



Cambridge O Level

CANDIDATE
NAME



CENTRE
NUMBER

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/12

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.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading passages.

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



Read **Text A**, *The puma*, in the insert and answer **Question 1** and **Question 2**.

Question 1

- (a) In paragraph 1, what evidence is there that Laura knew very little about wild cats before she arrived at the sanctuary?

.....
 [1]

- (b) **Using your own words**, explain what Laura means when she describes the bus journey as 'rumbling along in a rickety bus'. (line 3)

.....
 [2]

- (c) From paragraph 2, identify **two** reasons why it is difficult for Laura to see through the bus window.

-
- [2]

- (d) Explain what Laura is thinking when she asks the bus driver 'Seriously?' (line 7)

.....
 [1]

- (e) In paragraph 3, how does Laura feel about being in the jungle when she first arrives?

Give **two** details from the text to support your answer.

Laura's feeling
 details

 [3]

- (f) Identify **two** things the monkey does to make Laura think that he is 'challenging' her. (line 15)

-
- [2]





- (g) (i) In paragraph 5, when a huge black boar suddenly appears, Laura notices something surprising about her. What is surprising about the boar?

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

- (ii) Why does the boar run away from the man?

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

- (h) Explain **using your own words** Laura's different feelings about working at an animal sanctuary in South America.

Give **three** details from anywhere in the text to support your answer.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

[Total: 16]





Question 2

- (a) Read this extract from the text:

'I'd probably feel more sad about this if there wasn't one huge question pounding my brain.
I whisper it to Mila who doesn't answer at first.
'Maybe,' she finally says.' (lines 47–50)

What does the writer want to suggest to the reader about what Mila and Laura are about to do?

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

- (b) Explain why the writer uses the word 'each' rather than 'both' in the expression 'But we each have to decide whether we think these animals are worth it.' (lines 50–51)

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

- (c) What **two** impressions does the writer want to convey to the reader about the puma in the sentence:

'But then her long tail whips and I glimpse the only parts of her that stand out: her eyes, as green as the paddle-shaped plants surrounding us, and her nose, pink as the tip of a sunset.'
(lines 53–55)?

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

- (d) Read this sentence from the text:

'A real-life Wayra has materialised in the doorway.' (line 57)

What effect does the writer suggest about Wayra by using the word 'materialised' to describe the way she has moved?

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





- (e) Identify **one** example of how the writer uses language effectively to describe Wayra in this extract from the text:

'I stay very, very still, transfixed by her bristling tail, the tense snake of her spine, her low growl. A pause. Then – she's away! Erupting from the cage.

"Come!" Mila grabs my hand. "We go in front – to protect her."
Protect her? Wayra turns, shooting me a look of disgust. There's tension on the rope; she's reached as far as she can get. Her growl has got louder, an engine deep in her belly. It was an illusion before – her size, thinking she wasn't big. I realise she hadn't looked small in the cage; she'd looked squashed. Now, outside, she's expanded. Princess Wayra.' (lines 58–65)

Explain the impression the writer creates in the example you have identified.

example

explanation

.....

.....

.....

[3]

[Total: 9]



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

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..... [201

Give your answer to the runner's question, using information from the text.

What is your opinion and why?

[5]

[Total: 25]



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