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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

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CANDIDATE NAME

CENTRE NUMBER

CANDIDATE NUMBER

1762898984

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/12**

Paper 1 Reading **May/June 2026**

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. Do **not** use correction fluid or tape.
- 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 **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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

Question 1

(a) How many species of rhinoceros are critically endangered?

..... [1]

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

(i) 'terrific fuss' (line 4) .....

..... [2]

(ii) 'draw tourists' (line 5). .....

..... [2]

(c) Reread paragraph 3 ('In any … new direction.').

Give **two** potential effects on an ecosystem of losing one of its 'keystone' species.

- .....
- .....

[2]

(d) Reread paragraphs 4 and 5 ('Surprisingly … to grow.').

(i) Identify **two** reasons why researchers had not previously looked closely at rhinos' roles in shaping the eco-system.

- .....
- .....

[2]

(ii) Explain what scientists did to identify the impact of the rhinos on the landscape.

.....

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..... [3]

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(e) Reread paragraph 6 ('Rhinos have … many others.').

Using your own words, explain why some people might not be convinced that rhinos should be referred to as a keystone species.

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..... [3]

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Read **Text B**, ***Finding the right name for our rhino***, in the insert and answer **Question 1(f)** on this question paper.

(f) According to **Text B**, what will the judges be looking for in the winning name for the baby rhino?

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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[Total: 30]

Read **Text C**, ***Saving Baby Rhinos***, 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) The documentary film is about creatures that are critical to the wellbeing of the Earth.

..... [1]

(ii) Mina was concerned that rhinos as a species were disappearing.

..... [1]

(iii) The accommodation for volunteers coming from other countries was basic.

..... [1]

(iv) There was only just sufficient money to purchase the drugs needed to treat the rescued rhinos.

..... [1]

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

The rhinos aren't exactly cooperating in their starring role. I'm keeping out of the way, enjoying the safe comfort of Izelle's brand-new support vehicle. The mission? To move this particular crash of adult rhinos from the reserve and back into the pasture for their annual vet check.

(i) cooperating ..... [1]

(ii) mission ..... [1]

(iii) annual ..... [1]

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(c) Use **one** example from the text below to explain the writer's attitude to the behaviour of the director.

Use your own words in your explanation.

'Come!' the director copies Izelle, strutting forwards.

'Don't you call!' Izelle barks fiercely. Izelle knows how to give orders: she deals with rhinos. The chastened director recoils, shocked: he's usually the one in control. Still smarting, he ushers his camera operator perilously close as the rhinos, with Izelle leading, trot by.

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..... [3]

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(d) Reread paragraphs 8 and 9.

- Paragraph 8 begins 'I run my hands …' and is about Mina's reactions to the adult rhino.
- Paragraph 9 begins '"The world needs action …' and is about Mina's memories of her first day volunteering at the sanctuary.

Explain how the writer uses language to convey meaning and to create effect in these paragraphs. Choose **three** examples of words or phrases from **each** paragraph to support your answer. Your choices should include the use of imagery.

Write about 200 to 300 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer.

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[Total: 25]

Reread **Text C**, ***Saving Baby Rhinos***, in the insert and then answer **Question 3** on this question paper.

Question 3

You are Izelle. Following the interest created by the documentary film shot at the sanctuary, you are interviewed for a television chat show about Saving Baby Rhinos.

The interviewer asks you three questions only:

- Why is the rhino sanctuary so important to you, and what does your work there involve?
- What is Saving Baby Rhinos, and how did it become such a success?
- In what ways has the sanctuary changed in recent years thanks to Saving Baby Rhinos?

Write the words of the interview. Begin your interview with the first question.

Base your interview on what you have read in **Text C**, but be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullet points.

Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.

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