Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/12**

Paper 1 Reading Passages (Core) **October/November 2016**

READING BOOKLET INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

9232802604-I

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passages for use with **all** the questions on the Question Paper.

You may annotate this Reading Booklet Insert and use the blank spaces for planning. This Reading Booklet Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

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Part 1

Read **Passage A** carefully, and then answer **Questions 1** and **2** on the Question Paper.

Passage A: A Disturbed Night

Isaac is on a journey in an unfamiliar place as night is approaching.

Just as it was getting dark, the rain started and the wind began to rise. Isaac found himself, to make matters worse, in a part of the country he had not been to before, though he knew he was only twenty kilometres from home. The first house he found to inquire at was a lonely road-side hotel, standing on the edge of a dense wood. Solitary as the place looked, it was welcome to a lost man like Isaac, who was also hungry, thirsty, wet and had sore feet. The landlord seemed polite and respectable, and the price for a bed was reasonable enough. Isaac, therefore, decided on staying there in comfort for that night.

Isaac's supper simply consisted of a slice of home-made bread, some cheese and a cup of tea. He did not go to bed immediately after this moderate meal, but sat up with the landlord. He talked about his journey and his long run of bad luck. Isaac was by nature a mild-mannered man. Nothing was said by his host, or the few visitors who strayed into the dining room, which could have excited Isaac's limited imagination.

When the hotel closed, Isaac went round with the landlord and held a candle to give light while the doors and lower windows were being locked. He was surprised to observe the strength of the bolts, bars, and iron shutters. It was half past eleven by the clock in the passage as they went upstairs to the bedroom, the window of which looked onto the woods at the back of the house.

'You see, we are rather lonely here,' said the landlord. 'We have never had any attempts made to break in yet, but it's always as well to be on the safe side. The hotel is very isolated. There's just my wife and daughter here and you're the only guest tonight. Here's where you will sleep. I think you'll see we've done our best to make you comfortable. Goodnight.'

Isaac locked the door, set his candle on the chest of drawers, and wearily got ready for bed. The bleak autumn wind was still blowing. Its solemn surging moan in the woods was dreary and awful to hear through the stillness of the night. Isaac felt unusually awake. He resolved, as he lay in bed, to keep the candle lit until he became sleepy. He thought there was something deeply depressing about lying awake in the darkness, listening to the dismal, ceaseless sound of the wind. Exhaustion overcame him, his eyes closed and before he could extinguish the candle, he fell into a deep sleep.

The first sensation of which he was aware was a strange shivering that ran through him suddenly from head to foot. Then he experienced a dreadful sinking pain in his heart, such as he had never felt before. The shivering only disturbed his sleep, but the pain woke him instantly. In one moment, he went from being soundly asleep to being fully awake. His eyes were immediately wide open, his mind was suddenly clear and alert.

The candle had burnt down to the end, but the light in the little room was bright and full.

Between the foot of his bed and the closed door, there stood a woman with a knife in her hand, looking at him.

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Part 2

Read **Passage B** carefully, and then answer **Question 3** on the Question Paper.

Passage B: Surviving Bitter Winter Weather

Extremely cold weather can pose serious health risks, doctors have warned.

'It's best to limit your outdoor activity as much as possible in this type of weather. Prolonged exposure can lead to frostbite and hypothermia,' said Dr John Marshall, a government health advisor. 'Both of these conditions can become serious, even life-threatening, if untreated.'

When temperatures drop, there are many simple safety measures you can take. Wearing several layers of clothing provides the best insulation and helps retain body heat. Hands and feet are at greater risk of frostbite because body heat is naturally diverted to protect vital organs. An extra pair of socks and some mittens provide good protection. Be sure to wear a hat. You lose about 30 per cent of your body's heat from your head.

Another survival tip for cold weather is to wear properly-fitted winter boots. Choose insulated boots with gripping soles which provide traction on ice and snow. The body uses a lot of energy to keep itself warm. Drinking plenty of fluids is important because your body will need to be frequently rehydrated when fighting off the cold.

Outside, in the cold, the part of your skin that's exposed will chill rapidly. This causes decreased blood flow and your body temperature can drop, leaving you susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia. Frostbite starts with tingling or stinging sensations. The face, fingers and toes are the first body parts to be affected. Then muscles and other tissues can become numb. Additional symptoms of frostbite include redness and discolouration of the skin.

Hypothermia can affect the brain, making it harder to think clearly and to make sensible decisions. Warning signs of hypothermia include shivering, confusion, slurred speech and drowsiness; if any of these symptoms become noticeable, you should protect the exposed skin, get to a warm place and seek immediate medical treatment.

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