



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/11

Paper 1 Reading Passage (Core)

October/November 2011

1 hour 45 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Reading Booklet Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do **not** use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.
Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **6** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** Insert.



Question 1

Read carefully the passage *Night Train to Mumbai (The Superfast Express)* in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer all the questions.

- (a) Explain what the writer means by 'But the train traveller sees a different Jaipur' (lines 3–4).

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- (b) Which **one** word in the first paragraph tells you that some of the buildings in Sanganer were in a poor condition?

..... [1]

- (c) Explain, **using your own words**:

- (i) why the writer felt that the name 'Superfast' was not suited to the train.

.....

..... [1]

- (ii) why the speed of the train was 'consoling' to the writer (line 15). Give **two** reasons.

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..... [2]

- (d) Why does Mr Gupta think 'Planes are a problem.' (line 21)?

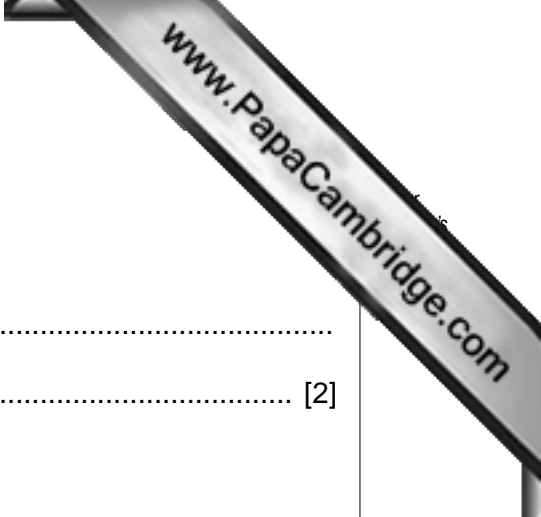
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..... [1]

- (e) Give **two** reasons why there are now fewer tigers in this part of India.

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..... [2]



(f) Explain, **using your own words**, what the writer means by:

(i) 'it sprawls to the horizon' (line 5);

.....
..... [2]

(ii) 'peering from the ornate walls' (line 32);

.....
..... [2]

(iii) 'part of the panorama' (line 43).

.....
..... [2]

(g) Re-read lines 34–40. Choose **three** short phrases which the writer uses to describe what he saw from the train window.

Explain how each of these phrases helps to create a picture in your mind of the people and their surroundings.

Phrase:

Explanation:

.....

.....

Phrase:

Explanation:

.....

.....

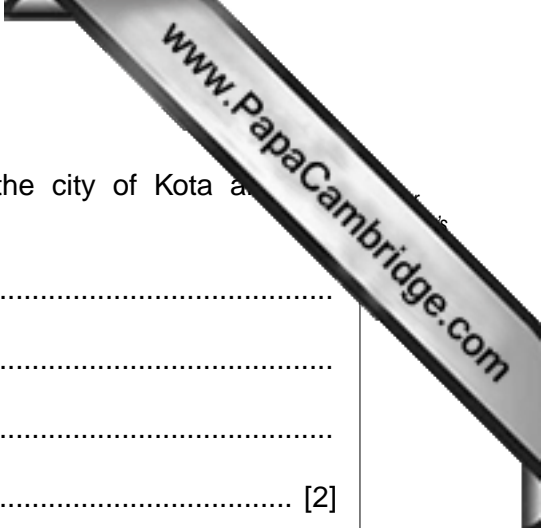
Phrase:

Explanation:

.....

..... [6]

[Turn over for Question 1(h)]



(h) Explain, **using your own words**, the contrast between the city of Kota and the surrounding countryside (lines 40–46).

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..... [2]

(i) Re-read the whole passage. Write a summary of what you learn about the lives and interests of the writer and Mr Gupta.

Write a paragraph of about 50–70 words.

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..... [7]

[Total: 30]

[Turn over for Question 2]

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Copyright Acknowledgements:

Reading Passage

© (adapted) Paul Theroux; *Ghost Train to the Eastern Star*; Penguin Books Ltd, 2009.

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