

READING

0:65

Time available for students to
complete test: 65 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil **only**



Do not write on this page.

YEAR 9 READING

Read *Titanic* on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 6.

1

The purpose of the first paragraph is to

- ☐ introduce the discovery of the wreck of the *Titanic*.
- ☐ describe the artefacts found on the ship.
- ☐ list the members of Dr Ballard's team.
- ☐ explain why the *Titanic* sank.

Shade one bubble.



2

Compare the beliefs of Dr Ballard's team with the beliefs of the team from RMS Titanic Inc.

The members of RMS Titanic Inc.

- ☐ think it unnecessary to remember the tragedy.
- ☐ have a different idea of how to remember the tragedy.
- ☐ share Dr Ballard's view of how to remember the tragedy.
- ☐ have a different idea of why the tragedy should be remembered.

3

What is the relationship between the diagram and the main text?

- ☐ The diagram adds background information to the main text.
- ☐ The diagram explains key words from the main text.
- ☐ The diagram challenges the ideas of the main text.
- ☐ The diagram gives a summary of the main text.

4

... those who died on that cold night in April 1912. (Paragraph 3)

What is the main effect of these words?

- ☐ to make the text suspenseful
- ☐ to appeal to the readers' emotions
- ☐ to remind the readers of the details
- ☐ to impress the readers with detailed knowledge

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5

What is one thing the Titanic Historical Society refuses to do?

- ☐ display *Titanic* artefacts publicly
- ☐ collect artefacts saved by survivors
- ☐ consider the wreck site as a memorial
- ☐ dive to the wreck site to get *Titanic* artefacts

Shade one bubble.



6

The focus of the main text is to discuss

- ☐ where to see the best *Titanic* artefacts.
- ☐ why people are interested in the *Titanic*.
- ☐ who first discovered the wreck of the *Titanic*.
- ☐ beliefs about displaying artefacts from the *Titanic*.

Read *Jacob* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 7 to 12.

7

How does Jacob know where the track is?

- ☐ He sees it.
- ☐ He feels it.
- ☐ He hears it.
- ☐ He smells it.

8

What is the main difference between Jacob and the others?

- ☐ the way they see
- ☐ the way they talk
- ☐ the way they hear
- ☐ the way they walk

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9 *Jacob paused. 'I suppose I don't think about it mostly.'*

Shade one bubble.



After Jacob says this he continues by

- ☐ telling a story.
- ☐ providing a warning.
- ☐ giving an explanation.
- ☐ presenting an argument.

10 What is Jacob most likely to have said before they went outside?

- ☐ 'Can you show me around outside?'
- ☐ 'Will you tell me what you can see?'
- ☐ 'Let's play who can spot things first!'
- ☐ 'Come on, I'll show you what I mean by seeing.'

11 *'But we can see all those things with our eyes,' ...*

Why does Mary say this?

- ☐ to show Jacob's ideas were wrong
- ☐ to give an answer to Jacob's question
- ☐ to give another example of Jacob's ideas
- ☐ to show Jacob that she did not understand him

12 Which of these best describes Jacob in this text?

- ☐ He avoids new situations.
- ☐ He wishes he was like other people.
- ☐ He finds other ways to deal with his situation.
- ☐ He is good at getting other people to do what he wants.

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Read *And then there were 8* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 13 to 19.

13 Why did the IAU say that Pluto is no longer a planet?

- ☐ They discovered that Pluto was shrinking.
- ☐ They decided that there were too many planets.
- ☐ They redefined the meaning of the word 'planet'.
- ☐ They realised they had classified Pluto incorrectly.

Shade one bubble.



14 What point does Cookie first make about Pluto's new classification?

- ☐ It does not change Pluto itself.
- ☐ It does not represent Pluto properly.
- ☐ It influences people's opinion of Pluto.
- ☐ It is disappointing for Pluto to be demoted.

15 What does The Doc think of the new classification?

- ☐ It teaches a lesson to science critics.
- ☐ It makes more people interested in science.
- ☐ It explains how to deal with scientific disasters.
- ☐ It demonstrates the changeable nature of science.

16 Who mentions an immediate impact of the new classification?

- ☐ Cookie
- ☐ Spacegirl
- ☐ Bookman
- ☐ The Doc

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- 17 *It's more like comparing fruit and vegetables – they're all food.*

Shade one bubble.



Why does Spacegirl say this?

- ☐ to build on Cookie's ideas
- ☐ to challenge Cookie's argument
- ☐ to dispute the IAU's classification
- ☐ to change the topic of the discussion

- 18 Why does Pearly consider the IAU's third criterion as problematic?

- ☐ It is not flexible enough.
- ☐ It has been changed too often.
- ☐ It leaves room for interpretation.
- ☐ It needs to be tested scientifically.

- 19 Which of the following best describes the tone of the heading?

- ☐ admiring
- ☐ playful
- ☐ critical
- ☐ ironic

Read *Our body rhythms* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 20 to 25.

- 20 When is your blood pressure generally highest?

- ☐ early morning
- ☐ early evening
- ☐ late evening
- ☐ around 2 a.m.

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21

A person wakes at 2 a.m.

Shade one bubble.



Which of the following tasks does the text suggest it would be most difficult for this person to do?

- ☐ open their eyes
- ☐ get back to sleep
- ☐ write down a message
- ☐ wake up in the morning

22

Which of the following facts about melatonin is referred to in the text?

- ☐ Melatonin production decreases as people age.
- ☐ Light severely reduces the production of melatonin.
- ☐ The pineal gland is the centre for the production of melatonin.
- ☐ As our eyes register the arrival of darkness, melatonin is produced.

23

Who is the intended audience of this text?

- ☐ scientists
- ☐ students
- ☐ teachers
- ☐ doctors

24

The writer assumes readers will have some prior knowledge about their bodies.

What do readers need to know?

- ☐ what hormones are
- ☐ where the pineal gland is
- ☐ what the parts of the brain do
- ☐ the different chemicals in the brain

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25

What is the main idea in this text?

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ how the pineal gland works
- ☐ how your sleep cycle changes
- ☐ how your body changes over 24 hours
- ☐ how hormone levels in your body change as you grow

Read *The stowaway* on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 26 to 32.

26

What is the figure doing as the elderly man leaves the bus?

- ☐ drinking a cup of tea
- ☐ watching and waiting
- ☐ talking to the passengers
- ☐ checking the prime-mover

27

... a bus halted nearby, its air brakes hissing, the gravel crushed and cracking under the massive wheels, ... (Paragraph 1)

What is one effect of this description?

- ☐ It hints that the driver is dangerous.
- ☐ It suggests the weariness of the travellers in the bus.
- ☐ It supports the image of moths around a grimy bulb.
- ☐ It emphasises how vulnerable the figure in the shadows is.

28

The figure stepped from the darkness and tried the door. Locked.

What is the main effect of the single-word sentence?

Write your answer on the lines.



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29

Why is the knapsack referred to as *tell-tale*?

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ It shows the woman has very little luggage.
- ☐ The knapsack is too large for carry-on luggage.
- ☐ The knapsack has the woman's name on the outside.
- ☐ It shows the woman has not previously been on the bus.

30

What is one reason the woman took a long time to tie her shoelaces?

- ☐ It was very dark.
- ☐ Her laces were tangled.
- ☐ She was avoiding eye contact.
- ☐ She was hiding from the figure.

31

Which word best describes how the woman behaves?

- ☐ recklessly
- ☐ nervously
- ☐ impatiently
- ☐ strategically

32

At the end of the text, the woman permits herself to smile.
She is pleased because

- ☐ she has boarded the bus.
- ☐ she has the best seat on the bus.
- ☐ the bus driver will look after her.
- ☐ she has escaped from the figure in the darkness.

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Read *Gorillas under threat* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 33 to 36.

33 *They're calling on you* most directly appeals to the readers' feelings of

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ guilt.
- ☐ horror.
- ☐ despair.
- ☐ insecurity.

34 According to the texts, recycling mobile phones helps

- ☐ support businesses in Africa.
- ☐ protect scarce coltan reserves.
- ☐ prevent the destruction of forests.
- ☐ stop chemicals seeping into the earth.

35 How does *Crisis in the Congo* differ from *They're calling on you*?

Crisis in the Congo

- ☐ focuses more on conservation.
- ☐ highlights ways that you can help.
- ☐ details precise solutions to a problem.
- ☐ explains the broader background issues.

36 *Crisis in the Congo* suggests a conflict of values between

- ☐ commercial hunters and coltan miners.
- ☐ the Jane Goodall Institute and the government.
- ☐ commercial hunters and traditional forest peoples.
- ☐ the Jane Goodall Institute and the local communities.

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Read *The photo* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 37 to 41.

37 What is the main purpose of the first paragraph?

- ☐ It suggests the difficulties Johnno will face.
- ☐ It establishes the narrator's familiarity with Johnno.
- ☐ It highlights the significance of Johnno's grin and hairstyle.
- ☐ It identifies the differences between the narrator and Johnno.

Shade one bubble.



38 What does the narrator mean when he says the glasses *simply refused to materialise*?

- ☐ He couldn't find them.
- ☐ He couldn't recall them.
- ☐ He couldn't see properly without them.
- ☐ He couldn't see them in the photograph.

39 When the narrator is looking at the photo he is mainly feeling

- ☐ comforted by its depiction of happier times.
- ☐ startled by its power to evoke vivid memories.
- ☐ bewildered by the way it conflicts with his memories.
- ☐ amused by the manner in which his friend has changed.

40 What is the narrator mainly doing in the third paragraph?

- ☐ questioning his emotions
- ☐ examining evidence
- ☐ making up excuses
- ☐ distorting the facts

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41 What function do the glasses have in this text?

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ They represent the complication.
- ☐ They introduce a comic element.
- ☐ They resolve the main conflict.
- ☐ They symbolise friendship.

Read *Being a science writer* on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 42 to 47.

42 *Science is new – only about 400 years old, as a going concern – and prodigious, having transformed our conception of the universe and of our place in it.*

Which of the following quotes contradicts this statement?

- ☐ *Astronomy did lead to everything else.*
- ☐ *... science writers are often misunderstood.*
- ☐ *... on this occasion I turned out to have been right.*
- ☐ *... science has not yet been absorbed into our common consciousness.*

43 According to the writer, the main difficulty science writers face is

- ☐ finding new science topics.
- ☐ meeting the reader's expectations of science.
- ☐ overcoming the reader's unfamiliarity with science.
- ☐ keeping up with the rapid developments in science.

44 Why did the writer refuse to write about *The Bionic Man*?

- ☐ He had no expertise in the topic.
- ☐ He was not passionate about the topic.
- ☐ He did not realise the potential of the topic.
- ☐ He did not want to write about the same topic again.

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45

Which statement is the most convincing criticism of the writer's argument?

Shade one bubble.



- ☐ Mentioning literature and poetry is irrelevant to the argument.
- ☐ The writer is obviously a capable science writer, so it can't be that hard.
- ☐ The writer introduces concepts that he fails to explain, leaving the reader confused.
- ☐ All subjects have specialised knowledge that creates difficulties for those attempting to write about them.

46

Which word best describes the tone of the last paragraph?

- ☐ indifference
- ☐ satisfaction
- ☐ amusement
- ☐ frustration

47

What core belief about science is implied by the writer of this text?

Write your answer on the lines.



STOP – END OF TEST

Do not write on this page.

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PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Read *Surf lifesavers* on page 12 of the magazine and answer questions P1 and P2.

P1 What is the main topic of this text?

- ☐ beaches
- ☐ surf lifesavers
- ☐ different cultures
- ☐ Australian society

Shade one bubble.



P2 The writer supports men and women being surf lifesavers today.

Give evidence from the text that supports this opinion.

Write your answer on the lines.


