



**Cambridge International Examinations**  
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE  
NAME

CENTRE  
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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/23**

Paper 2 Reading Passages (Extended)

**October/November 2014**

**2 hours**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name in the spaces provided.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do **not** use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

The Reading Booklet Insert contains the reading passages for use with all questions on the Question Paper. The Insert is **not** assessed by the Examiner.

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

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This document consists of **11** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** Reading Booklet Insert.

- 1 Imagine that you are Nick Nichols, the friend of the narrator of Passage A, at the end of the day. **Write a letter home about your walk through Death Valley.**

In your letter you should:

- describe the mistakes made before **and** during the walk
- explain how **and** why your attitude to the desert changed at the end of the day
- give your thoughts and feelings about your companion's behaviour **and** your friendship.

Base your letter on what you have read in Passage A. Address all three bullet points. Be careful to use your own words.

Begin your letter, 'Dear All...'

Write between 1½ and 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

**Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.**

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**[Turn over for Question 2]**

2 Re-read the descriptions of:

- (a) the appearance **and** the effect of the desert in paragraph 1, beginning with 'The desert is hateful.';
- (b) the sunset **and** the travellers' needs in paragraph 10, beginning with 'The desert is lovely.'

Select words and phrases from these descriptions, and explain how the writer has created effects by using this language.

Write between 1 and 1½ sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer.**

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**[Total: 10]**

**[Turn over**

3 Summarise:

- (a) the discomforts **and** frustrations of walking across the Wahiba Desert, as described in **Passage B**;
- (b) the effects of the sun when walking through Death Valley, as described in **Passage A**.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (full sentences; not note form). Use your own words as far as possible.

Aim to write no more than one side in total, allowing for the size of your handwriting. Write your response on the lines provided on page 9.

**Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.**



A series of horizontal dotted lines providing a template for handwritten answers.

Additional Page

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

Lined page for writing answers, consisting of 20 horizontal dotted lines.



**BLANK PAGE**

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Question 1 Tim Cahill; *Pecked to Death by Ducks*; Random House/ Fourth Estate; 1993.

Question 3 Tim Moss; *Crossing the Wahiba Desert by Moon Light*; <http://thenextchallenge.org/portfolio/wahiba/>; 2011.

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