



# Cambridge IGCSE® (9–1)

CANDIDATE  
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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0990/01**

Paper 1 Reading

**For examination from 2020**

SPECIMEN PAPER

**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.
- If additional space is needed, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet; the question number or numbers must be clearly shown.
- Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].
- The insert contains the reading texts.

This document has **14** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Read **Text A, *Project Mammoth***, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

**Question 1**

(a) Give **two** examples of extinct species (other than the mammoth) according to the text.

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

(b) **Using your own words**, explain what the text means by:

(i) ‘candidates for “de-extinction”’ (line 2): ..... [2]

(ii) ‘not just distant dreams.’ (line 5): ..... [2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 3, (‘Scientists working on such projects ... climate change.’).

Give **two** reasons why scientists might be excited by the possible birth of a woolly mammoth.

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

(d) Re-read paragraphs 4 and 5, (‘The basic idea ... Siberia’s permafrost.’).

(i) Identify **two** main tasks that scientists will need to complete in order to breed the hybrid.

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

(ii) Explain why Asian elephants were chosen for Project Mammoth.

.....  
.....  
..... [3]

(e) Re-read paragraphs 6 and 7, ('The project is not without ... chance of survival.').

**Using your own words**, explain why some people disagree with Project Mammoth.

.....

.....

..... [3]

Read **Text B**, *Waking the Baby Mammoth*, in the insert and then answer **Question 1(f)** on this question paper.

**Question 1**

- (f) According to Text B, what made Lyuba such a remarkable and precious scientific specimen **and** what did scientists hope to discover by studying her?

You must **use continuous writing** (not note form) and **use your own words** as far as possible.

Your summary should not be more than 120 words.

**Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 5 marks for the quality of your writing.**

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Read **Text C**, *The Gift*, in the insert and then answer **Questions 2(a)–(d)** on this question paper.

**Question 2**

(a) **Identify a word or phrase from the text** which suggests the same idea as the words underlined:

(i) Natalia was expecting the quietness of their walk to be broken suddenly.

..... [1]

(ii) Natalia slowed herself down and made herself as tall as possible before refusing to go any further.

..... [1]

(iii) Her grandfather spoke to her in a low, angry voice.

..... [1]

(iv) The homeless person was fast asleep.

..... [1]

(b) **Using your own words**, explain what the writer means by each of the words underlined:

I peered out into the street. On the other side, there was a street lamp with a dying bulb. I was opening my mouth to say 'What?' and then I saw it. Half a block from us, an enormous shadow was moving along the street.

(i) peered ..... [1]

(ii) dying ..... [1]

(iii) enormous ..... [1]

- (c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain how the writer suggests Natalia’s experiences and feelings that night.

**Use your own words in your explanation.**

I peered out into the street. On the other side, there was a street lamp with a dying bulb. I was opening my mouth to say ‘What?’ and then I saw it. Half a block from us, an enormous shadow was moving along the street.

.....

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..... [3]















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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

- Question 1a–e           © Lila Shapiro; *We May Resurrect The Mammoth Sooner Than You Think*; Huffington Post; 18 December 2015.  
Question 1f            © *Waking The Baby Mammoth*; National Geographic; 12 April 2009.  
                              © *Biochemical Soul*; <http://biochemicalsoul.com/tag/waking-the-baby-mammoth/>  
Questions 2 & 3       © Téa Obreht; *The Tigers Wife*; Weidenfeld & Nicolson; 2011.

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