

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number

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Candidate number

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Surname

Forename(s)

Candidate signature

I declare this is my own work.

INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Reading Paper

Tuesday 29 October 2024 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 boxes 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.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- 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
01–06	
07–14	
15–24	
25–35	
TOTAL	



N 0 V 2 4 9 2 8 0 R 0 1

Text 1 Email

Read the first part of an email from Hong to her friend Yuxuan.

Answer questions **01** to **03**.

- 1 I hope you are keeping well, Yuxuan. I had a very nice meal with my family last week to celebrate my birthday. We went to the restaurant at 7.30 pm and didn't leave until 11.30 pm. The meal was served at 8.30 pm.
- 2 We usually go to Indian restaurants, but this time we went to a Turkish restaurant. We had some very nice starters served with bread. Then we had a very large plate with all different kinds of meat and chicken which we could share. There were also vegetarian options. The whole meal cost £100 which meant that it cost £20 each as there were 5 of us.

Write the correct letter in the box for questions **01** to **03**.

0 1

When did Hong go to the restaurant?

[1 mark]

A	7.30 pm
B	8.30 pm
C	11.30 pm



0 2 How much did the whole meal cost?

[1 mark]

A	£5
B	£20
C	£100

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

[1 mark]

A	To describe Indian food
B	To describe the meal as a whole
C	To describe the vegetarian options

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Read the second part of the email.

Answer questions **04** to **06**.

- 3 Our college is going to take part in an inter-college quiz. There will be 10 colleges, including ours. We have to send a team of between 3 and 5 students. I am going to be the captain and I can choose the students. Would you like to be part of the team? I know that you are very good at science so you can help the team with the science questions in the quiz. I am good at history so I can answer the history questions. There will be 5 sections altogether.
- 4 The quiz is on Saturday 9th December at 11 am. It will finish at 2 pm. It will take place at King Charles University and we can go on a tour of the university when the quiz has finished.
- 5 It would be great if you could be part of the team.
- Hong

Write the correct letter in the box for questions **04** to **06**.

0 4

Read the following statements.

Which statement is correct?

[1 mark]

A	3 colleges will be taking part.
B	5 colleges will be taking part.
C	10 colleges will be taking part.

☐


0 5 How many sections are there in the quiz?

[1 mark]

A	2
B	5
C	11

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

[1 mark]

A	To ask Yuxuan to take part in the quiz
B	To persuade Yuxuan to go to university
C	To ask Yuxuan some science questions

6

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Text 2 Discover Qatar

Read the first part of this article which gives advice about holiday activities in Qatar.

Answer questions **07** to **10**.

Discover Qatar

- 1 Qatar is a peninsula surrounded by the Arabian sea and it has sunny weather for all of the year. The capital of Qatar is Doha, where around 40% of the population lives. There is plenty to discover in Doha and in Qatar as a whole. Doha has beautiful beaches, family-friendly attractions and rich cultural experiences. It is now more popular than ever with visitors.
- 2 Qatar is a perfect location for watersports activities, from kitesurfing and kayaking to scuba diving and swimming. The sand dunes in Qatar are also a favourite place for safaris in the desert and camping. Winter or spring in Qatar is the perfect time for beach-lovers to enjoy some sunshine and relaxation or to see the interesting inland sea. The country has almost 550 kilometres of coastline, offering many choices for families who love beaches. Doha's public and private beaches can please everyone, so you can unwind with a book or let the children play in the sand. The beaches are very clean and very safe.
- 3 Doha is well known for being friendly to families, so it is a great destination for young and old travellers. Your children can be creative with Doha's arts and crafts, while you can make the most of the wonderful open spaces. For families looking for exciting experiences, famous theme parks like Doha Quest and Desert Falls Water and Adventure Park offer fun for everyone.

0 7

From **paragraph 1**, give **one** example of why Doha is a popular destination.

[1 mark]

0 8

How long is Qatar's coastline?

[1 mark]



0 9 From **paragraph 2**, list **two** watersports activities.

[2 marks]

1 _____

2 _____

1 0 Which of these statements best describes the **main** point of **paragraph 3**?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	To give advice about art and crafts in Doha
B	To give advice to families about things to do in Doha
C	To give advice about theme parks in Doha

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Read the second part of the article.

Answer questions **11** to **14**.

- 4 You will find many things to see and do in Qatar if you are interested in nature and the environment. The whale sharks of Qatar are especially fascinating. Doha has one of the largest groups of whale sharks in the world. You won't want to miss this splendid chance to observe these wonderful creatures in their natural environment. Qatar is committed to preserving the country's natural habitat. This means that wildlife encounters are responsible and sustainable.
- 5 Doha also has a thriving culture, so culture enthusiasts will also find plenty to explore in Doha, including the stunning National Museum of Qatar and the world-class Museum of Islamic Art. The city's heritage is both lively and diverse, so visitors can have a deeper understanding of Qatar's traditions and culture. In addition, food-lovers will be spoilt for choice when it comes to the wide range of food on offer. Qatar's cuisine is typical of Arabia and the Middle East, but also provides for tastes from around the world. You can try a variety of traditional Qatari cuisine and delicious street food, as well as eating at a range of world-class restaurants.

1 1

Read **paragraph 4**.

Which **two** statements are correct?

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

[2 marks]

A	There is not much to see for nature lovers.
B	Doha has a large whale shark population.
C	Qatar cares for its environment.
D	The whale sharks are in zoos.



1 2

In **paragraph 5**, the writer says, 'lively and diverse'.

Explain in your own words what the phrase 'lively and diverse' means.

[2 marks]

1 3

Read **paragraph 5**.

Which **two** statements are correct?

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

[2 marks]

A	There is a flourishing culture in Qatar.
B	The World Museum of Western Art is in Qatar.
C	There is no street food in Qatar.
D	You can eat food from around the world in Qatar.

1 4

What is the **main** purpose of the whole text?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	To compare the different cuisines in Qatar
B	To describe the wildlife and habitat in Qatar
C	To persuade travellers to visit Qatar

12

Turn over ►



Text 3 Pitch Perfect: Women's Football

Read the first part of this article about women's football.

Answer questions **15** to **19**.

- 1 Women's football has consistently overcome challenges and achieved remarkable progress over the years, through more than a century of setbacks, bans and prejudices. Women have fought for football, but they could easily have given up or changed to a sport more acceptable to society. People who want political change and people who enjoy the freedom of playing have been fighting for women's football. Recently, women's football is seeing the investment and support it has been lacking. Yet, despite women winning the right to play football, the women's game gets attacked more than other sports, especially online.
- 2 The fight hasn't stopped yet. Recently, the US women's national team took the reluctant US Football Federation to court. The women's team wanted to fight for the same pay and funding as the men's team. They are more successful and generate more revenue than the men's team. They reached a \$24 million settlement in their equal pay case and now get the same pay as men. The US women's and men's teams announced a historic deal to share World Cup prize money. Denmark, Colombia, Brazil, Scotland, the Republic of Ireland, Argentina and Norway are just some of the countries where female players have gone public in their fight to get more money.
- 3 Women in the past have faced many challenges in order to play football. For example, Arsenal legend Alex Scott had to wash the team's kit, and goalkeeper Nicola Hobbs had to work as a firefighter. Fara Williams had to go back to a homeless shelter after training. Many women had to cope with little to no medical or physiotherapy assistance during their careers. Most women essentially had to pay to play, or make long round trips after work to attend training. Despite this, they remained highly skilled, physically fit and mentally prepared for top-level football.

1 5

Read **paragraph 1**.

Which statement is correct?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	Women's football is no longer getting investment and support.
B	Women's football is now getting investment and support.
C	Women's football has consistently received investment and support.



1 6

From **paragraph 2**, name **one** way in which pay has improved for the US women's national team.

[1 mark]

1 7

In **paragraph 2**, the writer says, 'reluctant'.

Explain in your own words what 'reluctant' means.

[1 mark]

1 8

From **paragraph 3**, list **three** challenges women football players faced in order to play football.

[3 marks]

1

2

3

1 9

In **paragraph 3**, the writer says, 'Despite this, they remained highly skilled'.

Explain in your own words what the phrase 'highly skilled' means.

[2 marks]

Turn over ►

Read the second part of the article.

Answer questions **20** to **24**.

- 4 It is now getting easier for a new generation of female football players in countries where professional football is slowly becoming a reality. There is still a long way to go, but we are welcoming the most talented generation – and it's only going to get better. It is very encouraging that today's young women are welcome in football, with places to play, kit to wear and boots that fit.
- 5 The 2022 Euros football competition in England advanced the development of women's and girls' football in the country another 10 steps. This created interest from investors, sponsors and, most importantly, got more girls playing. There were record national club attendances in 2019 in Mexico, Spain, England and Italy and there were 90,000-plus attendances at Camp Nou in the Champions League quarter-finals and semi-finals. This showed the potential audience.
- 6 Football is often called 'the beautiful game'. However, it is a beautiful game that is increasingly removed from the realities of ordinary people. There are high ticket prices, extreme wage demands, controversial sponsorship deals, the high cost of food and drink in grounds, corruption and mismanagement in governing bodies. These things isolate the fans and communities that built the game. There is a drive to make the women's game a mirror of the men's, but do we really want it to be? We have the opportunity to make it something better.



2 0

In **paragraph 4**, the writer mentions **four** changes for young women.

Which **four** changes does the writer mention?

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

[4 marks]

A	They are less talented than older footballers.
B	They are welcome in football.
C	They do not play as well as male footballers.
D	They have places to play.
E	They have football kit.
F	They cannot play professional football.
G	They can wear boots that fit.
H	They are better footballers than men.

2 1

In **paragraph 5**, the writer says, 'advanced the development'.

Explain in your own words what 'development' means.

[1 mark]

2 2

In **paragraph 5**, the writer mentions attendances at women's football club games.

List **two** things that the writer mentions.

[2 marks]

1

2

Turn over ►

2 3In **paragraph 6**, the writer says, 'removed from the realities'.

Explain in your own words what the phrase 'removed from the realities' means.

[2 marks]

2 4

Which statement best describes the whole article?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	Women's football is the same as men's football.
B	Women's football has declined in recent years.
C	Women's football has grown in recent years.



Turn over for the next question

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Text 4 Moving to Secondary School

Read the first part of the text about a writer's experience of moving to secondary school.

Answer questions **25** and **26**.

Moving to Secondary School

- 1 In my mind's eye, I recall the fear, anticipation and excitement as I was about to go to 'big school', to progress from primary school to secondary school aged 11. I was about to enter a brave new world after the safety and security of primary school. I felt so safe in that small island of a primary school that I remember wishing that everyone and everything could remain the same for ever.
- 2 We wore our own clothes at primary school, so I was strangely excited about having to wear uniform at secondary school. Despite the drabness of the colours, I felt very proud of my new uniform with its white shirt, light grey pullover, black blazer with the school badge lovingly sewn on by my mother, charcoal grey trousers and highly polished black shoes. Later, as I was growing rapidly, I had to wear clothes which had been handed down by relatives. The blazer became blue, with the school badge more hurriedly and less lovingly sewn on, covering the badge of another school, and the shiny black shoes became brown boots. Thankfully, the teachers and my fellow students seemed not to notice or, if they did, they did not pass comment on my less than perfect uniform.

2 5

In **paragraph 1**, the writer says, 'In my mind's eye, I recall the fear'.

Explain in your own words what the phrase 'In my mind's eye, I recall the fear' means.

[3 marks]



2 6

In **paragraph 2**, the writer mentions **four** things about his new secondary school uniform.

List **four** things the writer mentions.

[4 marks]

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



Read the second part of the text.

Answer questions **27** to **31**.

- 3 My secondary school was around 15 kilometres from my home, so it seemed a great adventure to travel there. My primary school had been around 10 minutes' walk away. Now, I would be travelling by bus, train and foot. Most of the other secondary school students lived nearby, so they marvelled at me as an adventurous and fearless traveller who took the long trek in his stride.
- 4 Another significant change from primary school to secondary school was the scale and size of the building and the student numbers. My primary school was a cluster of buildings on one floor with a small canteen, which doubled up as a gym outside of lunchtime. I still remember the lingering odour of school dinners while taking part in afternoon gym sessions. My new secondary school was a huge complex, with a main building across two floors, containing many classrooms and spacious science laboratories; the Physics lab even had a life-size model of a car. In addition, there was a large assembly hall, a swimming pool, a sports hall, playgrounds and extensive playing fields.
- 5 There were around 200 students in total in my primary school and one class for Year 1 to Year 6, while at secondary school there were 240 students for each year group, divided into 9 classes. This was apart from Year 12 and Year 13, which had around 150 students in total.

2 7

In **paragraph 3**, the writer says, 'adventurous and fearless'.

Explain in your own words what the phrase 'adventurous and fearless' means.

[2 marks]

2 8

In **paragraph 4**, the writer mentions a range of facilities at secondary school.

List **three** facilities.

[3 marks]

1

2

3



2 9 What is the **main** point of **paragraph 4**?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	To compare the size of the schools
B	To explain why it is better to be at a big school
C	To explain why small schools are better

3 0 In **paragraph 4**, the writer says, 'spacious'.

Explain in your own words what 'spacious' means.

[1 mark]

3 1 Read **paragraph 5**.

Which **two** statements are correct?

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

[2 marks]

A	There were 6 students in Year 1.
B	There were 9 students in each year group in the writer's secondary school.
C	There were 150 students in Years 12 and 13.
D	There were 200 students in the writer's primary school.

Turn over ►



Read the third part of the text.

Answer questions **32** to **35**.

- 6 The range of activities on offer at secondary school was also impressive. These covered lunchtime sports such as badminton and tennis, chess and an elementary form of computer programming and coding – remember that this was many years ago, almost lost in the mists of time. There was even a military cadet force for the more disciplined students. I considered joining, but I soon discovered that I was not as disciplined as I thought.
- 7 One of my most important memories is of the friends I made in those early days at ‘big school’. They enabled me to settle in and cope with all the changes. As friends, we shared many happy moments together and helped each other through the hard times. Indeed, some of these friends became lifelong comrades.

3 **2** In **paragraph 6**, the writer says, ‘elementary’.

What does ‘elementary’ mean?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	Highly developed and complex
B	Straightforward and uncomplicated
C	Fascinating and important



3 3 From **paragraph 6**, list **four** activities the writer mentions.

[4 marks]

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

3 4 From **paragraph 7**, list **two** things the writer says about how friends helped him.

[2 marks]

- 1 _____
- 2 _____

3 5 Which statement best describes the whole text?

Write the correct letter in the box.

[1 mark]

A	To describe the writer's memories about going to secondary school
B	To describe the writer's sadness about leaving his primary school
C	To describe the writer's friends from primary and secondary school

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END OF QUESTIONS



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