Reading Grade 6 — Practice Paper 1 — Answers & Explanations

Answers to the 16 questions in the free preview.

The Keeper of the Light

1. C. Forty-one years

The opening sentence says "For forty-one years, Tomas had climbed the ninety-eight steps".

2. A. The routine had become deeply familiar through long repetition

Knowing individual steps by their sound and wear is the kind of knowledge that only comes from doing something thousands of times, which is the writer's way of showing the length of his service.

3. D. He accepted that the decision made financial sense

Arithmetic here stands for the cost calculation behind automation: a machine is cheaper than a keeper, and Tomas can see why the department decided as it did.

4. B. To suggest the decision was impersonal and he had little interest in Tomas

The precision of "exactly eleven minutes" makes the visit sound measured out in advance, which contrasts sharply with the forty-one years being ended by it.

5. B. He had also kept records and watched over the fishing boats

The paragraphs that follow list the other things he kept: the record book, the three-in-the-morning watch, and twice a man's life.

6. D. Noticed a light moving wrongly and saved a man's life

The text says "Twice he had kept a man alive by noticing... that a light on the water was not moving the way a light on the water should".

7. A. The act matters to him personally, as a way of saying goodbye

The text notes the machine "would have done it for him", so lighting it is not needed; he does it because it is his last chance to do the thing he has done for forty-one years.

8. C. Wistful

The text is quiet and looks back on something valuable that is ending, without bitterness or protest, which is what wistful describes.

The Truth About Sharks

9. D. Fewer than ten

The text states that "sharks are involved in fewer than ten fatal incidents a year" worldwide.

10. B. The hippopotamus

The text says "Hippopotamuses kill around five hundred people", far more than sharks.

11. C. We judge danger by how easily we can picture it rather than by the numbers

The writer explains it in the next sentences: a dramatic, well-reported event is easy to bring to mind, and "When something is easy to bring to mind, we assume it must be common".

12. A. To show how small the risk from sharks is by comparison

Setting sharks against three harmless-sounding everyday objects makes the true size of the risk clear more forcefully than a number alone would.

13. A. About a third

The text says "roughly a third of shark species are now threatened with extinction".

14. C. They mature slowly and produce few young

The text gives this as the reason: "Sharks mature slowly and produce few young, so their populations recover slowly or not at all".

15. B. To reverse the idea the article began with

The article opens with people fearing sharks and closes by turning that around, which sums up the writer's argument in a single line.

16. D. To correct a common misunderstanding about sharks

The whole text sets a widespread belief against evidence and explains why the belief persists, which is the shape of a corrective argument.

PrepNest

PREVIEW

That’s the end of the preview answers

These are the answers to the 16 preview questions. The full answer key covers all 40 questions in Reading Grade 6 — Practice Paper 1, with the working behind every mark.

STILL TO COME	QUESTIONS	MARKS
Let Us Choose What We Read	8	8
The Day the River Rose	8	8
Short texts	8	8

The full paper comes with

- Every question, printed exactly like the ones in this preview
- The complete answer key, with the working behind every mark
- A topic report after marking, showing what to practice next

Get the full paper at

prepnest.com.au/practice/exams/reading-grade_6-1

PrepNest