UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/33**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition **May/June 2013**

READING BOOKLET INSERT

2 hours

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 Insert and use the blank spaces for planning. This Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

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Read the following article carefully, and then answer Question 1 on the Question Paper.

A Headteacher makes a speech about proposals for a major change to the shape of the school day.

Good morning, students. You will remember that I told you that I wanted to make changes to the school timetable. At the moment, you go to a series of hour-long lessons during the day. These lessons have no logical order. For example, you might start the day with science and then immediately go to games. You then spend break getting changed and the next lesson is history. When it is time to do your science homework, you struggle to remember what you did in the first lesson of the day.

My staff and I propose that as from next year, a whole day at a time will be spent on each individual subject and that each year group will work its own ten-day timetable. For example, if it is your mathematics day, you will have time to learn and practise a topic thoroughly and then go home confident that you have mastered something significant. That is much better than just getting used to a new idea when the time comes to pack up and go to another lesson, as happens at present.

The days will be as follows: first and second language English; other languages; mathematics; science; history; geography and current affairs; games and physical fitness; performing arts (music, dance, drama); religion and philosophy. That makes nine days. The tenth will be given to additional mathematics and science since they take more time and because of their importance.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to fit every school subject into the timetable. I am happy that Mrs Dursley, your popular art teacher, has kindly volunteered to join the drama team, although this is not her specialism. Mr Saha and Mr Ayeb of the design technology staff will be deployed in mathematics and science.

A designated member of staff will lead each day, and we are hoping that some innovative and memorable events will add enthusiasm and enjoyment to learning. For example, English teachers are planning a media day, which will culminate in the production of an in-house newspaper and an article in the city evening paper. This new timetable should give opportunities for team teaching. We also expect that teachers will invite visitors and experts from the local community to add to the interest. I know that the geographers want to study the ways in which people shop and they have already invited two managers of large food stores to visit us.

Although this sounds entertaining, much of your day will still involve hard work and tests; you cannot expect to be entertained by your teachers all the time. They will have to plan a whole day's work for each year group in turn over the fortnight. Some of you may be concerned that you won't see your subject teachers regularly; others that it will take time to get used to these changes – but I am absolutely confident that this scheme gives many opportunities.

I must mention homework. There will be two homework assignments for all year groups on school nights. Each evening, you will complete and write up the work done during the day so that there is a record of what has been achieved. The second assignment will be preparation for the next day, for example reading a relevant chapter in a textbook.

Finally, this new timetable will be particularly beneficial for students in their examination years. We shall achieve more efficiency in covering the syllabuses, there will be changes in the way coursework is produced, and exam revision will be very focused and intense.

Good morning to you all!

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