Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

CANDIDATE NAME									
CENTRE NUMBER						CANDIDATE NUMBER				

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE **0510/12**

Paper 1 Reading and Writing (Core) **October/November 2023**

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

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.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Exercise 1

Read the article about some ancient rock art in a place called Serranía la Lindosa in Colombia, South America, and then answer the following questions.

Ancient rock art in Colombia

'There are thousands of these prehistoric paintings,' the researcher said, pointing to a high rock wall covered with pictures of humans, animals and abstract patterns, all in the same reddish colour.

Content removed due to copyright restrictions.

It's a fascinating view into an ancient world.

1 When do experts think the oldest rock art at Serranía la Lindosa was made? View solution

..... [1]

2 What was the surrounding area like when the early rock art was made? View solution

..... [1]

3 What caused the writer to take longer than expected to reach Serranía la Lindosa? Give **two** details.

.....

..... [2]

4 What did the writer feel anxious about during the journey to Serranía la Lindosa? View solution

..... [1]

5 What impressed the writer most about the paintings of horses? View solution

..... [1]

6 How do experts think the artists were able to paint high up on the rocks? View solution

..... [1]

7 What does the rock art show people doing? Give **two** details. View solution

.....

..... [2]

[Total: 9]

Exercise 2

Read the article about three students (**A–C**) who are taking part in science projects. Then answer Question **8(a)–(h)**.

Science projects

A Pedro

My science class is helping with the development of an app. The scientist behind the app explained the idea to us. Apparently, food production causes massive environmental damage and contributes to climate change. At the same time, about 30% of all food gets thrown away, which creates even more pollution. When he said that, I couldn't believe it. Why would people waste so much food? But it's true. The scientist has got thousands of students around the world to gather data for the app, which is amazing. Whenever we have a meal, we upload photos of it and other information. The software then calculates the environmental effect of producing that meal, and what impact there would be if it was thrown away. When it's fully developed, the app will educate users and, hopefully, they'll waste less food. The research is fun and not particularly complex, but whether we should be working hard for ten weeks on it is something I have doubts about.

B Miriam

When our biology teacher announced the butterfly project, I can't say I was very enthusiastic at first. I couldn't understand why all through September and October we had to record all the butterflies we saw and where we saw them. So, when a butterfly expert gave a talk to prepare us for it, I didn't really concentrate, which I should've done. When the project was starting, I found myself annoying others in my group by having to check with them what I should be doing. Twice a week, we search for butterflies in the school grounds. We take photos and record location details. Then we upload everything to a website for scientists to analyse. I already know much more about butterflies than before, including the key role they have in nature. Now I understand that in order to protect them, information from an extended period is required. And giving the scientists all that valuable data makes me feel really good about myself.

C Wei

I live in a region that's famous for winter sports. In recent years, however, we haven't had much snow, which is a major concern, and not something you'd expect in a place like this. Scientists are trying to get a detailed picture of how conditions are changing, but it's a huge task and they depend on volunteers to collect data. I'm in a group at school that takes various measurements, such as snow depth, in the local area. The scientists always tell us what a good job we're doing, which is nice of them – I'm sure they're very busy. Collecting the data isn't very complicated, but it takes time and you have to do it regularly. Some members of my group complain that what we're doing won't bring snow to the area, so it seems pointless. I get what they're saying, but their attitude gets on my nerves. It's just not helpful.

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8 For each question write the correct letter A, B or C on the line.

View solution

Which person …

(a) mentions becoming irritated with people during the project? ..... [1]

View solution

(b) is impressed by the size of the project? ..... [1]

(c) regrets paying too little attention during some training? ..... [1]

View solution

(d) suggests that the project requires too much commitment? ..... [1]

View solution

(e) is proud of contributing to some important research? ..... [1]

View solution

(f) appreciates feedback they receive? ..... [1]

(g) admits to changing their opinion about the aims of the project? ..... [1]

(h) says that they learned something that surprised them? ..... [1]

[Total: 8]

View solution

Exercise 3

Read the article about birds called parakeets, which are native to Africa and India but have become common in London, and then complete the notes.

The parakeets of London

I'd arranged to meet bird expert Adam Shaw in Hyde Park in central London. When I got there, two green-coloured birds were greedily taking seeds from his hands while some excited children watched on. 'It's hardly surprising that the population of parakeets in London is growing,' Shaw said. 'After all, 50% of the city consists of green spaces, which is really good for them. And there's plenty of food available, which encourages them to stay here.'

London's parakeet population has grown significantly in the last 20 years to well over 30 000. They are the only type of parrot living wild in the UK and their exotic appearance makes them stand out from other birds. They are the kind of bird you would only expect to see in a zoo in the UK. In fact, according to one theory, some originally escaped from a zoo and then went on to establish themselves around the city.

Nowadays, large numbers of parakeets are very visible in London and, while many Londoners like their bright colours, some point out that they compete with other birds for food. 'One factor that partly explains why there are so many parakeets is that London has lots of trees,' Shaw continued. 'That's where they like to live. Having said that, there are reports that they scare away other smaller birds which also depend on these trees. I haven't seen any evidence of this being a serious problem, although some people are concerned about this and want to get rid of them. In fact, there are strict laws that protect wildlife – and these regulations are partly why the birds are doing well here.'

I think of Africa and India, where these parakeets originally come from, as places with hot climates, and very different from the UK. So, the idea that the parakeet population in London is expanding puzzled me. Aren't the long, cold winters a problem for them? 'The climate here suits them, actually,' Shaw told me. 'They come from northern India near the Himalayas, where temperatures can be very low. You can also find groups of them in other northern European cities, and the idea that the first ones here flew over from France has even been suggested.'

Shaw then told me that in India and in other countries with parakeet populations, not everyone welcomes them. 'They're hungry birds and can cause considerable damage to crops,' Shaw explained. 'UK farmers are afraid this might happen here, though the birds have so far kept to London and other cities. Also, like many birds, they carry disease, which scientists have expressed concern about.'

Most people in London, however, love seeing these beautiful creatures. With so much wildlife under threat, it's encouraging to see one species doing well. And there are lots of interesting parakeet stories. One is that in 1968, the rock star Jimi Hendrix released a pair of parakeets from a cage, and that's how the local population began. No-one knows whether this really happened or not, though. Another story goes back to 1951, when some birds were brought to London to appear in a film, and then established themselves. While we can't prove that these stories are true, they reflect the interest many Londoners take in their city's parakeets.

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You are going to give a talk about the parakeets of London to your class at school. Prepare some notes to use as the basis for your talk.

Make short notes under each heading.

9 Reasons for the increasing number of parakeets in London:

- *example: 50% of the city consists of green spaces* .....
- .....
- .....
- ..... [3]

View solution 

10 Possible explanations for how parakeets came to be in London:

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

11 Worries some people have about the parakeets:

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

[Total: 7]


View solution

Exercise 4

View solution

12 Read the article about what it's like to be a DJ, or disc jockey.

Write a summary about the qualities a disc jockey needs to be successful AND the problems that a disc jockey can face.

Your summary should be about 80 words long (and no more than 90 words long). You should use your own words as far as possible.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your summary, and up to 6 marks for the style and accuracy of your language.

What it's like to be a DJ

I'm 37 years old and I make a reasonable living as a disc jockey, presenting a daily music radio programme and playing music in clubs and festivals in the evenings and at weekends. I've always been passionate about music; you can't do well in this job if you're not.

I started DJ-ing when I was 16, playing music to dance to at friends' parties, so I've been doing it for over 20 years. That's impressive because most DJs have very short careers. People typically DJ in their late teens and early 20s. It can be very exciting, but your social life is rather limited as you usually work at night when most other people are either enjoying their free time or asleep. Also, although you play music to lots of people, you operate the equipment and select the next track by yourself. So, you often feel quite lonely, unfortunately. This is one of the reasons why people in their 20s often quit DJ-ing and take up different careers.

It would be a mistake to think of me as one of those celebrity DJs who are paid generously to travel around the world and play music. In fact, I rarely work abroad, and my earnings are modest compared to many other occupations – that's true of most people in this job. We are often invited to work at events where you wouldn't necessarily expect to find a DJ. It's a question of being realistic about what you're prepared to do. If not, you're unlikely to make a name for yourself in the music industry.

I'm still happy doing what I do, however. I'm lucky because I'm naturally well-organised. I'd be surprised if any top DJs weren't. For each radio programme I present, for example, I make a detailed plan of all the records I'm going to play, how to introduce them and how to fit in things like adverts and news bulletins. Whether it's a radio programme or some kind of dance event, an ability to understand what your listeners want to hear is essential. Without an audience, what are you?

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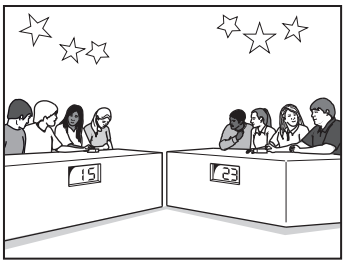
[Total: 12]

Exercise 5





View solution

13 Recently, you and some other students from your school took part in a quiz.

Write an email to a friend about the quiz.

In your email, you should:

- explain why you took part in the quiz
- describe how you prepared for the quiz
- say how you felt about taking part in the quiz.

The pictures above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your email should be between 100 and 150 words long.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your email, and up to 6 marks for the language used.

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[Total: 12]

Exercise 6

14 You recently watched a television drama series which a lot of young people are talking about. You have decided to write a review of the series for your school magazine.

View solution

Here are some comments made by young people about the television drama series:

The storyline was confusing.

The ideas were very relevant to our own lives.

The actors playing the main parts were very good.

The music was rather irritating.

Write a review for your school magazine.

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your review should be between 100 and 150 words long.

You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your review, and up to 6 marks for the language used.

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