



## Cambridge IGCSE™

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## 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.

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.

.....  
.....  
..... [3]



(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.

.....

.....

..... [3]





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.**

[illegible]



[15]

[Total: 30]



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]



- (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.

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]





**(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.**

[illegible]





[15]

[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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..... [25]



[illegible]



## Additional page

If you use the following page to complete the answer to any question, the question number must be clearly shown.

[illegible]







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