



# FIRM FOUNDATION COUNTRY SCHOOL

Plot 8 Southwood, Chegutu, Zimbabwe

CONTACT: +263 77 643 4036/ +263 78 114 7858

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CANDIDATE'S  
NAME

CANDIDATE'S  
CLASS

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**FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

**0500**

**TERM 1 2026**

**FORM 1**

**STUDY PACK**

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Attempt all questions.
- Write neatly and clearly.
- Use your essay books
- Submit work upon arrival on opening day.
- Follow the instructions given on each section.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this page is 30.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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This document has **3** printed pages.

## Holiday Work (30 Marks)

### SECTION A: LANGUAGE SKILLS (8 MARKS)

#### 1. Vocabulary in context (4 marks)

Replace the words in brackets with a more precise or suitable word:

- a) The journey was (very long) and exhausting.
- b) She was (very happy) when she received the news.
- c) He walked (very slowly) along the muddy path.
- d) It was a (very big) building in the town center.

#### Suggested Reading Material:

- Oxford Learner's Dictionary or Cambridge IGCSE English Coursebook 0500 for synonyms and vocabulary enrichment.

#### 2. Sentence structure (4 marks)

Rewrite the following sentences using correct grammar and punctuation:

- a) although it was raining we continued playing
- b) my brother who lives in bulawayo is visiting us
- c) i didnt understand the question said the boy
- d) we went to the market and we bought fruits and we came back

#### Suggested Reading Material:

- Essential English Grammar by Raymond Murphy for punctuation and sentence structure rules.

### SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION (10 MARKS)

#### Passage 1:

The village of Marondera was quiet in the early morning. A thin mist floated over the green fields, and the dewdrops on the grass sparkled like tiny diamonds in the rising sun. Birds chirped melodiously from the tall trees lining the narrow paths. Tariro carefully walked along the main street, carrying a basket full of fresh vegetables to sell at the market. She enjoyed the soft morning breeze, even though her journey was long and tiring. Occasionally, she stopped to greet neighbors who were also heading to their daily chores. The village seemed alive with subtle energy, a perfect blend of calmness and activity.

#### 3. Comprehension questions (5 marks)

- a) What covered the fields in the morning? (1)
- b) What was Tariro carrying to the market? (1)
- c) How did she feel during her journey? (1)
- d) Describe one sound mentioned in the passage. (1)
- e) How did the village appear in the morning? (1)

**Suggested Reading Material:**

- Cambridge Reading Adventures or BBC Bitesize KS3 Reading Comprehension passages for practice with descriptive texts.

**Passage 2:**

During the summer holidays, Kuda often visited his grandmother's farm in the countryside. The farm was vast, with rolling hills, golden fields of maize, and a large pond where ducks and geese swam gracefully. Every morning, Kuda helped feed the chickens and collect fresh eggs. He loved watching the sunrise behind the distant hills, which painted the sky in shades of pink and orange. The smell of fresh soil and the cool breeze made him feel at peace. At times, he would sit under the mango tree, listening to the sounds of nature, feeling completely relaxed and happy.

**4. Language and inference questions (5 marks)**

- a) Why does Kuda feel at peace on the farm? (2)
- b) Identify a phrase that describes the sunrise. (1)
- c) Suggest a suitable title for the passage. (2)

**Suggested Reading Material:**

- African Folktales and descriptive writing passages from Cambridge IGCSE First Language English textbooks to practice inference and figurative language.

**SECTION C: DIRECTED WRITING (6 MARKS)**

5. Write a letter (100–120 words) to a friend describing a morning you found peaceful and enjoyable. Include:
- Description of the setting
  - Your feelings- Why it was memorable

**Suggested Reading Material:**

- Collins IGCSE English Student Book for informal letter writing tips and sample letters.

**SECTION D: EXTENDED WRITING (6 MARKS)**

6. Write a descriptive paragraph (120–150 words) on the topic: 'The Most Peaceful Place I Know'. Focus on:
- Imagery (sight, sound, atmosphere)
  - Strong vocabulary
  - Varied sentence structures

**Suggested Reading Material:**

- Descriptive Writing Skills for Secondary Students and BBC Bitesize descriptive writing exercises.