

Candidate Marks Report

Series : 6 2025

This candidate's script has been assessed using On-Screen Marking. The marks are therefore not shown on the script itself, but are summarised in the table below.



Paper:	1123/12	
Paper	42 / 50	
Total:		
Question	Total / Max Mark	Mark
1a	1	/ 1
1b	3	/ 3
1c	1	/ 1
1d	2	/ 2
1e	2	/ 2
1f	1	/ 1
1fii	1	/ 1
1g	2	/ 2
1h	1	/ 3
2a	1	/ 1
2b	1	/ 1
2c	1	/ 2
2d	2	/ 2
2e	2	/ 3
3aR	8	/ 10
3aW	10	/ 10
3b	3	/ 5

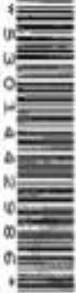


Cambridge O Level

CANDIDATE NAME



CENTRE NUMBER



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/12

Paper 1 Reading

May/June 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.
- 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. Any blank pages are indicated.



Read Text A, *The elephant and the boy*, in the insert and answer Question 1 and Question 2.

Question 1

- (a) In paragraph 1, what was the first physical feature people noticed when they met Jahan?

A thatch of black hair that grew upwards and perched on his head.

[1]

- (b) In paragraph 2, how did Jahan feel about Istanbul when he first saw it? Give two details from the text to support your answer.

Jahan's feeling Confused

details "①" catching sight of the city in the mist had a strange effect on Jahan's imagination

② "The longer Jahan stared, the more the land seemed like an extension of the sea."

[3]

- (c) Explain why Jahan 'hurried back below deck.' (line 15)

To inform the elephant that their destination has arrived.

[1]

- (d) From paragraph 5, identify two details about the elephant's physical health that showed that he was unwell.

- The brightness had gone from elephant's eyes.
- Chota's trunk was swollen.

[2]

- (e) From paragraph 5, give two reasons why Jahan thought the elephant's life would be better at the palace.

- Jahan thought people at the Palace will adore Chota.
- The elephant will be washed with fresh water.

[2]





(f) In paragraph 6, the sailors found it difficult to get the elephant out of the ship.

(i) What was the first problem the sailors had?

~~While the sailor~~ Chota refused to move when sailors tried to pull him. [1]

(ii) How did the sailors solve this problem?

It was decided ~~not to force~~ to winch the crate up with the elephant inside it. [1]

(g) Using your own words, explain what the text means by 'ultimately managing'. (line 34)

It means that finally, sailors were able to organize and complete their task. [2]

(h) Explain using your own words Jahan's different feelings about the elephant.

Give three details from anywhere in the text to support your answer.

① Jahan felt responsible towards Chota as text says "Detecting Chota's soft, ragged breathing upon approaching him, Jahan felt a small relief."

② Gradually, he became caring to Chota as seen, "When we get to the palace, I'll wash you with fresh water."

③ He was supportive as text says "If it turns out they're not kind, you can run away. I'll come with you."

[Total: 16]





Question 2

- (a) Read this sentence from the text:

'They reached the Palace Gate under the stern gaze of the guards who showed no interest in elephants or boys who would become famous one day.' (lines 37–38)

What does the writer want to suggest to us about what happens to Jahan later in life?

The writer suggests that Jahan would become popular in future. [1]

- (b) Explain why the writer uses the word 'mammoth' rather than 'large' in the phrase 'a mammoth door with iron studs'. (line 39)

It was to reflect the door as extra very huge and unusually big. [1]

- (c) Read this sentence from the text:

'They were taken to a barn with an earthen floor and lofty ceiling – Chota's new airy home.' (line 42)

What effect does the writer suggest about the barn by using the phrase 'airy home' to describe it?

The writer wants to give the impression of the barn as a new natural place for Chota to stay in. [2]

- (d) Read this sentence from the text:

'Inside was a sullen fellow of an age that was impossible to determine who glared at Jahan, clearly blaming him for the animal's condition.' (lines 43–44)

What two impressions of Taras does the writer want to convey to the reader in this sentence?

- ① It shows that Taras was elderly.
- ② Taras was quite concerned for animals. He was an animal lover. [2]





(e) Identify **one example** from the text below of how the writer uses language effectively to convey how the elephant is healed by Taras:

'Taras examined Chota's mouth, eyes and trunk. Jahan lowered his gaze, uncomfortably aware that Chota was on the brink of collapse. Taras had magical fingers that healed animals, though were of no use when it came to human diseases. Deftly, gingerly, he applied a foul-smelling lotion to Chota's trunk, wrapping it with sacking full of crushed leaves and fragrant oil. Not knowing how else to help, the boy brought the bucket of fresh clear water as instructed, placing it next to piles of apples, cabbages and hay – a banquet.' (lines 44–50)

Explain the impression the writer creates in the example you have identified.

example Taras had magical fingers that healed animals.

explanation Taras was able to treat any ill animal easily and make it healthy again. This shows that he was an expert and professional healer and thus, Taras was a successfully cured Chota.

[3]

[Total: 9]





Read Text B, *Local residents against plans for city zoo*, in the insert and answer Question 3.

Question 3

(a) Summarise the arguments against the plans for the zoo, according to Text B.

You must use continuous writing (not note form).

Use your own words as far as possible.

Avoid copying long sections of the text.

Your summary should be no more than 150 words.

Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.

There are many views against the zoo's closure. Firstly, a few of the local people are emotionally attached with the zoo as it is a fragment of one of their beautiful childhood memories. Also, it is said that the current youth might not be able to witness unique and near to extinct animals. Moving different species to other areas ~~can~~ is another big issue as it might cause tension among the animals, as well as, there might not be enough land for all the creatures. ~~To add~~ Not only animals, it can also harm humans in terms of unemployment of the zoo workers, leading to poverty. ~~Concerns are also~~ ^{also} being raised about ~~de~~ against demolishing the zoo without ~~any~~ seeking majority people's opinion. Lastly, local residents, who think that there is no requirement of new apartments and offices, might not be even allowed to reach the future animal sites due to parking issues.

Words: 146





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SEEN

[20]

(b) Imagine you are animal welfare campaigner, conservationist and documentary maker, Lucy Graves.

You are taking part in a television programme about 'Project Planet'.

Give your answer to the interviewer's question, using information from the text.

Interviewer's question: Our audience may be surprised to hear that you've worked closely with the zoo on 'Project Planet'. Many people are against this project.

What is your opinion and why?

Lucy Graves' answer:

km
~~Yes, I'm aware~~ Yes, I am aware of contradictions to this project, however, I believe that this project will help to significantly enhance the importance of zoos. It will spread awareness related to saving rare creatures. This can lead to less animals being completely extinct. Not to forget, our youth would also be able to witness such animals through this way. Thus, I ~~didn't~~ didn't see any harm in it and for the best of the intentions, I decided to work with them!

[Total: 25]

