



MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
LITERACY AND NUMERACY

LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

YEAR

9
2009



0:45

SESSION 1

Time available for students
to complete test: 45 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil only



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YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

The spelling mistake in this sentence has been circled.
Write the correct spelling for the circled word in the box.

P1 We went to (scool).

 P1

This sentence has one word that is incorrect.
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

P2 We bought fresh bred.

 P2

P3 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Do you have pet?

a

if

he

she

☐☐☐☐

Shade one bubble.



Read the text *Cats and dogs*. The text has a gap.
Choose the correct word or words to fill the gap.

Cats and dogs

Some people like cats **P4**
they like dogs.

- ☐ more
- ☐ more best
- ☐ more than
- ☐ more better

P5 Where do the **two** missing full stops (.) go?

We are having a party It will be fun

☐☐☐☐

Shade two bubbles.



YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been circled.
Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

1

The nineteenth-century bilding was heritage listed.

1

2

The bravary of our lifesavers at the beach is legendary.

2

3

Doing daily sit-ups is an excellent way to strengthen the stummick muscles.

3

4

It was the begining of the school year.

4

5

Tiny particals of dust were floating in the sunlight.

5

6

When Kim saw the advertisment on television, she knew what she wanted for her birthday.

6

7

The hostel was not big enough to acommidate all the backpackers.

7

8

All donations to charities are greatfully received.

8

9

Nurses take a consientous approach to patient care.

9

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *The Christmas Island red crab*.

The spelling mistakes have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

The Christmas Island red crab

Christmas Island is home to many unique speacies. The most famous of these is the Christmas Island red crab.

10

Tourists visit the island for the red crabs' anuell migration to the sea to spawn.

11

At the peak of the migration season, the crabs cover the island so denssley that they can be seen from the air.

12

Read the text *Sun protection*.

The spelling mistakes have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

Sun protection

I occasionally wonder about some of my friends.

13

They still go out into the sun without the appropriet protection.

14

They know that this inevitibly causes skin damage.

15

Why do people do this when the damage is preventibel?

16

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Why do we yawn?*

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.

Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

Why do we yawn?

Imagine you are at a meeting in a crowded and poorly ventillated room.

17

If someone starts yawning, so do you, because yawning is an infectious and involentry action.

18

One suggestion as to why people yawn is that it elervates the amount of oxygen in their bloodstream.

19

Extra oxygen might help to alleviate fatigue.

20

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.

Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

21

The coach made the team watch a vidio of the previous game.

21

22

The chemical structure of many plastics makes them flexible.

22

23

The detective was sertain of the identity of the suspect.

23

24

The volcanic erruption spread lava across the region.

24

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.**

25

The catastrophic storm and subseqent flooding cost billions.

25

26

The perimeter of a circle is its circumfrance.

26

27

The author has created an admirable character who has intelligents and curiosity.

27

28

The survey committee was asked to exclude any irelevant data.

28

29

The persistant winds and associated downpour caused havoc.

29

30

For our health project, we had to record our kilojul intake for an entire week.

30

31

Where do the **two** missing commas (,) go?

Shade two bubbles.



The computers which were donated by local businesses are located in the library.



32

Which sentence is correct?

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ Helen paid for that tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for this tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for them tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for those tickets with my money.

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Shanaka Fernando*. The text has some gaps. Choose the correct option to fill each gap.

Shanaka Fernando

Shade one bubble.



In 2007, Melbourne's Shanaka Fernando was awarded the Australia's Local Hero Award

33 of his work as the founder of the not-for-profit restaurants, Lentil as Anything.

- ☐ for recognising
- ☐ in recognising
- ☐ for recognition
- ☐ in recognition

Shanaka made a speech when he accepted his award. His comments on the meaning of being Australian **34**.

- ☐ is interesting
- ☐ were interesting
- ☐ was interesting
- ☐ will be interesting

"I didn't know the answer to the question of what it means to be Australian until quite **35**," said Shanaka.

- ☐ recently
- ☐ before
- ☐ now
- ☐ soon

"I went out into country Victoria with refugees for a tree planting weekend, and I came into contact **36** I considered an amazing spirit of community and openness.

- ☐ with who
- ☐ with which
- ☐ with what
- ☐ with where

To be Australian **37** welcoming of others. It is to encourage each other to shine and to reach our full potential."

- ☐ is I think to be,
- ☐ is, I think to be
- ☐ is I think, to be
- ☐ is, I think, to be

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

38 Where should the missing apostrophe (') go?

Shade one bubble.



The cross-section of a fallen tree shows its growth rings, which indicate
the trees age.

39 Which option correctly completes the sentence?

running out of oil—the backbone of modern economies
and the fuel of western civilisation.

Were

We're

Where

We're

40 Which sentence uses speech marks (" and ") correctly?

- ☐ "Quietly he asked," Where did you leave it?"
- ☐ Quietly he asked, "Where did you leave it?"
- ☐ "Quietly he asked, where did you leave it?"
- ☐ Quietly he asked", where did you leave it?"

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

41 Which word correctly completes the sentence?



The first of Tim Winton's novels that I read *Blueback*.

were

C

42 Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ Regarding Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ In regards to Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ Comparing with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ In comparison with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.

43 How could this sentence be rewritten correctly with the same meaning?

“Does Jacinta want to use the computer this morning?” Ben asked his dad.

- ☐ Ben asked his dad did Jacinta want to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked Jacinta if she wanted to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked Jacinta that she wants to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked his dad whether Jacinta wanted to use the computer this morning.

44 Which words correctly complete the sentence?

Digital cameras, , are now widely used.

- ☐ since considering expensive technology
- ☐ once considered expensive technology
- ☐ which once considered expensive technology
- ☐ in spite of considering expensive technology

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Aaron* and answer questions 45 and 46.

Aaron

Walking over a hill, Aaron saw that the thin bitumen road levelled out below to wind through the low land like a struggling eel. He stood for a minute, taking it all in: grey cloud, green ground, patches of sunlight, the lake.

45 In the first sentence, the word *struggling* is used as

- ☐ a verb.
- ☐ a noun.
- ☐ an adverb.
- ☐ an adjective.

Shade one bubble.



46 In the second sentence, a colon (:) is used to

- ☐ introduce an idea.
- ☐ introduce a list.
- ☐ separate items in a list.
- ☐ separate two complete ideas.

47 Which word in this sentence is a pronoun?

They stayed away for a while, blunted and dormant.



Text on this page adapted from *Stony Heart Country* by David Metzenthen, Penguin Books, reproduced with permission by Penguin Group (Australia), 1999.

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YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

48 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Shade one bubble.



The ten warmest years have all occurred 1990.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| within | since | about | during |
| ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

49 Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.

50 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Plucking the strings of a guitar makes vibrate, and each produces a different range of notes.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| it | them | that | those |
| ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

51 Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- ☐ "Sorry I'm late, he apologised, but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late" he apologised "but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "But my car wouldn't start."

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

52 Which words correctly complete the sentence?

Shade one bubble.



_____ sustained, a rainforest requires a rainfall of at least 1500 millimetres a year.

- ☐ If they have
- ☐ In order to be
- ☐ So that they can
- ☐ Therefore being

53 Which option correctly completes the sentence?

Council plans for the new pool were approved _____ on Monday.

- ☐ last Friday: work will begin
- ☐ last Friday, work will begin
- ☐ last Friday; work will begin
- ☐ last Friday! work will begin

54 Which punctuation mark should be used in **both** spaces in this sentence?

The three sports _____ cricket, netball and tennis _____ were played enthusiastically by the family.

- (dash) : (colon) ... (ellipsis) ; (semicolon)
- ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

END OF TEST