



Cambridge International AS Level

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/23

Paper 2 Comprehension

May/June 2024

INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.

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

Material for Section A

Background

Martina Royberts has recently completed her first major project for Pletyon Inc., the company she joined six months ago. Although the project has brought her much recognition, she had to work extremely long hours at the office to ensure her team met the tight deadlines. Martina's husband Diego has been supporting her by taking on additional household responsibilities as well as caring for their two sons: Lucas, seven years old, and Enzo, five. Martina and Diego have decided to plan some much-needed family time away from home, when they can all spend time together and make memories. They have shortlisted two different options for next weekend.

Beautiful Breaks

This large park setting epitomises country life and is located in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It boasts incredible vistas of local hills and woodland, and a small stream runs along the edge of the park. Visitors have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the tranquillity of the surroundings, whilst following 1 of the 10 different footpaths which lead to various viewpoints along the way. The sculpture trail includes a variety of animal-themed sculptures, carved by local artists, which are dotted along the 10-kilometre pathway. The long woodland trail winds through the forest and is particularly impressive during the autumn months when the leaves turn red and orange. There are also shelters and dens scattered about, where visitors have used fallen branches to create natural play areas. Additionally, there is the option of following the summit pathway which provides fantastic photographic opportunities with beautiful views of the surrounding area. Beautiful Breaks offers high-quality camping facilities in one of its many large fields. Guests have access to an extensive children's play area, and each evening the local artisan pizza van offers freshly made treats from wood-fired ovens.

Finton's Farm Tour

Finton is a well-known celebrity chef who is renowned for his humour and larger-than-life personality. Visitors to his farm are able to observe the day-to-day running of a noisy working farm, with one daily tour around the small barns and fields. Children are encouraged to assist at feeding time and, with an abundance of lambs in the spring, there are plenty of animals in need of care. Furthermore, visitors can take a tractor ride which ventures into the fields, to see the rare-breed farm animals. Over the years, Finton has collected many rare-breed farm animals in an effort to protect them from extinction and help visitors understand how his ancestors used to farm the local land. The tour also includes a visit to see the crops growing in the fields, so visitors gain an insight into the process of planting and harvesting. At the end of the tour, for an additional charge, customers have the chance to experience Finton's cooking at his on-site restaurant, which caters for up to 10 people. Finton is proud of his reputation for using only organic and locally sourced produce, which he also sells in his gift shop.

Extract from a conversation between Martina and Diego

Martina: Got all of his cookbooks and you know how many of Finton's cookery programmes I've watched.

Diego: I know, but we need family time, with something that everyone can enjoy together. It was so hard when you spent hours at the office. The boys missed you. They would come home at the end of the day, desperate to show you what they'd done, and you were never here.

Martina: But I worked so hard and I'll probably get a good bonus* this year, so that can be spent on the boys. I deserve a treat after what I've achieved at work.

*a sum of money added to a person's salary as a reward for good performance

Additional Information

1. Enzo enjoys creating pictures from nature. He was proud of his recent art 'project' made out of rocks.
2. Finton's Farm Tour lasts approximately 60 minutes.
3. Lucas is studying History at school and has developed a real interest in the subject.
4. The residents have been complaining to the local council (an administrative body) about the increased traffic in their town since Finton opened his restaurant and gift shop. At weekends, it is often impossible to drive through the town and severe delays are common.
5. Before starting her new job, Martina had developed a vegetable garden at the family home. The boys particularly enjoyed watering the corn and potatoes, and tasting the end result.
6. Maps for the sculpture trail can be obtained at the park entrance. The map also includes a sculpture trail quiz. Visitors can hand in their completed quiz, when they leave, and each month one lucky entry will win a free family ticket.
7. Reservations to sample Finton's culinary delights need to be made well in advance. Currently, there is a waiting list of over six months and the average meal price is \$100 per adult.
8. Martina and Diego bought a new tent last year and have not yet had the chance to use it. Sleeping outside used to be a passion they shared, before the boys were born.
9. There have been several management changes at Diego's workplace and there are rumours that some employees could lose their jobs in the near future.
10. Enzo is full of energy and needs to be active all day in order to sleep well at night.
11. Diego prefers eating fast food and finds meal planning particularly time-consuming.
12. Lucas recently injured his foot whilst playing football at school.

Material for Section B

An article by Esther Horvath

Under the spell of the ice and cold on an Arctic expedition

Drifting with an ice floe* in the polar night, a photographer on an Arctic research expedition discovers profound beauty – and her own limitations.

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And yet, I missed the darkness so much.

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