



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500/22**

Paper 2 Reading Passages (Extended)

**October/November 2012**

READING BOOKLET INSERT

**2 hours**

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

This Insert contains the reading passages for use with all questions on the Question Paper.

You may annotate this Reading Booklet Insert and use the blank spaces for planning. This Insert is **not** required by the Examiner.

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This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



## Part 1

Read **Passage A** carefully, and then answer **Questions 1** and **2** on the Question Paper.

**Passage A**

*In this passage Julia and her parents are visiting the remote Kapawi jungle in Ecuador, South America.*

The family was trudging in single file through the dense undergrowth. As they sweated they waved sticks at buzzing flies, while trying to stay sure-footed over the thick knots and tangles of roots below. Accompanied by an effortlessly agile local guide, they could barely breathe as the jungle, steaming and hissing, stole their air. They stopped in a clearing and took countless photographs; above, howler monkeys broke into outraged hoops and screams, and tropical birds higher still splashed the canvas of the jungle with bright colours or flecked green onto patches of blue sky.

Despite the humidity and terrible discomfort, they were thrilled to have finally arrived in this remote and extraordinary place. Only accessible by plane, Kapawi is one of the last places on Earth where you can experience the rainforest in all its glory. The opportunity to observe the incredibly rich biodiversity and abundance of wildlife, as well as 500 species of birds, was irresistible for Julia's biologist parents. Even more fascinating for Julia was the opportunity to meet the Achuar community, who have lived in harmony with this rainforest for generations. They were one of the last indigenous groups to remain totally isolated, until the 1970s, and continue to preserve their traditional culture. Julia and her parents knew that the world's rainforests are being destroyed, and conservation like that found in Kapawi is sadly rare. The family felt privileged to experience this wonderful place and its people.

The guide suddenly signalled to Julia's father that they should turn back, as a slight trickle of rain filtered its way down through the jungle canopy. They wondered why, not realising that this was tropical rain, and dangerous. Within seconds it became a violent storm, with torrential rain beating down, and a dark and sweltering atmosphere. The ground transformed into a wave of thick mud that made them lose their footing, and mini-rapids formed, capable of sweeping a body away on a strong current, down into the belly of the jungle. This was a flash flood – and in a split second Julia felt the sensation of being pulled from her mother's side, sliding, crashing, and then ... nothing.

Hours later, lying in deep darkness, with an injury to her head and concussion, Julia knew that she must force herself up. All her survival training told her not to succumb to sleep. She had to find her parents. She imagined their voices, telling her over and over again, 'Don't give in'. Shouting was hopeless in this screaming jungle, and she staggered with the effort of moving. The dense foliage, above and below, snaked, twisted and snared her at every step of her torturous journey. The angry whirr of swarms of insects, some as large as model aircraft, orbited her constantly, ceasing only to dive, attack and bite. There was a stream up ahead which she thought might lead to a village, but her elation was short-lived. As she waded through dark, knee-high water, more creatures gravitated towards her, and leeches attached themselves to her legs. Delirious with exhaustion and pain, she curled up on the bank of the stream, and waited, hoping to be rescued.

\* \* \*

The moment they reached a village, Julia's parents raised a desperate alarm. The villagers, knowing the rainforest intimately, spread out in their search for 'the yellow-haired one'. Her decision to stay close to the stream helped them find her, but they were horrified by her appearance: a patchwork of deep scratches, welts and sores marked her pale skin, and her fair hair was now dark, soaked and knotted. They encouraged her to eat, but this made her feel ill, and so she refused food.

The organisers of the family's trip tried to persuade them to leave Kapawi and return to a hospital in the nearest city hundreds of miles away. But as Julia's parents watched the Achuar nurse her back to health, they realised they had nothing to fear. These villagers know all the secrets of the rainforest, and have an encyclopaedic knowledge of the medical uses of every tree and plant. Their harmonious lifestyle, community spirit, and generosity were all Julia needed to recover. The family had found what they had always been looking for.



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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

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