Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER

7326199430

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/11**

Paper 1 Reading **October/November 2025**

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.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

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

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[Turn over

Read **Text A**, ***Penguins***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

Question 1

(a) How many penguin species are there, according to paragraph 1?

.....

..... [1]

(b) **Using your own words**, explain what the text means by:

(i) 'global popularity' (line 1)

.....

..... [2]

(ii) 'difficult conditions' (line 3).

.....

..... [2]

(c) Reread paragraph 3 ('Seasonal melting … connected to the land.').

Give **two** reasons why ice is important in the lives of penguins.

- .....
- .....

[2]

(d) Reread paragraphs 4 and 5 ('Some commercial … colonies of penguins.').

(i) Identify **two** problems caused by commercial fishing.

- .....
- .....

[2]

(ii) Explain the threats (other than commercial fishing) to penguins.

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..... [3]

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(e) Reread paragraph 6 ('And how … water surfaces.').

Using your own words, explain how penguins may not always be what humans expect them to be.

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Read **Text B**, ***Studying penguins***, in the insert and answer **Question 1(f)** on this question paper.

(f) According to Text B, what are the benefits of the proposed changes to the ways in which scientists study penguins?

You must **use continuous writing** (not note form) and **use your own words** as far as possible.

Your summary should not be more than 120 words.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.

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Read **Text C**, ***Visiting the Antarctic***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 2(a)–(d)** on this question paper.

Question 2

(a) Identify a word or phrase from the text which suggests the same idea as the words underlined:

(i) The ship was tossed up and down by heavy waves.

..... [1]

(ii) Saffron appears unhappy to be visiting places that are situated so far from main centres of population.

..... [1]

(iii) John precisely steered the small boat that held the tourists.

..... [1]

(iv) John told Saffron that it was very important for the truth to be told about the effects of climate change in parts of the world.

..... [1]

(b) Using your own words, explain what the writer means by each of the words underlined:

He explained the different ice formations and how ancient glaciers break into towering icebergs, before floating silently on their lonely journey out to sea.

(i) ancient ..... [1]

(ii) silently ..... [1]

(iii) lonely ..... [1]

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(c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests the evidence of climate change on Antarctica.

Use your own words in your explanation.

In response, John's face dropped and he pointed inland to where we could see verdant plant life greedily snatching at gentle contours of quietly receding ice.

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(d) Reread paragraphs 10 and 20.

- Paragraph 10 begins 'We all gasped …' and describes the scenery in the bay from the Zodiac.
- Paragraph 20 begins 'But the penguins! …' and is about a sighting of a colony of penguins.

Explain how the writer uses language to convey meaning and to create effect in these paragraphs. Choose **three** examples of words or phrases from **each** paragraph to support your answer. Your choices should include the use of imagery.

Write about 200 to 300 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer.

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[Total: 25]

Reread **Text C**, ***Visiting the Antarctic***, in the insert and then answer **Question 3** on this question paper.

Question 3

You are Saffron. After your trip to Antarctica you write a letter to your friend Josie.

In your letter you should:

- describe what you saw and did on the trip **and** how it made you feel
- give your thoughts about the people you spent time with on the trip
- explain how this trip has influenced you **and** your thoughts about what you might like to do in the future.

Write the words of the letter.

Base your letter on what you have read in **Text C**, but be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullets.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.

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