



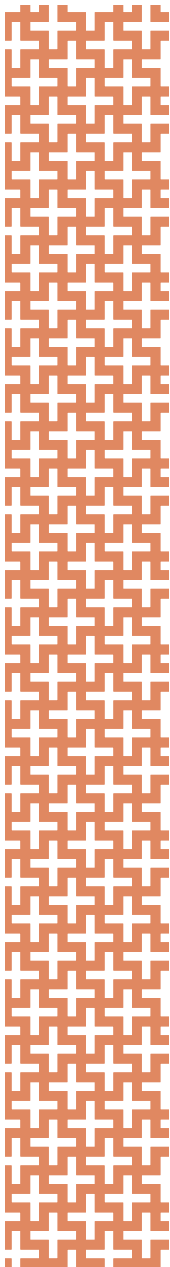
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
LITERACY AND NUMERACY

READING

YEAR
7

2008



0:65 Time available for students to complete
test: 65 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil **only**



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YEAR 7 READING

Read *Dale Richards* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 5.

- 1** Dale has been surfing since
- ☐ 1988.
 - ☐ he was 11.
 - ☐ he finished school.
 - ☐ he moved to Townsville.

Shade one bubble.



- 2** 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.

- 3** This text mainly describes Dale's
- ☐ school life.
 - ☐ plans for the future.
 - ☐ daily surfing routine.
 - ☐ development as a surfer.

YEAR 7 READING

4 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.

Shade one
bubble.



5 What is the main purpose of this text?

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

continued on next page

YEAR 7 READING

Read *Lacy* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 6 to 11.

- 6** ... *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.

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

Write the answer on the lines.



- 8** 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.

YEAR 7 READING

9 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.

Shade one bubble.



10 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.

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

Who is *you* in this sentence?

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

continued on next page

YEAR 7 READING

Read *Pet dogs* — *what do you think?* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 12 to 16.

12 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.

Shade one bubble.



13 According to Sarah, *bounders* are dogs that

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

14 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.

15 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.

16 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 7 READING

Read 'Oddball' idea protects island penguin population
on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 17 to 22.

17 What had happened to most of Middle Island's penguins?

- ☐ They had been killed by other animals.
- ☐ They had been scared away by people.
- ☐ They had stopped breeding for no obvious reason.
- ☐ They had been taken to another island for protection.

Shade one
bubble.



18 About how many penguins were on the island when it had a flourishing population?

27

70

1990

2000

☐

☐

☐

☐

19 What was Allan Marsh's radical plan?

- ☐ to use alpacas as guard animals
- ☐ to use dogs to guard wild animals
- ☐ to use dogs to guard farm animals
- ☐ to use volunteers to guard the island

20 What feature of maremma dogs is most important in this story?

- ☐ They come from Italy.
- ☐ They are very territorial.
- ☐ They are an ancient breed.
- ☐ They are large and shaggy.

YEAR 7 READING

21 The purpose of the last paragraph is to suggest that

- ☐ people should think globally but act locally.
- ☐ Allan 'Swampy' Marsh is a typical Australian.
- ☐ it may be possible to use this local idea more widely.
- ☐ every environmental problem needs a unique solution.

Shade one bubble.



22 Allan 'Swampy' Marsh is portrayed to the reader as

- ☐ a lonely man who often comes up with unusual plans.
- ☐ a humorous, down-to-earth man with independent ideas.
- ☐ an ordinary man reluctantly caught up in an extraordinary story.
- ☐ an idealistic man who has spent his life working for environmental causes.

Read *Across the Pacific* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 23 to 28.

23 Where did the Polynesians first come from?

- ☐ Tonga and Samoa
- ☐ Indonesia and Malaysia
- ☐ the easterly Hawaiian islands
- ☐ islands scattered throughout the Pacific Ocean

24 According to the text, we know how widely the Polynesians travelled and settled because

- ☐ they left traces of their Lapita pottery.
- ☐ they built gigantic stone statues.
- ☐ they used sturdy dugout canoes.
- ☐ they created detailed maps.

YEAR 7 READING

25 According to the text, why were the Easter Island statues made?

- ☐ to display the people's carving skills
- ☐ to take advantage of the soft rock
- ☐ to help sailors navigate
- ☐ to protect the island

Shade one bubble.



26 *They navigated incredible distances in sturdy dugout canoes, 'reading' changes in the swell of the sea.*

Inverted commas are used around *reading* to show that this word is

- ☐ a quotation.
- ☐ particularly important.
- ☐ an old-fashioned word.
- ☐ used with a special meaning.

27 The main purpose of *Across the Pacific* is to provide information about

- ☐ the variety of Pacific islands.
- ☐ Polynesian settlement of the Pacific.
- ☐ the artworks found on Pacific islands.
- ☐ early Polynesian navigation techniques.

28 The attitude towards the first Polynesians suggested by the section *Reading the Sea and the Sky* is one of

- ☐ caution.
- ☐ criticism.
- ☐ neutrality.
- ☐ admiration.

YEAR 7 READING

Read *Wasp* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 29 to 35.

29 This poem encourages the reader to think about

- ☐ a wasp's view of the world.
- ☐ a human's view of the world.
- ☐ what wasps should do to protect themselves from humans.
- ☐ what humans should do to protect themselves from wasps.

Shade one bubble.



30 In the first verse, the poet is

- ☐ asking a question.
- ☐ making a statement.
- ☐ giving an instruction.
- ☐ making an exclamation.

31 For the wasp, the *World's all wrong* because it

- ☐ is afraid of humans.
- ☐ cannot breathe properly.
- ☐ cannot sense the difference between air and glass.
- ☐ is worried that the air in the car might be poisonous.

32 In the poem, the way the wasp feels changes from

- ☐ excited to sleepy.
- ☐ frantic to relieved.
- ☐ furious to frightened.
- ☐ disbelieving to despairing.

YEAR 7 READING

33 The third verse describes

- ☐ what the wasp longs for.
- ☐ where the wasp is flying.
- ☐ why the car has stopped.
- ☐ how fast the car is travelling.

Shade one bubble.



34 Treason is a crime of disloyalty.

The line *Air itself in treason* suggests that

- ☐ wasps are untrusting by nature.
- ☐ the wasp is acting like a criminal.
- ☐ the wasp will now be suspicious of cars.
- ☐ the wasp can no longer trust its environment.

35 Overall, the poet's view of the wasp is one of

- ☐ fear.
- ☐ sadness.
- ☐ sympathy.
- ☐ admiration.

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YEAR 7 READING

Read *The double life of a slippery axolotl* on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 36 to 40.

36 Up until the 1865 exhibition, scientists thought that

- ☐ axolotls and salamanders were members of different species.
- ☐ axolotls and salamanders did not live in the same natural habitat.
- ☐ axolotls were an earlier stage in the development of salamanders.
- ☐ axolotls were incapable of changing outside their natural environment.

Shade one bubble.



37 The effect of using the word *So* at the beginning of the second paragraph is to

- ☐ shift the reader's attention to a different topic.
- ☐ draw attention to a current point of view on the subject.
- ☐ signal that the following information picks up from the first paragraph.
- ☐ introduce a second argument that is unrelated to the content of the first paragraph.

38 What is the *environmental pressure* referred to in the second paragraph?

- ☐ the scarcity of food in the lakes where axolotls live
- ☐ the aridity of the land near the lakes where axolotls live
- ☐ the absence of breeding sites for axolotls in the local environment
- ☐ the lack of a reliable food source in the axolotl's natural environment

YEAR 7 READING

39

What is likely to affect the amount of thyroxine released in an axolotl?

- ☐ differences in its diet
- ☐ variations in hours of daylight
- ☐ sudden increases in body size
- ☐ differences in its physical maturity

Shade one bubble.



40

Which of the following expressions is an example of figurative language?

- ☐ *were different species*
- ☐ *reach sexual maturity*
- ☐ *switch off this biological signal*
- ☐ *affects a part of the brain called the hypothalamus*

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YEAR 7 READING

Read *Space Exploration: Is it worth it?* on page 10 of the magazine and answer questions 41 to 46.

41 Which aspect of space exploration does Switched-on mainly write about?

- ☐ its cost to the community
- ☐ its capacity to encourage heroes
- ☐ its effect on ecological sustainability
- ☐ its contribution to technology in everyday life

Shade one bubble.



42 Planet Girl writes that *Space exploration is a luxury we cannot afford*. She means that space exploration is

- ☐ expensive but necessary.
- ☐ expensive and unnecessary.
- ☐ very important but too expensive.
- ☐ not very important but affordable.

43 Planet Girl wrote:

Meanwhile the US space agency has US\$16 billion to play with every year.

What do the words ‘*play with*’ add to the tone of Planet Girl’s argument?

- ☐ variety
- ☐ sadness
- ☐ criticism
- ☐ approval

44 What is the most likely reason that JJ does not discuss the cost of space exploration?

- ☐ He knows Planet Girl is wrong about the cost of space exploration.
- ☐ He thinks space exploration is worthwhile, whatever the cost.
- ☐ He does not know how much space exploration costs.
- ☐ He agrees that space exploration costs too much.

YEAR 7 READING

45 Who would be most likely to say that it is good to have *science fiction dreams*?

- ☐ Planet Girl
- ☐ Dragon
- ☐ JJ
- ☐ Penny

Shade one bubble.



46 What is one point that Planet Girl and JJ are most likely to agree about?

- ☐ Earth's resources are fast disappearing.
- ☐ Spending money on war is unnecessary.
- ☐ Space exploration encourages creativity.
- ☐ Living on other planets is a real possibility.

END OF TEST

YEAR 7 READING PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Read *Barn Owls* on the back cover of the magazine and answer questions P1 to P3.

P1 This text is mainly about the Barn Owl's

- ☐ diet.
- ☐ habitat.
- ☐ hunting.
- ☐ breeding.

Shade one bubble.



P2 Which word in the text describes the Barn Owl's hearing?

inactive

excellent

exceptional

night

☐☐☐☐

P3 Why do Barn Owls need good night vision?

Write the answer on the line.