



Cambridge O Level

CANDIDATE
NAME

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/21

Paper 2 Reading

May/June 2020

1 hour 45 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

You will need: Insert (enclosed)

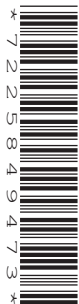
INSTRUCTIONS

- 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.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- The insert contains the reading passages.

This document has 8 pages. Blank pages are indicated.



2 Re-read paragraphs 4, 5, and 6, and give **one** opinion from each of these paragraphs.

Paragraph 4

.....

Paragraph 5

.....

Paragraph 6

.....

[3]

[Total: 25]

Section 2: Reading for Meaning

Read **Passage 2**, *Leaving Home*, in the Insert and answer **all** the questions below.

From paragraph 1

3 (a) What did the writer often do when she was a little girl?

.....
..... [1]

(b) What was the mother’s ‘constant prediction’?

.....
..... [1]

(c) The writer was ‘fearsomely but thrillingly alone’. Explain **in your own words** how she felt.

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

From paragraph 2

4 The writer says: ‘I would have to look after myself’. Give the expression used later in the paragraph which conveys the same idea.

..... [1]

From paragraph 3

5 Why did the writer run away from home later in childhood?

.....
..... [1]

From paragraph 4

- 6 (a) (i) What was the 'small, misty, white bundle'?
- [1]
- (ii) Why do you think the writer describes the bundle as 'misty'?
- [1]
- (b) Why do you think the writer let the door 'slam with a satisfying thud'?
- [1]

From paragraph 5

- 7 (a) Explain why it was ironic that the writer 'stopped at the crossroads'.
-
-
- [2]
- (b) Which **two** things about her mother's appearance show how upset she was?
- (i)
-
- (ii)
- [2]
- (c) When the writer was found, what did her mother do which surprised the writer?
-
- [1]

From paragraph 6

- 8 The writer says: 'her grip on my shoulder transmitted her awareness that I was always going to leave'. Explain **in your own words** what is happening here.
-
-
- [2]

9 From paragraphs 1–5

For each of the words below, circle the letter (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which has the same meaning that the word has in the passage.

(a) fashion (line 2)

A trend **B** shape **C** way **D** look [1]

(b) uninhabited (line 5)

A empty **B** bare **C** lonely **D** wild [1]

(c) frantically (line 15)

A carefully **B** desperately **C** eagerly **D** forcefully [1]

(d) unyielding (line 20)

A rough **B** strict **C** stiff **D** harsh [1]

(e) loiter (line 30)

A rest **B** sit **C** run **D** wait [1]

10 Re-read paragraphs 3 and 4, which contain phrases about (a) the writer’s coat and (b) the writer’s shoes.

Explain:

- the **meaning** of each phrase as it is used in the passage
- the **effect** of each phrase as it is used in the passage.

(a) ‘fastening the brown buttons, one by decisive one’ (lines 20–21)

Meaning:

.....

Effect:

.....

[2]

(b) ‘my shoes scuffed – always scuffed no matter how often they were polished’ (line 27)

Meaning:

.....

Effect:

.....

[2]

[Total: 25]

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