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INTERNATIONAL GCSE

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Reading

Wednesday 6 June 2018 07:00 GMT Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

Materials
You will need no other materials.

Instructions
- Answer **all** questions in **English**.
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the box at the top of this page.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do not write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1–6	
7–14	
15–24	
25–35	
TOTAL	

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Do not write outside the box

Text 1 Email

Read the first part of this email from Harry to his friend Yosef and then answer questions **01** to **03**.



From: hrwjones5@email.com

Subject: Concert

Hi Yosef

1 How are you today? I hope you are doing well. You finished your exams last week, didn't you? Sorry I haven't been in touch for a while. I only just finished my exams yesterday. I am feeling so relieved!

2 I am going on holiday next week with my family. I am really looking forward to it. The whole family is going and we are staying at Hotel Paradise near Palm Beach. Can't wait! I hope you are also doing something fun.

3 Before I go away, would you like to come with me to the end-of-year concert at the Great Hall next Friday? The programme looks great and there are three different bands performing. I know you like live music.

Tick the box next to the correct answer for questions **01** to **03**.

0 1 When did Harry finish his exams?

A Last week.

B Yesterday.

C Today.

[1 mark]

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0 2 Where is the concert taking place?

A Hotel Paradise.

B Palm Beach.

C Great Hall.

[1 mark]

0 3 What is the **main point** of **paragraph 2**?

A Harry is telling Yosef about his holiday plans.

B Harry is telling Yosef about his family.

C Harry is giving Yosef advice about what to do in the holidays.

[1 mark]

Turn over for the next question

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Now read the second part of the email and then answer questions **04** to **06**.

I think Sarah and Amir from our college are also going to the concert. Perhaps we can go for something to eat beforehand like we did last time? I will book a table at the pizza restaurant for 7.00 pm because the concert starts at 8.00 pm. If you are interested we can take the 6.00 pm bus there and back together. Let me know if you are able to come I will get some tickets.

Hope you can make it. It should be a great evening!

Speak soon,

Harry

Tick the box next to the correct answer for questions **04** to **06**.

0 4 What time does the concert start?

A 6.00 pm

B 7.00 pm

C 8.00 pm

[1 mark]

0 5 Read the following statements. Which one is **true**?

A There may be other people Harry and Yosef know who are going to the concert.

B Harry wants Yosef to buy the tickets.

C Harry and Yosef are going to eat at Harry's place before the concert.

[1 mark]

0 6 What is the **main purpose** of the email?

A Harry is explaining how he did in his exams.

B Harry is inviting Yosef to a concert.

C Harry is asking Yosef to go on holiday.

[1 mark]

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Turn over for the next question

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ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED

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Text 2 The Dangers of Plastic Bags

Read the first part of this article about how plastic bags are damaging the environment then answer questions **07** to **10**.

1 Every year, about 500 billion plastic bags are used worldwide. Over 1 million bags are being used every minute and they're damaging our environment. In other words, every man, woman and child on our planet uses 83 plastic bags every year.

Pollution

2 Plastic bags are difficult and costly to recycle. If they are not recycled, they take around 300 years to decompose. They break down into tiny pieces that poison the soil and waterways. When animals accidentally eat them, they enter the food chain. We use plastic bags unnecessarily and this causes increasing damage to our planet.

3 Big black bin liners, plastic carrier bags and clear sandwich bags are all polluting our environment. They're lightweight, handy and easy to just throw away.

4 Plastic bags can be seen hanging from the branches of trees, flying in the air on windy days and floating on rivers. They block up ditches and drains causing water and human waste to overflow and become the breeding grounds of bacteria that cause diseases. Many end up in the sea.

0 7 How many years does it take for plastic bags to decompose?

[1 mark]

0 8 **How** do plastic bags enter the food chain?

[1 mark]

0 9 Give **two** places where plastic bags end up.

[2 marks]

1 _____

2 _____

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1 0 Which of these statements best describes the **main point** of **paragraph 1**?

A Plastic bags cause damage. ☐

B Plastic bags are used very regularly the world over. ☐

C Plastic bags are littering the seas. ☐

[1 mark]

Turn over for the next question

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Now read the second part of the article then answer questions **11** to **14**.

Dangers to Sea Life

5 Plastic bags are now amongst the top 12 items of rubbish found along coastlines. Animals and sea creatures are hurt and killed every day by plastic bags because they think they are food. Plastic is trapped in their stomachs and leads to slow starvation. Other creatures get caught up in plastic bags and drown. Many bags that drift into the ocean end up killing turtles, suffocating seabirds and filling the stomachs of dolphins and whales with waste until they die of starvation. A dead turtle with a plastic bag hanging from its mouth isn't a pleasant sight.

6 Every year our seas become 'home' to more and more bags because plastic bags take hundreds of years to break down. Every bag that's washed down a drain when it rains ends up in the sea. Every bag that's flushed down a toilet ends up in the sea. Every bag that's blown into a river will most likely end up in the sea.

Reduce and Recycle

7 There are schemes to recycle and reduce the use of plastic bags all over the world. More than 40 countries have banned or partly banned single-use plastic bags, including China, France, Rwanda, and Italy. Plastic bags can be re-used in a variety of ways and can carry 2,500 times their own weight! They are damaging the environment and the problems they cause are becoming more widespread. Thankfully more people are now realising this and starting to do something about it.

1 1 In **paragraph 5** the writer uses the phrase 'isn't a pleasant sight'. What does this mean?

[2 marks]

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1 2 Below is a list of statements about the information given in **paragraph 6**.

Two of the statements are correct.

Tick the boxes next to the **two** correct answers.

A Plastic bags break down over several years. ☐

B Plastic bags that are flushed down the toilet end up in the sea. ☐

C Every plastic bag in the ocean kills a sea creature. ☐

D Some plastic bags that are blown into rivers will end up in the sea. ☐

[2 marks]

1 3 Below is a list of statements about the information given in **paragraph 7**.

Two of the statements are correct.

Tick the boxes next to the **two** correct answers.

A Plastic bags cannot be reused. ☐

B More people are starting to recycle plastic bags. ☐

C Plastic bags in the environment are an increasing problem. ☐

D China has not tried to reduce the use of plastic bags. ☐

[2 marks]

1 4 What is the **main purpose** of the text?

A To inform the reader about the problems plastic bags are causing. ☐

B To describe how plastic bags decompose. ☐

C To persuade young people to use other types of bags. ☐

[1 mark]

12

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Text 3 Careers

Read the first part of this article from The Guardian newspaper and then answer questions **15** to **19**.

1 If you're thinking of looking for a new job in 2015, you're not alone. According to research released this month, more than a third of workers are planning to move jobs this year. But a new job doesn't always live up to expectations, and before long you may be back looking through recruitment sites searching for that dream job. So how do you avoid making the wrong move and choose a career that will make you happy?

2 The first step is to understand your personality and how you like to work says Ms Hamilton-Phillips, director of Career Psychology. The consultancy uses tests to help people find a job that they will enjoy. "It's about finding out as much about your personality as possible. You really need to have a job that plays to your strengths," says Hamilton-Phillips. "For example, some people are good at social interaction and communicating. They tend to make good trainers. Others like working in smaller groups or on their own. They have the ability to concentrate and focus for a long time."

3 The next stage is to think about the skills you enjoy using. People are happy when they use skills that make them feel energised, says John Lees, a career adviser. So how do you find out what these are? "When you think about work on a Sunday night, what are the bits of work you look forward to? That gives you very powerful clues for what you should be doing." He also recommends sitting down with a friend and discussing your work history. Afterwards, ask them for the times when you seemed most excited and engaged. This will help reveal the type of work you like best.

4 When it comes to getting a new job, many of us make the same mistake. People don't do enough research to find out if they will actually enjoy the job, says Lees. "They understand they need to do a lot of research to be a good candidate for a job interview but they don't do research for themselves. Work shadowing is also a good option. Otherwise how will you know if you will like the job?"

Tick the box next to the correct answer for questions **15** and **16**.

15 Below is a list of statements about the information given in **paragraph 1**.

Which one is correct?

A Many people were looking for new jobs in 2015. ☐

B Less than a third of workers were planning to move jobs in 2015. ☐

C You will always find your dream job. ☐

[1 mark]

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1 6 What is the **main point** of **paragraph 2**?

A To persuade the reader that the first step in finding the right job is to conduct some research.

B To inform the reader what a variety of character types might mean.

C To explain how someone's personality can be an important factor in finding the right job.

[1 mark]

1 7 In **paragraph 3**, the writer says that 'people are happy when they use **skills** that make them feel **energised**'.

What does this mean?

[2 marks]

1 8 From **paragraph 3**, list **three** steps to follow to make sure that people find the right job.

[3 marks]

1

2

3

1 9 In **paragraph 4** the writer says 'many of us make the same mistake'.

What is this mistake?

[1 mark]

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Read the second part of the article and then answer questions **20** to **24**.

5 Novella Bottini, of the Legatum Institute, says there are four key features that affect people's happiness at work: support and recognition, a clear idea of what is expected of them, reasonable freedom over how they do the work and having a good work–life balance.

6 On work–life balance Bottini explains: "A study in Europe suggested that people who are working more than 40 hours a week are usually less happy. They have less time for social relationships and for being part of a community. We know that these elements are important for the health and wellbeing of a person."

7 What about the all-important question of money? We might think a large salary will make us happy, but research suggests otherwise. A study looked at the relationship between different jobs and levels of happiness. And while company chief executives earn the most, they were only found to be the second happiest employees. Many of those in the top happiest jobs earn less money.

8 Money means different things to different people, says Lees. "Money is part of the mix but it's not as important as people believe. It's not an indicator of work happiness. All we know is that giving people more money doesn't make them happier or improve their performance." However, if people feel underpaid, they will not be as motivated in their jobs.

2 0 In **paragraph 5**, Novella Bottini talks about things which affect people's happiness at work.

Which **four** things does she mention?

Tick the boxes next to the correct answers.

A High salary. ☐

B Freedom. ☐

C Clear expectations. ☐

D Weekend working. ☐

E Work-life balance. ☐

F Supportive environment. ☐

[4 marks]

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2 1 From **paragraph 6**, what elements are important for the health and wellbeing of a wo person?

[2 marks

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

2 2 In **paragraph 8**, the writer uses the phrase 'money is part of the mix'.

What does this mean?

[1 mark]

_____

_____

2 3 In the last paragraph, the writer says, 'However, if people feel underpaid, they will not be as motivated in their jobs.'

What does this mean?

[2 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

2 4 Which statement best describes this article?

Tick the box next to the correct answer.

A An article which advises how to find the right job. ☐

B An article which advises how to find a well-paid job. ☐

C An article which tells you what job to apply for. ☐

[1 mark]

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Text 4 Ma Jian: Red Dust

The following passage is taken from a travelogue called 'Red Dust'. Here the writer describes travelling towards a lake in Xinjiang, a remote part of China.

Read the first part of the passage then answer questions **25** and **26**.

1 After an hour's hiking, I reach the desert. Sweat pours from my body and evaporates in seconds. My water is half-finished, and the lake has sunk from view. I must rely on my compass[1] from now on.

2 The sun is still overhead. As I breathe the hot air in and out, my mouth becomes as dry as dust. The compass in my hand burns like the gravel underfoot. The dry noodles have reached my stomach and seem to be sucking the moisture from my blood. I long to reach the shore of the lake and plunge my head in its cool water. For brief moments, through the heat waves on the right, I see villages, moving trucks, or a sweep of marsh. If I didn't have a compass, I might be tempted to walk straight into the mirage.

[1] A device used to show direction.

2 5 In **paragraph 1** the writer says 'sweat pours from my body and evaporates in seconds.'

What does this mean?

[2 marks]

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2 6 In **paragraph 2**, the writer describes factors which make the situation more difficult fo travelling.

List **four** of these below.

[4 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

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3 _____

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4 _____

_____

Turn over for the next question

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Read the second part of the passage then answer questions **27** to **31**.

3 Four or five hours go by. At last I see clumps of weed rise from the gravel. The land starts to dip. I check the compass. Suddenly it dawns on me that distances can be confusing in the atmosphere of the desert. The lake that seemed so near could be a hundred kilometres away. After all, what looked like a tiny blue spot is in fact a huge lake. It is too late to turn back now though – my bottle is empty. I have no choice but to keep walking towards the water. Where there is water there are people, and where there are people there is life. There is no other path I can take.

4 As the sun sinks to the west, the lake reappears at last. It is not a lake exactly, just a line of grey slightly brighter than the desert stones, not wavering in the heat haze this time, but lying still at the edge of the sky. I am on course, but my legs can barely hold. The sun sinks slowly below me, then reddens and disappears.

2 7 In **paragraph 3**, the writer says 'it dawns on me that distances can be confusing'.

What does this mean?

[3 marks]

2 8 What is the **main point** of **paragraph 3**?

Tick the box next to the correct answer.

A To tell the reader how the lake is further off than he thought. ☐

B To tell the reader how often he checks his compass. ☐

C To tell the reader how tired he is. ☐

[1 mark]

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2 9 In **paragraph 3**, the writer describes some changes.

List **three** of these changes.

[3 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

3 _____

_____

3 0 Read **paragraph 4** and choose the **two** correct statements.

Tick the boxes next to the correct answers.

A The lake is visible again. ☐

B The sun is high in the sky. ☐

C The writer is lost. ☐

D The desert stones are darker than the lake. ☐

[2 marks]

3 1 In **paragraph 4**, the writer says 'I am on course but my legs can barely hold.'

What does this mean?

Tick the box next to the correct answer.

A His legs are giving way but he is moving in the right direction. ☐

B His legs are giving way but he is feeling happier. ☐

C His legs are tired and he wants to stop. ☐

[1 mark]

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Read the third part of the passage then answer questions **32** to **35**.

5 When my feet tread on to damp grass the sky is almost black. I move forward in a daze. The ground gets wetter and wetter. Through the green weeds ahead I glimpse a cold sweep of water. Hurriedly I drop my pack and wade down through the marsh towards the lake. I have arrived at last. Let me plunge into your waters! I stamp to the shore, throw myself down and scoop the water into my mouth. The taste is foul and salty. A fire burns down my chest and my stomach explodes. I roll over and vomit and my mind goes black.

3 2 In **paragraph 5**, the writer describes how 'I move forward in a daze.'

What does this mean?

Tick the box next to the correct answer.

A He walks in a cloud of dust. ☐

B He goes ahead in a state of confusion. ☐

C He goes ahead in a rush. ☐

[1 mark]

3 3 In **paragraph 5**, the writer feels better for a short time. What **two** things make him feel better?

[2 marks]

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

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3 4 In **paragraph 5**, what does the writer notice about where he is?

[4 mar

1 _____

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2 _____

_____

3 _____

_____

4 _____

_____

3 5 Which statement best describes the text?

Tick the box next to the correct answer.

A It describes a challenging journey on foot. ☐

B It educates the reader about life in a remote part of China. ☐

C It advises on how to travel across the desert. ☐

[1 mark]

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END OF QUESTIONS

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