

# READING

YEAR

**9**  
2016

**65 min**

Time available for students to  
complete test: 65 minutes

Use 2B or HB  
pencil **only**



## YEAR 9 READING

Read *The Terracotta Army* on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 6.

1

The farmers who discovered the terracotta army were actually looking for

- ☐ oil.
- ☐ water.
- ☐ gold.
- ☐ ancient ruins.

2

The soldiers in the tomb were made from

- ☐ wood.
- ☐ metal.
- ☐ clay.
- ☐ marble.

3

According to the text, what is special about the thousands of terracotta soldiers?

- ☐ Each soldier has different features.
- ☐ They are all made of different materials.
- ☐ Every soldier is accompanied by a horse.
- ☐ They are all able to fit inside such a limited space.

4

The construction of the tomb began when Emperor Qin Shi Huang

- ☐ was born.
- ☐ became emperor.
- ☐ married.
- ☐ died.

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5

In the last paragraph, the emperor is compared to Egyptian pharaohs because the pharaohs also

- ☐ possessed terracotta armies.
- ☐ were buried in elaborate tombs in China.
- ☐ were buried with things they would have used while alive.
- ☐ became kings when they were teenagers.

6

*What they had stumbled upon ...* (paragraph 2)

Who does *they* refer to?

- ☐ sculptors
- ☐ archaeologists
- ☐ soldiers
- ☐ farmers

**Read *The Great Blondin* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 7 to 12.**

7

Blondin is best described as

- ☐ daring.
- ☐ greedy.
- ☐ optimistic.
- ☐ thoughtless.

8

*More than 25 000 onlookers ...* (paragraph 2)

The writer includes this information to show

- ☐ how much the crowd would have paid to see Blondin.
- ☐ how difficult it was to get a good view of the Falls.
- ☐ how large the viewing area was at the Falls.
- ☐ how fascinated people were by what Blondin was doing.

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9

In paragraph 2, why is the word '*safety*' in quotation marks?

- ☐ to show that the word was spoken
- ☐ to highlight the word's importance
- ☐ to suggest that the word is unexpected
- ☐ to indicate that the word is technical

10

According to the text, Blondin took photos of

- ☐ the oak tree.
- ☐ the pool at the base of the Falls.
- ☐ the Horseshoe Falls.
- ☐ the people watching.

11

Blondin carried his manager during one of his crossings. The manager is portrayed as being

- ☐ a reluctant partner.
- ☐ a daredevil himself.
- ☐ a lazy person.
- ☐ a cautious follower.

12

What is the purpose of the last sentence?

- ☐ to show that daredevil feats are good for your health
- ☐ to explain that Blondin lived until he was an old man
- ☐ to highlight that Blondin did not die doing something dangerous
- ☐ to provide information about the year of Blondin's death

## YEAR 9 READING

Read *The wave* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 13 to 18.

13

In the first paragraph, the boy is portrayed as feeling

- ☐ resentful.
- ☐ out of place.
- ☐ full of regret.
- ☐ frightened.

14

According to the text, which option matches the description of the water in the far west and the water in the Pacific Ocean?

|                       | Water in the far west | Water in the Pacific Ocean |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | murky                 | endless                    |
| <input type="radio"/> | slow                  | predictable                |
| <input type="radio"/> | noisy                 | restless                   |
| <input type="radio"/> | vast                  | sparkling                  |

15

In paragraph 2, the information after the colon ( : )

- ☐ provides detail about the actions involved in surfing.
- ☐ explains the safety rules for surfing.
- ☐ describes the boy's thoughts about surfing lessons.
- ☐ analyses different techniques used in surfing.

16

What does the narrator describe as *curving at the right angle*? (paragraph 3)

- ☐ the size and shape of a surfboard
- ☐ the perfect beach to surf from
- ☐ the movements of a surfboard on a wave
- ☐ the perfect wave for surfing

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17

In paragraph 3, what word could replace *project*?

- ☐ arrange
- ☐ extend
- ☐ launch
- ☐ tumble

18

... *it's like he's riding the whole ocean.* (paragraph 3)

This statement suggests the boy feels as if he has

- ☐ finally conquered his fear of the ocean.
- ☐ become one with the power of the ocean.
- ☐ defeated and diminished the ocean.
- ☐ exhausted the possibilities of the ocean.

**Read *Geysers* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 19 to 24.**

19

The text refers to a *reservoir*. This is

- ☐ a canal.
- ☐ an underground river.
- ☐ a storage area.
- ☐ a narrow passage.

20

The diagram helps to

- ☐ give more detailed explanations of the terms in the text.
- ☐ provide additional information through a graphic.
- ☐ illustrate why geysers are unpredictable.
- ☐ show the information in the text in a graphic form.

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21

The text is organised under subheadings.

Which of the following is **not** a reason for using these subheadings?

- ☐ to improve the clarity of the text
- ☐ to question the reader about the content
- ☐ to allow readers to skim the content
- ☐ to help readers to easily locate information

22

The information enclosed in brackets in paragraph 3 is included to

- ☐ provide specific examples.
- ☐ explain the preceding phrase.
- ☐ simplify the sentence structure.
- ☐ show useful alternative terms.

23

The last sentence of the text suggests that

- ☐ geysers need to be studied further.
- ☐ people find geyser eruptions to be frightening events.
- ☐ geysers can only erupt at particular times.
- ☐ people would be keen to see a large geyser erupt.

24

Write the numbers 1 to 5 in the boxes to show the order of events as they occur in the formation of a geyser eruption.

- magma heats water
- steam pressure lifts water
- water collects in a reservoir
- groundwater penetrates rock
- water rises in a pipe

## YEAR 9 READING

Read *Looking back* on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 25 to 31.

25

How does the writer engage the reader at the beginning of the text?

- ☐ by creating a personal conflict to be resolved
- ☐ by not explaining what has happened
- ☐ by using vivid figurative language
- ☐ by foreshadowing future events

26

What does the last sentence of the first paragraph imply?

- ☐ Ollie thinks any injuries will be easy to treat.
- ☐ Ollie doubts that he has been injured by his fall.
- ☐ Ollie does not yet know the extent of his injuries.
- ☐ Ollie worries that he will injure himself later by falling.

27

... *the sound morphed itself into my name* ... (paragraph 2)

Which word could replace *morphed*?

- ☐ transformed
- ☐ amplified
- ☐ insinuated
- ☐ extended

28

When Ollie hears Nick calling, what is his first reaction?

- ☐ relief that Nick is still there
- ☐ surprise that he had not identified his own name
- ☐ annoyance that it took Nick so long to call
- ☐ confusion because of the other noises

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29

Ollie's description of what he sees when he looks up emphasises

- ☐ how easy it was to have fallen.
- ☐ how lucky he was not to have hit a tree.
- ☐ how high the rock face is.
- ☐ how stressed Nick seems to be.

30

When he hears the sound of the helicopter, Ollie

- ☐ knows he should keep calm.
- ☐ allows himself to feel hopeful.
- ☐ concentrates on watching for it.
- ☐ worries about how it will reach him.

31

When Ollie describes the gum trees growing on the cliff face (paragraph 3) he means they are

- ☐ damaged.
- ☐ unexpected.
- ☐ dangerous.
- ☐ tenacious.

**Read *One man's trash ...* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 32 to 37.**

32

According to the text, what promotes economic growth?

- ☐ advertising the making and buying of goods
- ☐ creating a society with access to goods
- ☐ distributing goods more equitably
- ☐ producing and selling goods

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33

The argument being made in the third paragraph is that

- ☐ people are being manipulated to consume more.
- ☐ fashion is an outward sign of people's desire to consume.
- ☐ mobile phone technology is constantly changing and improving.
- ☐ marketing aims to help people to identify and meet their needs.

34

What does the fourth paragraph suggest about Freegan behaviour?

- ☐ It is a way of saving costs through community buying.
- ☐ It is an instinctive reaction for some people.
- ☐ It saves the grocery industry money by recycling food.
- ☐ It can range from simple to extreme.

35

Which words could replace *a remedy* at the beginning of the fourth paragraph?

- ☐ a countermeasure
- ☐ a precaution
- ☐ an improvement
- ☐ a treatment

36

In the final sentence, how does the word *rescued* support the main idea of the text?

- ☐ It draws attention to the fact that people are doing this as a public service.
- ☐ It hints that the food may present health risks if consumed.
- ☐ It suggests that the food has been disposed of unnecessarily.
- ☐ It indicates that some people will go to a lot of trouble to save money.

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37

In the phrase *This marketing phenomenon ...* (paragraph 3) the word *This* is used to

- ☐ highlight the significance of the following statement.
- ☐ connect ideas and examples from preceding information.
- ☐ indicate there is a supporting argument to follow.
- ☐ provide an example that supports the writer's opinion.

**Read *Into the blue* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 38 to 43.**

38

Stanza 4 of the poem

- ☐ portrays the stream as having destructive power.
- ☐ implies the stream is a living entity in the landscape.
- ☐ describes the stream as reaching its final destination.
- ☐ presents a detailed description of the stream's appearance.

39

How does Lawson say the landscape changes towards the end of the day?

- ☐ It appears less rugged.
- ☐ It becomes less colourful.
- ☐ It seems quieter.
- ☐ It becomes more dangerous.

40

In the last line of the poem, the word *gravely*

- ☐ attributes emotion to the moon.
- ☐ compares the moon to something sad.
- ☐ positions the moon above the landscape.
- ☐ contrasts the moon with the mellowed day.

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41

For Charles Darwin, the most striking feature of the Blue Mountains' landscape was

- ☐ its vegetation.
- ☐ its familiarity.
- ☐ its accessibility.
- ☐ its magnitude.

42

In the first line of Charles Darwin's diary entry, why has (a) been included in brackets?

- ☐ to indicate that the word is optional
- ☐ to show that this is the beginning of a list
- ☐ to give an abbreviation of the symbol before it
- ☐ to include a necessary word originally left out

43

What is the effect of including Charles Darwin's diary entry about the Blue Mountains with the poem about the same subject?

- ☐ It provides a broader context for Lawson's intimate description.
- ☐ It illustrates the many ways in which the scene has altered from when Darwin visited.
- ☐ It calls into question the factual accuracy of the poem's description.
- ☐ It suggests that the poet was primarily influenced by Darwin's diary entry in composing his poem.

**Read *An apology* on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 44 to 50.**

44

What is the stated basis for the apology in this text?

- ☐ that the judging panel made an incorrect decision
- ☐ that Tasmania did not beat all other destinations
- ☐ that Tasmania failed to promote itself as well as it could
- ☐ that the judging panel were not told of all the state's attractions

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45

*And until commercial space travel becomes a reality, ...* (paragraph 1)

What is the function of this comment?

- ☐ It suggests the size of the injustice that has been done to Tasmania.
- ☐ It sets a universal context for the recognition Tasmania has received.
- ☐ It allows the writer to make an exaggerated claim about Tasmania.
- ☐ It foreshadows a time when Tasmania will be more popular.

46

*... our Bay of Fires was named the 'hottest' destination ...*

This is an example of

- ☐ a metaphor.
- ☐ alliteration.
- ☐ a pun.
- ☐ jargon.

47

The main purpose of the section *WHAT WENT WRONG?* is

- ☐ to present the contrasts that have caused confusion in Tasmania.
- ☐ to point out inconsistencies in Lonely Planet's judgement.
- ☐ to give justification for the disappointment of Tasmanians.
- ☐ to introduce some of the many positive aspects of Tasmania.

48

The writer uses the word *baffled* to convey the idea that people are

- ☐ annoyed.
- ☐ concerned.
- ☐ perplexed.
- ☐ amused.

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49

In the last paragraph, what is the *mistake* the writer refers to?

- ☐ the judgement that suggests Tasmania is not a highly desirable place to visit
- ☐ judging Tasmania as the fourth most recommended place in the world to visit
- ☐ the misjudgement by Australians of Tasmania's desirability as a tourist destination
- ☐ judging Tasmania as a tourist destination based only on value for money

50

The tone of this text is

- ☐ remorseful.
- ☐ ironic.
- ☐ outraged.
- ☐ anxious.

**STOP – END OF TEST**

## YEAR 9 READING

**Do not write on this page.**

Do not write on this page.

