

READING

YEAR

9
2014

65 mins

Time available for students to
complete test: 65 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil **only**



YEAR 9 READING

Read *Are you my mother?* on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 5.

1

In paragraph 1, the words *about the first 18 hours* describe

- ☐ when chicks and ducklings learn to walk.
- ☐ how long the experiment lasts for.
- ☐ how long mother birds care for their young.
- ☐ when imprinting happens.

2

A chick peeps rapidly when

- ☐ it first sees its mother.
- ☐ its mother is removed.
- ☐ its mother is returned.
- ☐ it is following its mother.

3

Which words best replace *an immediate bond* in paragraph 2?

- ☐ a close tie
- ☐ a clear understanding
- ☐ an instant connection
- ☐ a sudden friendship

4

In paragraph 3, the words *or even* suggest what is stated is

- ☐ clear to see.
- ☐ natural.
- ☐ unusual.
- ☐ uncertain.

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5

To measure how upset a chick is, scientists

- ☐ count the number of peeps a chick makes.
- ☐ see how close a chick stays to its mother.
- ☐ time how long it takes a chick to imprint.
- ☐ record which objects make the chick fearful.

Read *Olympics sports — then and now* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 6 to 11.

6

The original Olympic Games were held in

- ☐ Greece.
- ☐ Paris.
- ☐ London.
- ☐ Belgium.

7

The text states that pankration had *disturbingly few rules*.

What is disturbing about having few rules?

- ☐ It would be hard to select participants.
- ☐ A fight could easily get out of control.
- ☐ Many people dislike wrestling.
- ☐ A competition would take too long.

8

Why does the text describe the underwater swimming event as *challenging for spectators*?

- ☐ It was a very long race.
- ☐ Spectators were expected to take part.
- ☐ The competitors were out of sight.
- ☐ It was difficult to understand the rules.

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Where was the tug-of-war event first held?

- ☐ Greece
- ☐ London
- ☐ Paris
- ☐ Belgium

10

The first paragraph of the text

- ☐ summarises the main points.
- ☐ dismisses a common idea.
- ☐ defines the main terms.
- ☐ previews the main argument.

11

The purpose of the second last paragraph is to discuss Olympic sports that

- ☐ involve the use of dangerous equipment.
- ☐ are no longer included as events.
- ☐ were replaced by cycling and sailing.
- ☐ originated with the ancient Greeks.

Read *Chan and the waterfall* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 12 to 17.

12

The danger Chan faces throughout the story

- ☐ stays at the same level.
- ☐ progressively increases.
- ☐ progressively decreases.
- ☐ decreases, then increases.

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What is the *jagged slab*? (paragraph 3)

- ☐ the pylon of a bridge
- ☐ part of a tree root
- ☐ a piece of ice
- ☐ a flat rock

14

What does Chan feel when she sees the drain?

- ☐ desperation
- ☐ confidence
- ☐ sadness
- ☐ anger

15

In the paragraph beginning *Beneath the confused noises ...* where is Chan?

- ☐ in a drain
- ☐ under a bridge
- ☐ on a ledge above a river
- ☐ on a piece of ice in a river

16

What would Chan be most likely to say about herself?

- ☐ I am alone, but I am not afraid.
- ☐ I have no control over my own fate.
- ☐ I am horrified by my own behaviour.
- ☐ I have the power to change my destiny.

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A waterfall? Again? Seriously? Running out of ideas, are you? (paragraph 5)

Who is talking in this paragraph, and to whom are they talking?

Read *Icebergs* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 18 to 23.

18

Label each arrow to show the different parts of the text.

A – Caption

B – Subheading

C – Topic sentence

D – Definition

Icebergs

What is an iceberg?
Icebergs are floating masses of freshwater ice that have broken off (calved) from a glacier or a polar ice sheet. They vary in size from a few square metres up to thousands of square kilometres in area.

The life cycle of an iceberg
About 10 000 to 15 000 new icebergs form each year, most from the ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland. Icebergs float around in the northern and southern oceans following the ocean currents and winds. Those in the south last longer—an average of 10 years—while northern hemisphere icebergs last a mere two years.

An iceberg's life ends when it reaches the warmer waters of the Pacific, Indian or Atlantic oceans. The melting of the ice is often accompanied by fizzing and popping sounds as compressed air bubbles, trapped for thousands of years when the ice was formed from compacted snow, are released.

Appearance
The appearance of an iceberg is affected by the type of ice it is made from and the shape of the land that the ice formed over. Antarctic icebergs generally break off from large ice sheets and form tabular icebergs that are broad and flat. Pinnacle, or castle, icebergs are steep peaks of ice and form in the Arctic where they are calved from steep-sided mountain glaciers. The largest observed northern iceberg towered 168 metres above sea level.

The most famous attribute of an iceberg is its deceptive appearance. Because of the difference in density between fresh water and salt water, only about one-ninth of an iceberg is visible above the waterline. This means that most of its mass is hidden from view. The expression 'tip of the iceberg' is used to describe a problem that is only a small part of a larger challenge.

Arctic glacial iceberg

Icebergs and sea ice

Tabular iceberg

Pinnacle iceberg

5

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19

The main purpose of this text is

- ☐ to explain common misconceptions about icebergs.
- ☐ to warn people of the hidden dangers of icebergs.
- ☐ to describe the origins and categories of icebergs.
- ☐ to provide precise location details of icebergs.

20

The process of an iceberg breaking off from an ice sheet or glacier is called

- ☐ splitting.
- ☐ cracking.
- ☐ popping.
- ☐ calving.

21

According to the text, which of the following is correct?

- ☐ Pinnacle icebergs tend to form in the Antarctic.
- ☐ Southern icebergs last longer than northern icebergs.
- ☐ Most icebergs melt in the Atlantic Ocean.
- ☐ One-ninth of an iceberg is usually invisible.

22

According to the text, the shape of an iceberg is affected by

- ☐ the temperature at which it forms.
- ☐ the amount of freshwater it contains.
- ☐ the landscape over which it forms.
- ☐ the age of the ice it contains.

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23

According to the final paragraph, what is the most well-known characteristic of icebergs?

- ☐ their concealed bulk
- ☐ their unusual composition
- ☐ their difficult challenges
- ☐ their extreme height

Read *Outside the triangle* on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 24 to 30.

24

In paragraph 3, why did Holly groan?

- ☐ She did not like being at school.
- ☐ She was very angry with her brother.
- ☐ She realised she would no longer be by herself.
- ☐ She knew her sister was angry with her.

25

Why is Holly angry with Tom?

- ☐ He revealed her secrets to other people.
- ☐ He spent all his time playing football.
- ☐ He has been more successful at sport than her.
- ☐ He has always taken Trish's side in arguments.

26

Why does Trish grab Holly's bag?

- ☐ She is very angry with Holly.
- ☐ She knows that they should wait for Tom.
- ☐ She wants Holly to really listen to what she is saying.
- ☐ She is looking for a chance to run away from Holly.

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27

How do the three siblings take sides when they are having a fight?

- ☐ The way they combine changes all the time.
- ☐ Tom and Holly always combine against Trish.
- ☐ Tom and Trish always combine against Holly.
- ☐ They do not combine; everyone fights for themselves.

28

Despite her anger, Holly had to hide a smile ...

Why is Holly amused?

- ☐ She realises that Tom did not really mean to hurt her.
- ☐ She has worked out a way to exact revenge.
- ☐ She is amused that Trish can't keep up.
- ☐ She can tell what Trish will do next.

29

The metaphor in the title refers to a key theme in this text. What is the theme?

- ☐ breaking conventional gender stereotypes
- ☐ being alienated from families
- ☐ staying strong in difficult circumstances
- ☐ moving away from established patterns of behaviour

30

Which quotation is the most significant turning point in the story?

- ☐ *But then she heard Trish's voice.*
- ☐ *'How about because he's our brother?' Trish panted.*
- ☐ *And suddenly it was obvious: of course she would go.*
- ☐ *Holly saw the disappointment flicker across her sister's face.*

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Read *Animals and earthquakes* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 31 to 37.

31

Look at the last sentence in the first paragraph.

What do the words in brackets suggest about this approach to predicting earthquakes?

- ☐ It is highly controversial.
- ☐ It is likely to be achieved soon.
- ☐ It is gaining more support all the time.
- ☐ It is most often supported by non-experts.

32

The first sentence includes three words that describe the extent of something: *massive*, *devastating* and *intensive*.

Write the correct letter in each box to match the word to what it describes.

A – massive

B – devastating

C – intensive

the effect of nature on people

a natural occurrence

a human activity

33

The text refers to two Chinese earthquakes. Why is the second one particularly important to the argument?

- ☐ It was tragically destructive.
- ☐ It was preceded by normal animal behaviour.
- ☐ It happened soon after an earlier earthquake.
- ☐ It happened in the same region as an earlier earthquake.

34

What does paragraph 6 suggest about how some people treat evidence?

- ☐ They are not interested in evidence.
- ☐ They notice evidence that scientists ignore.
- ☐ They provide scientists with false evidence.
- ☐ They interpret evidence according to their own ideas.

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35

According to the last paragraph, what is the most likely outcome of further research into animals and earthquakes?

- ☐ saving a great many human lives
- ☐ knowledge of the causes of earthquakes
- ☐ knowledge of animals' sensory perception
- ☐ awareness of animals' welfare during disasters

36

What is the main source of the writer's credibility when discussing animals and earthquakes?

- ☐ academic qualifications
- ☐ a critical approach to evidence
- ☐ direct experience of earthquakes
- ☐ an ability to relate to animals' feelings

37

There are descriptive lists of animals in paragraph 3 and paragraph 6. What is the main difference in the tone of these descriptions?

Read *Beyond the beaches* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 38 to 44.

38

Which of these events in the story occurs first?

- ☐ Clara cycles past rice paddies.
- ☐ Wayan's mother talks about Bali.
- ☐ Small children laugh at Clara.
- ☐ Clara meets Wayan and his wife.

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Clara's mood in the story moves from

- ☐ anticipation to disappointment.
- ☐ happiness to disgust.
- ☐ apprehension to anger.
- ☐ indifference to astonishment.

40

The imagery in the first paragraph portrays the setting as

- ☐ hazardous.
- ☐ idyllic.
- ☐ mysterious.
- ☐ turbulent.

41

In paragraph 6, why are the children *laughing hysterically*?

- ☐ They think Clara looks out of place sitting with Wayan's family.
- ☐ They find Clara's reaction to the very sweet tea amusing.
- ☐ They want Clara to come and play games with them.
- ☐ They find it funny that Clara does not choose to behave properly.

42

What is the meaning of the word *occupation* as used in paragraph 6?

- ☐ profession
- ☐ interest
- ☐ invasion
- ☐ visitation

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The last sentence of paragraph 6 shows

- ☐ that Bali is a dangerously unstable place to visit.
- ☐ details Wayan's mother wants to share with Clara.
- ☐ the knowledge that Clara has of Balinese history.
- ☐ how boastful Wayan's mother is about her advanced age.

44

What does the final sentence suggest?

- ☐ that Clara and Wayan's family had different expectations of the visit
- ☐ that Clara has more plans to visit Bali
- ☐ that Clara has shown poor judgement in visiting Wayan's family
- ☐ that Wayan had selfish reasons for inviting Clara

Read *Their rightful place* on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 45 to 50.

45

The main purpose of this text is to

- ☐ document the chequered history of colonialism.
- ☐ explore new ways of collaborating with Indigenous peoples.
- ☐ explain the reasons for discrimination against Indigenous peoples.
- ☐ support the cultural rights of Indigenous peoples.

46

In this text, the writer moves from

- ☐ providing a general overview to drawing cultural comparisons.
- ☐ describing a historical situation to exploring current circumstances.
- ☐ describing a problem to detailing a sensible solution.
- ☐ providing conflicting evidence to presenting a clear judgement.

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Nominalisation is where verbs are made into nouns to create a formal effect.

Which of the following examples from paragraph 2 does this?

- ☐ *removal*
- ☐ *collections*
- ☐ *institutions*
- ☐ *result*

48

The main purpose of the fourth paragraph is to

- ☐ begin to describe the extent of the problem in more specific terms.
- ☐ reveal that Britain has the largest collection of items.
- ☐ provide solutions to the ongoing conflict over the fate of the remains.
- ☐ explain why the items were taken in the first place.

49

The writer's attitude towards those who resist the repatriation of Indigenous artefacts is

- ☐ sympathetic.
- ☐ defeatist.
- ☐ conciliatory.
- ☐ scathing.

50

In the final paragraph, the writer

- ☐ addresses cultural misunderstandings.
- ☐ challenges ill-informed beliefs.
- ☐ debates the merits of competing propositions.
- ☐ explains the value of cultural artefacts.

STOP – END OF TEST

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