



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

0500/13

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 *The Expreso de Sol to Bogotá* in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer all the questions.

- (a) Explain the misunderstanding between the writer and the ticket clerk (lines 1–7).

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]

- (b) How does the writer think that he will be able to get a place in a sleeping compartment on the train?

.....

.....[1]

- (c) Explain why the writer decided not to have a sleeping compartment.

.....

.....[1]

- (d) Give **two** reasons why the writer 'had an urge to get off the train' (line 18).

-
 -
-[2]

- (e) Explain, **using your own words**, how the writer had become 'a victim' of his plans (line 31).

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]

- (f) Which phrase tells you that Bogotá was not a place the writer wanted to visit (lines 31–38)?

.....[1]

(g) Give **two** details about the journey which gave the writer 'a little hope' (line 43).

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

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

(i) 'people were squawking irritably' (line 28);

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

(ii) 'quieted by the racket of the wheels' (lines 35–36);

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

(iii) 'still pools mirrored the new stars' (line 42).

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

(i) Re-read lines 46–53. Choose **three** short phrases which the writer uses to describe the unpleasantness of his journey.

Explain how each of these phrases helps to suggest this sense of unpleasantness.

Phrase:

Explanation:
.....
.....

Phrase:

Explanation:
.....
.....

Phrase:

Explanation:
.....
..... [6]

- Write a paragraph of about 50–70 words.

.....[7

[Total: 30]

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[Turn over for Question 2]

Imagine you are Paul Theroux, the writer. After you arrive in Bogotá you are interviewed about your travels for a programme on the local radio in which you are asked about:

- your thoughts and feelings about your journey so far
- the advice you would give to other visitors who want to make the same journey.

Begin your answer:

'Interviewer: Now, Mr Theroux, tell us about your travels so far.

Theroux: Well...

You should base your ideas on what you have read in the passage, but do not copy from it.

You should write between 1 and 1½ sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

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

[illegible]

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Copyright Acknowledgements:

Reading Passage

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