



Cambridge IGCSE[®] (9–1)

CANDIDATE
NAME

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0990/01

Paper 1 Reading

For examination from 2020

SPECIMEN PAPER

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 **14** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Read **Text A, *Project Mammoth***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

(a) Give **two** examples of extinct species (other than the mammoth) according to the text.

-
- [1]

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

(i) 'candidates for "de-extinction"' (line 2):
 [2]

(ii) 'not just distant dreams.' (line 5):
 [2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 3, ('Scientists working on such projects ... climate change.').

Give **two** reasons why scientists might be excited by the possible birth of a woolly mammoth.

-
- [2]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 4 and 5, ('The basic idea ... Siberia's permafrost.').

(i) Identify **two** main tasks that scientists will need to complete in order to breed the hybrid.

-
- [2]

(ii) Explain why Asian elephants were chosen for Project Mammoth.

.....

 [3]

(e) Re-read paragraphs 6 and 7, ('The project is not without ... chance of survival.').

Using your own words, explain why some people disagree with Project Mammoth.

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..... [3]

..... [15]

Read **Text C**, *The Gift*, 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) Natalia was expecting the quietness of their walk to be broken suddenly.

..... [1]

(ii) Natalia slowed herself down and made herself as tall as possible before refusing to go any further.

..... [1]

(iii) Her grandfather spoke to her in a low, angry voice.

..... [1]

(iv) The homeless person was fast asleep.

..... [1]

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

I peered out into the street. On the other side, there was a street lamp with a dying bulb. I was opening my mouth to say 'What?' and then I saw it. Half a block from us, an enormous shadow was moving along the street.

(i) peered [1]

(ii) dying [1]

(iii) enormous [1]

- (c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests Natalia's experiences and feelings that night.

Use your own words in your explanation.

I peered out into the street. On the other side, there was a street lamp with a dying bulb. I was opening my mouth to say 'What?' and then I saw it. Half a block from us, an enormous shadow was moving along the street.

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..... [3]

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

Question 3

You are the grandfather. Some years later you are interviewed about your memories of that night for a radio programme about local history. The interviewer asks you the following three questions only:

- What did you see **and** feel during your journeys through the city that night?
- What do you remember of your granddaughter’s behaviour **and** reactions that night?
- What were your reasons for taking your granddaughter out that night **and** what do you think she gained from the experience?

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 bullet points.

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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