



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

CANDIDATE  
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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0990/12**

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core)

**October/November 2019**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Reading Booklet Insert

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces at the top of the page.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** the questions in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

The Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passages for use with **all** questions on this Question Paper. The Reading Booklet Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **12** printed pages and **1** Reading Booklet Insert.

Read carefully **Passage A** in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer **Questions 1** and **2** on this Question Paper.

Answer all questions using your own words as far as possible.

### Question 1

- (a) Which **one** word in the first sentence tells you that the writer did not meet anyone on his travels?

..... [1]

- (b) **Using your own words**, explain what you learn about the song that is sung by the woman (paragraph 1, 'The road went ...').

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [2]

- (c) **Using your own words**, explain (paragraph 2, 'We came at last ...'):

- (i) the effect of the fresh water on the writer

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [1]

- (ii) the effect of the moonlight on Modestine, the donkey.

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [1]

- (d) **Using your own words**, describe the appearance of the shadows of the writer and Modestine as they descended the slope (lines 16–18).

.....  
 .....  
 ..... [2]

(e) **Using your own words**, explain what the writer means by:

(i) the 'whispering music' (line 20)

.....  
.....  
..... [1]

(ii) 'the shadows danced in tune to it.' (lines 20–21).

.....  
.....  
..... [1]

(f) **Using your own words**, explain the problems that the writer's arrival causes for the landlady (paragraph 4, 'And then, ...').

.....  
.....  
..... [2]

(g) Give the meaning of the underlined words in the following **three** phrases as the writer uses them. Then explain how the phrases help to suggest the writer's thoughts and feelings about his surroundings.

(i) 'We came at last to a wide white high-road carpeted with noiseless dust.' (line 9)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: .....

..... [1]

(ii) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:

.....

.....

..... [2]

(iii) 'the ribs and gullies of the mountain were faintly outlined in the moonshine like a monstrous skeleton.' (lines 22–23)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: .....

..... [1]

(iv) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:

.....

.....

..... [2]

(v) 'The place was asleep and silent, and buried in opaque night.' (line 27)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: .....

..... [1]

(vi) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:

.....

.....

..... [2]

[Total: 20]

**[Turn to page 6 for Question 2]**

**Question 2**

Imagine that you are the landlady of the hotel in **Passage A** and you have had a long conversation with the writer about his travels.

**Write your journal entry** giving an account of your conversation with him.

In your journal entry you should refer to:

- your thoughts when you first met the writer the night before
- what you learned about his journey
- your thoughts about the journey he is taking.

Base your responses on what you have read in **Passage A**, but do not copy from it. Be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullet points.

Begin your journal entry: 'The traveller and his donkey were an interesting pair ...'

Write about 200 to 300 words.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.**

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Read carefully **Passage B**, *The Øresund Bridge*, in the Reading Booklet Insert and answer **Question 3(a)** and **(b)** on this Question Paper.

### Question 3

#### (a) Notes

What do you learn about the features of the Øresund Bridge **and** its effect on the surrounding area, according to **Passage B**?

Write your answers using short **notes**. **Write one point per line.**

You do **not** need to use your own words.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer.**

**The features of the Øresund Bridge and its effect on the surrounding area:**

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

[10]









