Cambridge IGCSE

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/32**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition **February/March 2018**

READING BOOKLET INSERT

2 hours

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READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passage for use with **Section 1**, **Question 1** on the Question Paper.

You may annotate this Reading Booklet Insert and use the blank spaces for planning.
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This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

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Read the passage carefully, and then answer **Question 1** on the Question Paper.

Zoopark

In this transcript of a local radio show, the host, George, is in the studio with a guest, Guy Pensivy. His company is proposing to build a large, modern zoo and leisure complex on farmland near the quiet village of Speizet.

George: Today's hot topic is the controversial development proposed by Zoopark. Their marketing representative, Guy Pensivy, is here today. Tell us, Guy, why should we let your ever-expanding company build this huge zoo complex here in sleepy little Speizet? Why should anyone believe you're interested in saving animals, the planet and Speizet at the same time? This is just about profit for you, isn't it?

Guy: Hi, George. Well, which of those questions do you want me to answer first? Yes, we're a large, successful company and for many that means opportunities. In a struggling rural area like this, our Zoopark is good news.

George: Hardly good news for the animals though, is it?

Guy: Well, it is, actually. As a company, we follow a voluntary code of excellence. Animal enclosures in our parks are spacious and built to the highest standards. We've got two of these new-style Zooparks under way already in this region. In those places there was concern initially, but not now. Here too, in Speizet, we're persuading people.

George: That's not what my listeners tell me. They've been emailing all week, not just with their objections to zoos in general, but about the likely effects of this monstrosity on the local environment – the congestion, construction noise, the litter. And what if something escapes from your Zoopark and starts attacking cattle? You did have one of your big cats set free last year by anti-zoo campaigners, didn't you?

Guy: Well, yes, but let's be reasonable here. That kind of isolated incident really couldn't happen again. The member of staff responsible is no longer with us. Now, think of the positives here. We all know shop and restaurant owners have noticed business declining recently. This Zoopark could really put historic Speizet on the tourist map. A Zoopark is, after all, more than just a zoo – it's a wildlife experience for the whole family!

George: It's not the kind of 'experience' families round here want. Wild marshland drained for car parks? Fake plastic rainforests, and coaches clogging up roads?

Guy: Nonsense! You shouldn't believe everything you read in the papers, George. Besides, local families benefit specifically from our Park-Pals rate: a yearly, reduced-price ticket for regular visitors that means everyone can make the most of having a Zoopark on their doorstep. Spend Saturdays with sharks in the Sealife Café. Walk on the wild side through Tiger Kingdom. Families want somewhere to visit that's fun, educational …

George: Educational? People these days can travel worldwide to see animals in their natural environment. Kids see animals on TV and the internet. It's true, isn't it, there's no longer any real need for commercial zoos?

Guy: You're wrong. It's our responsibility to educate the public to understand that we share this planet. Being up close to animals makes them real and helps children better understand the consequences of losing them. Besides, travelling great distances by air to see animals is hardly an environmentally friendly option, is it? Our Meet-the-Beast sessions mean youngsters don't have to go far to learn about animals from experts. In an ideal world perhaps zoos wouldn't be necessary, but this isn't an ideal world and we're doing something positive here.

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George: And the fun fair rides and tacky gift shops are for the good of the animals too, are they?

Guy: George, let's be grown-up about this. Without zoos we'd lose some animals from our world altogether. We also have links with sanctuaries for rare species and breeding programmes, which protect animals facing overwhelming threats in the wild. Yes, there are gifts for sale and rides for the youngsters – that's all part of a great day out – and we have leaflets for various animal charities around our Zooparks too.

George: But you're encouraging people to think that keeping wild animals in captivity is OK. The petting sessions you offer just mean youngsters want to own exotic animals which are abandoned when they can't deal with them.

Guy: You're exaggerating, as usual. Young people don't have your notion of cuddly crocodiles. They've a far more responsible attitude to the world and its inhabitants. We have plans for a partnership programme with local schools, offering work experience to science students interested in animals and projects to teach younger students research skills. Schools are queueing up to apply as we speak. Young people support what we're trying to do here. They're right behind the Zoopark and welcome the opportunities it offers to them, their community and the future of this planet.

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