



MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

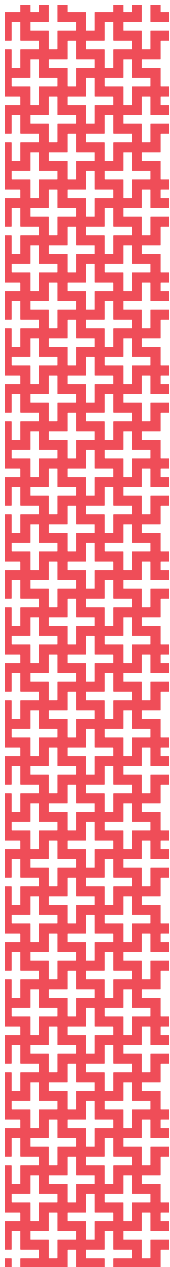
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
LITERACY AND NUMERACY

READING

YEAR

5

2008



0:50

Time available for students to complete
test: 50 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil **only**



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YEAR 5 READING

Read *Why elephants and emus cannot fly* on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 6.

1 The branch fell on the man's head because

- ☐ the man was careless.
- ☐ the elephants landed in the tree.
- ☐ the elephants tried to climb the tree.
- ☐ the man took away the elephants' wings.

Shade one bubble.



2 The man used *his powers of thought* to

- ☐ punish the elephants.
- ☐ reward the elephants.
- ☐ frighten the elephants.
- ☐ surprise the elephants.

3 Which word best describes Emu in the Australian story?

- ☐ hero
- ☐ cheat
- ☐ coward
- ☐ show-off

4 Why did Kookaburra really set up a competition with Emu?

- ☐ to teach Emu a lesson
- ☐ to teach Emu to fly better
- ☐ to show off in front of Emu
- ☐ to see whose wings were the best

YEAR 5 READING

5 At the end of the Australian story, what happened to Emu's wings?

- ☐ They shrank.
- ☐ They disappeared.
- ☐ They grew stronger.
- ☐ They became more colourful.

Shade one bubble.



6 What is the same about the Indian folktale and the Australian story?

- ☐ Both make fun of silly characters.
- ☐ Both show that animals are clever.
- ☐ Both tell how simple life used to be.
- ☐ Both explain why something is the way it is.

Read Dale Richards on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 7 to 13.

7 This text mainly describes Dale's

- ☐ school life.
- ☐ plans for the future.
- ☐ daily surfing routine.
- ☐ development as a surfer.

Shade one bubble.



8 Dale has been surfing since

- ☐ 1988.
- ☐ he was 11.
- ☐ he finished school.
- ☐ he moved to Townsville.

YEAR 5 READING

9 Some surfers said that Dale was *a natural*. This means that Dale

- ☐ got plenty of help.
- ☐ lived near the beach.
- ☐ quickly learned to surf.
- ☐ wanted to surf all over the world.

Shade one bubble.



10 As a student at school, Dale surfed

- ☐ as much as he could.
- ☐ on the weekends only.
- ☐ at 4 am every morning.
- ☐ for eight hours each day.

11 According to the text, one thing that has contributed to Dale's surfing success is that

- ☐ he has been given support.
- ☐ he has a background in football.
- ☐ he has had to fight for his dreams.
- ☐ he has surfed in different countries.

12 What is the main purpose of this text?

- ☐ to warn
- ☐ to argue
- ☐ to inform
- ☐ to criticise

13 Which quote from the text helps to show that Dale is determined to succeed?

- ☐ *decided to start surfing*
- ☐ *always got plenty of help*
- ☐ *picked up surfing right away*
- ☐ *can focus completely on surfing*

YEAR 5 READING

Read *Amphibians* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 14 to 20.

14 The text describes amphibians as animals that

- ☐ do not have lungs.
- ☐ cannot swim very well.
- ☐ can live on land and in water.
- ☐ use their gills to eat and breathe.

Shade one bubble.



15 According to the text, the world's largest amphibian is a

- ☐ frog.
- ☐ toad.
- ☐ newt.
- ☐ salamander.

16 One of the differences between frogs and toads is that

- ☐ frogs have drier skins.
- ☐ frogs lay eggs in strings.
- ☐ frogs develop tails as adults.
- ☐ frogs can stay underwater longer.

17 Young frogs start to breathe with their heads above water when they

- ☐ develop lungs.
- ☐ start eating insects.
- ☐ develop internal gills.
- ☐ hatch out of their eggs.

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- 18** Number the boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4 to show the correct order of stages in a frog's development.

- ☐ forelegs grow
- ☐ hind legs grow
- ☐ tail disappears
- ☐ spawn hatches

Write one number in each box.



- 19** Which part of a tadpole is described as *feathery*?

- ☐ tail
- ☐ gills
- ☐ skin
- ☐ lungs

Shade one bubble.



- 20** The main purpose of the diagram at the end of the text is to

- ☐ describe the life cycle of frogs.
- ☐ explain the eating habits of frogs.
- ☐ highlight the differences between frogs and toads.
- ☐ show the many types of amphibians that live in ponds.

YEAR 5 READING

Read *Lacy* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 21 to 26.

- 21** ... *the air was baked thin above the shed.*
This suggests that

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ the shed was used as a bakery.
- ☐ the roof of the shed was very hot.
- ☐ the narrator lived high up in the mountains.
- ☐ the drought had changed the look of things.

- 22** According to the text, why did the narrator think that the goanna was a dinosaur?

Write the answer on the lines.



- 23** The narrator chases after Lacy goanna when she heads for the chookhouse.
This is because the narrator thinks

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ the goanna might be in danger.
- ☐ the chickens might be in danger.
- ☐ the goanna might escape from her farm.
- ☐ the tree might break under the goanna's weight.

- 24** The narrator suggests that Lacy goanna climbs the wattle tree to

- ☐ get away from her.
- ☐ rest in the heat of the day.
- ☐ get ready for a fight with her.
- ☐ get a better view of the chookhouse.

YEAR 5 READING

25 Near the end of the story, why is the narrator *eye-to-eye* with Lacy goanna?

- ☐ The narrator is on the chookhouse roof.
- ☐ The narrator has also climbed up the tree.
- ☐ The branch holding Lacy goanna is bent down.
- ☐ Lacy goanna has climbed halfway down the tree.

Shade one bubble.



26 *No, you can't see me really.* (second last paragraph)

Who is *you* in this sentence?

- ☐ the reader
- ☐ the chooks
- ☐ the goanna
- ☐ the narrator

Read *Pet dogs* — what do you think? on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 27 to 31.

27 What do the two writers agree about?

- ☐ Dogs deserve good food.
- ☐ Dogs should be properly trained.
- ☐ Dog owners need a sense of humour.
- ☐ Dog owners spend too much on their pets.

28 According to Sarah, *bounders* are dogs that

- ☐ chase you.
- ☐ attack you.
- ☐ bark at you.
- ☐ jump at you.

YEAR 5 READING

29 John suggests that having a pet dog in the classroom is

- ☐ a good way of training a dog to be calm.
- ☐ cruel for the dog but useful for the teacher.
- ☐ disruptive for the teacher and the students.
- ☐ a way of making classrooms happier places.

Shade one bubble.



30 Which sentence best describes John's attitude to dog training?

- ☐ It is hard work for the dog.
- ☐ It is not hard for the owner to do.
- ☐ It is a good thing for both the dog and the owner.
- ☐ It is unnecessary because dogs easily understand humans.

31 John writes, *we do give dogs a good life*.

Which paragraph of Sarah's letter is he responding to most directly?

- ☐ paragraph 1
- ☐ paragraph 2
- ☐ paragraph 3
- ☐ paragraph 4

YEAR 5 READING

Read *Attack and Defence* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 32 to 36.

32 Which dinosaur used its tail like a whip?

- ☐ *Diplodocus*
- ☐ *Triceratops*
- ☐ *Tuojiangosaurus*
- ☐ *Pachycephalosaurus*

Shade one bubble.



33 *Multi-purpose tail* *Stabbing tail* *A spiky shield* *Built like a tank*

These sub-headings were most likely chosen to

- ☐ catch the reader's attention.
- ☐ explain the most difficult words.
- ☐ introduce the most important dinosaurs.
- ☐ show the difference between attack and defence.

34 The main purpose of the illustrations in this text is to show

- ☐ dinosaur skin patterns.
- ☐ a range of dinosaur weapons.
- ☐ the enormous size of dinosaurs.
- ☐ the way dinosaurs changed over time.

35 The two dinosaurs *Europlocephalus* and *Pachycephalosaurus* have **cephal** in their names.

Using information in the text, what is the **cephal** part of their names most likely to mean?

Write the answer on the line.



YEAR 5 READING

36

According to the text, which **two** species of dinosaurs had to defend themselves against attacks by members of their own species?

Shade two bubbles.



Apatosaurus

☐

Gallimimus

☐

Pachycephalosaurus

☐

Tyrannosaurus

☐

Diplodocus

☐

Tuojiangosaurus

☐

Europlocephalus

☐

Triceratops

☐

END OF TEST

YEAR 5 READING PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Read *Tim* on the back cover of the magazine and answer questions P1 to P4.

P1 The story takes place on

- ☐ Monday.
- ☐ Tuesday.
- ☐ Wednesday.
- ☐ Thursday.

Shade one bubble.



P2 Which **two** words begin and end with the letter **s**?

- ☐ shirt
- ☐ shoes
- ☐ socks
- ☐ school

Shade two bubbles.



P3 Number the boxes 1, 2, 3 and 4 to show the order in which Tim dressed.

- shoes
- shorts
- shirt
- socks

Write one number in each box.



P4 Where was Tim going?

Write the answer on the line.