



Cambridge O Level

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--

CANDIDATE
NUMBER

--	--	--	--



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/21

Paper 2 Reading

October/November 2021

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.

Section 1: Reading for Ideas

Read **Passage 1**, *Circuses*, in the insert and answer **all** the questions below.

1 (a) Notes

Identify and **write down** the information in the passage which describes the origins and development of circuses in former times, and the development and spread of circuses in more modern times, as outlined in the passage.

USE MATERIAL FROM THE WHOLE PASSAGE.

At this stage, you do **not** need to use your own words. Use note form. To help you get started, the first point in each section of notes is done for you. You may find it helpful to use bullet points when listing the content points.

You will be awarded up to **12** marks for **content** points.

Content Points

the origins and development of circuses in former times

- *juggling skills have their origins in Egypt and China*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

the development and spread of circuses in more modern times

- *horse-riding shows were performed in a circle*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

[12]

2 Re-read paragraphs 5 and 6 and give two opinions from paragraph 5 and one opinion from paragraph 6.

Paragraph 5

..... [1]

Paragraph 5

..... [1]

Paragraph 6

..... [1]

[Total: 25]

Section 2: Reading for Meaning

Read **Passage 2**, *The Otter*, in the insert and answer **all** the questions below.

From paragraph 1

3 (a) Hetta tells us that she's 'not quite seven'. What evidence is there to show this?

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

(b) Why did Hetta not 'mind' being ignored by her brother?

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

From paragraph 2

4 (a) 'Besides being so valiant...Will had initiative.' What does this tell us about Hetta's impression of Will? **Answer in your own words.**

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

(b) Why did Will have to go five miles to find a place to swim?

..... [1]

From paragraph 3

5 Give **two** reasons why Will carried Hetta on his back.

(i)
.....
(ii)
..... [2]

From paragraph 4

6 (a) The otter was 'Confused by the barking dogs chasing it and by its own sense of peril'. Explain **in your own words** the effect of the barking dogs on the otter.

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

(b) Why do you think Will made 'a kind of sling' to lift the otter out of the water?

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

From paragraph 5

7 (a) What did Hetta think would happen if she kept crying?

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

(b) After the dogs had run off, in what **two** ways did the otter show it was still frightened?

(i)
.....
(ii)
..... [2]

(c) The creature became 'calm and still'. Give **one** word used earlier in the paragraph which conveys a similar idea.

..... [1]

From paragraph 6

8 Both the aunt and Hetta were 'bored' playing the card game.

(i) Why did the aunt play?

..... [1]

(ii) Why did Hetta play?

..... [1]

9 From paragraphs 2–7

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

(a) **passionately** (line 6)

A quickly B clearly C lovingly D strongly [1]

(b) **for its life** (line 17)

A to enjoy itself B to save itself C to convince itself D to hurt itself [1]

(c) **rank** (line 24)

A bad B graded C faint D growing [1]

(d) **spurned** (line 34)

A twisted B enjoyed C rejected D tolerated [1]

(e) **glazed** (line 43)

A unhappy B shiny C unfocused D stony [1]

10 Re-read paragraph 5, which contains expressions telling us about (a) how Hetta’s brother spoke to her, and (b) the otter.

Give:

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

(a) Will ‘snapped’ at me (line 26)

Meaning:

.....

Effect:

..... [2]

(b) ‘Swaddled’ in the towel (line 28)

Meaning:

.....

Effect:

..... [2]

[Total : 25]

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which itself is a department of the University of Cambridge.