
ENGLISH LANGUAGE (Syllabus B)

1126/01

Paper 1 Reading and Directed Writing

October/November 2019

2 hours

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

NB: You are advised to spend 40 minutes on Section 1 (Questions 1–10), 40 minutes on Question 11, and 40 minutes on Question 12.

Answer **all** questions.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.



This document consists of **7** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** Insert.

Section 1

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer Questions 1–10.

This passage describes a film about a cave, and explains the importance that caves have had to humans throughout history.

Why we are fascinated by caves

- 1 Recently, I saw *Cave of Forgotten Dreams*, a documentary directed by Werner Herzog. It is about the Chauvet Cave (La Grotte Chauvet) in southern France, which was discovered by accident in 1994 and contains the oldest known paintings in the history of the world. There are portraits of various animals which inhabited the area during the last ice age. 5
- 2 Apart from the art covering its walls, the Chauvet Cave is a desolate place: empty and inhospitable. It is closed to the public because the carbon dioxide in visitors' breath could damage the paintings. Herzog was allowed only three crew members and four hours of filming at a time. He had to film from a narrow metal walkway and could not bring heavy equipment or strong lights into the cave. He realised how easy it must have been for the prehistoric humans to slip and fall in the dark. The cave walls and rock formations glittered magically. The space was dominated by what the cave bears had left behind: scratches on the walls, tracks on the floor, bones everywhere. The cave was full of poisonous gas – not a good place for humans. 10
- 3 The film showed stunning paintings of scary wild animals. Most surprising, however, was the evidence of everyday human life in the cave – the footprint of an eight-year-old boy next to the footprint of a wolf. There are black stripes where flaming torches had burnt the cave walls. Near the entrance are prints of a man's hand made by someone who was 1.8 metres tall and who had a crooked little finger, possibly broken in an accident. That finger, in particular, stuck in my mind. That small detail helped me imagine a whole person. It made me feel closer to a man who lived 30 000 years ago. 15
20
- 4 The appeal of caves dates from the beginning of the human race. Obviously, they gave shelter and protection, and prehistoric people used them as ritualistic art galleries. Caves, however, were much more than that. Ancient Buddhists dug out caves everywhere (30 at the base of an Indian waterfall, 500 in a mountain in the Gobi Desert, for example), filling them with the most elaborate art portraying camels and eagles. The ancient Greeks built shrines in caves; they were a rich source of their literary tradition. In their myths and stories, strange creatures inhabited the underground depths. Not surprisingly, walking into a great religious building feels like entering a giant cave. 25
30
- 5 A cave is nature's hidden treasure whose beauty is buried under our feet. Even its formation has something extraordinary about it. It starts with small drops of water falling through the air picking up carbon dioxide. This creates a very weak acid: the key ingredient. It is hard to comprehend how slowly this happens. The acid finds its way into tiny gaps deep in the rock, eating away at it until, after a million years or so, a cave is formed. Most geological features form slowly, but caves seem extra miraculous because of the beauty and delicacy of the structures. These structures include stalactites hanging from the ceiling and stalagmites rising from the cave floor to meet them. These precious results of mineral deposits left by single drops of water exist alongside the paintings which are thought to represent the dreams of the early humans. 35
40

- 6 Although our knowledge of the natural world is now vast, with all we want at our fingertips on the internet, our understanding of caves remains limited. The Earth, including the ocean floor, is thoroughly mapped. Caves are not, and so we are even more drawn to them because they remain blank spaces. Today, given that we can find out just about anything, a cave is even more of a mystery. 45

For Questions 1–6, write down the letter **A, B, C** or **D** on your answer paper to indicate the most appropriate answer.

- 1 What makes the Chauvet Cave so important?
- A the age of the artwork it contains
- B the number of films made about it
- C the way in which it was discovered
- D the variety of animal bones it contains [1]
- 2 Why was filming in the cave difficult for Herzog?
- A He had to carry heavy equipment.
- B He had to wear special breathing apparatus.
- C He had difficulty moving around the cave.
- D He had to make the whole film in four hours. [1]
- 3 Why did the writer remember the ‘crooked little finger’ in the handprint?
- A It demonstrated to him how dangerous life was in the past.
- B It made him realise the print came from a real person’s hand.
- C It showed how medical care has improved since prehistoric times.
- D It shows that the painting skills of prehistoric man were very primitive. [1]
- 4 According to the writer, the ancient Buddhists
- A found caves in the middle of the desert.
- B made over 500 paintings of different caves.
- C believed that monsters lived in caves.
- D created and decorated their own caves. [1]

- 5 Why does the writer refer to different groups of people?
- A to stress the geographical spread of caves
 - B to show they all told stories about caves
 - C to describe the variety of types of cave art
 - D to illustrate the cultural importance of caves [1]
- 6 The writer says caves seem 'extra miraculous' (lines 37–38) owing to
- A the quality of the natural forms they contain.
 - B the range of chemicals found in them.
 - C the great depths they reach.
 - D the large number of natural deposits. [1]
- 7 From paragraph 2 (lines 6–14), give **three** reasons why the cave was 'not a good place for humans'. **You should use your own words as far as possible.** [3]
- 8 From paragraph 3 (lines 15–22), list **three** things which show the cave was once lived in by humans. **You should use your own words as far as possible.** [3]
- 9 From paragraphs 5 and 6, explain
- (a) what the writer means by 'nature's hidden treasure'. (line 32) [1]
 - (b) how a cave is formed. [4]
 - (c) why caves are appealing nowadays. (lines 44–47) [2]
- 10 Why did Herzog call his film *Cave of Forgotten Dreams*? [1]

[Total: 20]

PLEASE TURN OVER.

Section 2

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer Questions 11 and 12.

This passage is about a young man's experience of driving a car.

Max's First Driving Lesson

- 1 Max was like many other eleven-year-old boys; he was encouraged to do well at school and to play sports. In fact, he was on his school's basketball team. Max was automatically selected for his sixth-grade basketball team since he was ten centimetres taller than most of his peers. He was also slim and moved easily, which was an advantage in his sport. One Sunday afternoon, Max wanted to prepare for the next game, which was an important match with local rivals. Max didn't have to go to the park to practise; his father had attached a basketball hoop to the wall above the garage door. But there was one thing standing between Max and the hoop: the family car, a green and yellow Pontiac station wagon. Max yelled through the living room window to his father, who was watching the football game on television with Max's older sister: 'Dad, can you please move the car back so I can play basketball?' 5
- 2 His father, concentrating wholly on the football match, replied in a jokey tone without even looking up: 'Aw, not now. Move it yourself!' 10
- 3 'Hmmm,' thought Max. 'Is he serious?' Max went inside and looked inquisitively at his older brother who had witnessed the curious exchange from the kitchen. To Max's delight, his brother playfully motioned with his eyes towards the car keys lying on the kitchen table. 15
- 4 Max's green eyes lit up. He grabbed the keys and, with a sense of purpose, marched out to get into the car. 'How hard can it be? Dad does it all the time,' he thought. Nervous, but excited about what he was going to do, Max turned the key in the ignition and heard the motor start. He imitated all the actions he saw when his father drove. He put the car into what he thought was reverse gear. 'Every time Dad does this, the car goes back, right?' He put his hand behind the headrest of the passenger seat and, looking back, stepped hard on the accelerator. To his horror, the car flew forwards, not backwards. The Pontiac accelerated at rocket speed into the empty garage. Max hit his head as the car smashed into the wall at the back of the garage. With an explosive bang, the car took down the entire back wall in one neat piece! 20
- 5 The Pontiac was now flying through the air, with the garage wall balancing on the front of the car. The weight of the wall caused the car to fall onto the lawn behind the garage and become wedged in the ground. Max shouted out in panic, his face frozen in an expression of shock. This feeling quickly turned to petrifying fear when he heard his father roaring his name. 25
- 6 'Uh-oh, what's going to happen to me now?' Max unwrapped his hands from the steering wheel and dragged himself out of the car, his dark hair falling over his face, dreading what was to come. His father, debating whether to hug Max or to scream at him, decided he was happy his son was still alive and embraced him. His brother and sister also came running out. 'What have you done, Max!' his sister yelled. 30
- 7 The neighbours came out to see what had happened and one of them, a journalist on the local paper, wrote a story about Max's short-lived driving experience. And so, a young boy's simple request to make a little room to play basketball turned him into a local celebrity. 40

11 Write a summary describing:

- Max's physical appearance
- why Max decided to drive his father's car
- what Max did after he got into the car.

Write **three** paragraphs, one on each of the headings above. You must write only 150–180 words **in total**. Use your own words as far as possible. [20]

12 Imagine you are Max's sister or brother. Write to your cousin about the incident. In your letter, you should:

- give details of what you saw and heard
- say what happened afterwards
- say whether what happened is typical of the way Max usually behaves.

Use what you have learned from the passage, **but do not copy whole sentences from it**. You should also include some ideas of your own.

Write between 1½ and 2 sides (about 200–300 words). [20]

[Total: 40]

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