whether India's tiger conservation parks, which are a major tourist attraction, do more harm than good.

India is home to the largest remaining wild populations of the tiger. They are the poster species of the country's tourism marketing, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors to visit the country every year. So no wonder a suggestion to ban tourists from tiger conservation zones has led to a debate over the connections between wildlife tourism and conservation.

In India the government and international wildlife organisations have devoted their time and funds to protect tigers against poachers. As a result, the total Bengal tiger population has recovered slowly during recent decades.

Increasing awareness of the animal's endangered status is important, and tiger tourism has helped to do this. It started slowly, but has grown greatly, and now the numbers of tourists visiting can cause large crowds. The animals are adversely affected by disturbance from humans and the creation of new roads and buildings to serve the tiger parks.

Yet local communities have become dependent on tourism funding, and much of it pays for work that keeps poachers at bay – tourism revenue is used to fund projects for local villagers, who act as gatekeepers against poachers. It also funds anti-poaching patrols, compensates villagers for livestock killed by tigers, and pays for fence construction. The growth of tourism parks has also helped reintroduce tigers. Simply put, if tourism money is cut abruptly, poaching will increase.

Visitors who come to see tigers bring their own problems. One concern is inappropriate driving by tour guides as they compete aggressively for tips from tourists. This leads to breaches of wildlife-watching rules, which aim to restrict vehicle speeds, animal-approach distances and crowding. It can also lead to situations where tourists are put in danger.

Fitting vehicles with GPS units and cameras could help enforcement of the rules, but even if tigers are disturbed by tourists getting too close to take photographs, at least it is only along roads and by day.

In India, some conservationists think tigers would be better off without tourists, but the parks agency, tour operators and wildlife groups all believe a ban would cause more harm than good.

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Passage B © <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/wildlife/6926978/Battle-to-save-tigers-intensifies-with-only-3200-left-on-Earth.html>

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