

Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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CANDIDATE
NUMBER

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ENGLISH

0861/01

Paper 1 Non-fiction

April 2025

1 hour 10 minutes

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.

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 text.

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Reading

Spend 35 minutes on this section.

Read the **text** in the insert, and answer Questions 1–12.

1 Look at the first paragraph (lines 6–8).

(a) What causes the writer’s shadow?

..... [1]

(b) Give **one** word which shows how bright the stars are.

..... [1]

2 Look at the second paragraph (lines 9–12).

(a) The writer uses imagery to make the landscape seem like a magical and undiscovered world. Give **two** ways the writer does this.

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

[2]

(b) Why is it hard to see the hills at first?

..... [1]

3 Look at the third paragraph (lines 13–17).

- (a) Find an example of metaphorical language which is used to describe the flowers.
Explain what this tells the reader about the flowers.

Quotation:

Explanation:

[2]

- (b) What is the purpose of the colon (:) in this paragraph?

..... [1]

- (c) Which word in this paragraph means the same as 'horses'?

..... [1]

4 Look at the fourth paragraph (lines 18–23).

- (a) Which word in the text means the same as 'looking at'?

..... [1]

- (b) The information that the rangers give is more important than who says it.
What does the writer use to show this?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

passive voice

present tense

reported speech

sentence length

[1]

5 Look at line 26 and the phrase, *releasing them from any responsibility*.
Give another phrase from the same paragraph which repeats this idea.

..... [1]

6 Look at the sixth paragraph (lines 29–32).

(a) Why does the writer use a semi-colon (;) in line 29?
Tick (✓) **one** box.

to show the leisurely pace of events

to indicate an exclamation of disapproval

to show surprise at what happens next

to indicate a pause between two actions

[1]

(b) In lines 31–32, the writer uses a short simple sentence followed by a long complex sentence.
Explain why **each** sentence type is used.

short sentence:

.....

long sentence:

.....

[2]

7 Look at the seventh paragraph (lines 33–35).

Explain why the writer starts the paragraph with the word *But*.

.....

..... [2]

8 Look at the eighth paragraph (lines 36–39).

Give **one** adverbial phrase used to show the change of mood.

..... [1]

- 9 Look at the ninth paragraph (lines 40–46).
What is the key characteristic of the Mongol horses?
Tick (✓) **one** box.

loyal

elegant

attractive

energetic

[1]

- 10 Look at the tenth paragraph (lines 47–50).
Explain why the horses are behaving nervously.

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

- 11 Look at the final three paragraphs (lines 51–60).
Why is the writer so worried about which bag might be missing?

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

12 Look at the whole text again.

The rangers called the reserve *dangerous*.

Do you think the group is in danger while travelling through the reserve?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

Yes

No

Give **two** reasons for your opinion and support **each** reason with a quotation from the text.

Reason 1:

.....

Quotation 1:

.....

Reason 2:

.....

Quotation 2:

.....

[4]

Turn over

Section B: Writing

Spend 35 minutes on this section.

13 Write a travel article about a place you have visited while on holiday.

You should consider:

- type of transport
- surroundings
- travelling companions
- events which take place.

Use the space in the box below to plan your answer.

Do **not** use the space for your answer. You **must** write your answer on the answer lines on the next page.

Space for your plan:



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