Reading Year 7 — Practice Paper 1 — Answers & Explanations

Answers to the 22 questions in the free preview.

The night shift — page 2 of the magazine

1. A. She asked to spend a night shift at the bakery with her father.
She calls it the strangest present her friends had heard of: going with Dad to the bakery at 2.45 am.

2. B. was very tired
Her body is given a voice pleading to stay in bed; she still says she is sure, so it shows tiredness, not a change of mind.

3. D. slept in the afternoons and missed early assemblies
She knew him as a man who napped in the afternoons, smelled of yeast and missed every assembly before lunch.

4. A. lay in a thin white layer over everything
A light fall of snow leaves a thin white covering, like the flour on every surface.

5. B. each step takes time and must be done in order
It follows his rule one, “Everything happens in order”: bread-making cannot be hurried.

6. C. so strong it seemed to fill everything
Describing a smell as nearly a sound exaggerates how powerfully it filled the bakery.

7. D. He missed them because he was feeding people who start work early, not because he did not care.
Watching the early workers served, “something clicked into place”: he had been at work feeding them.

8. A. to show he is proud of her effort
He keeps her first imperfect roll and writes “Not bad for a beginner”: affectionate pride, a keepsake of the day.

Why do we yawn? — page 3 of the magazine

9. B. to show that yawning is common but still a mystery
It establishes how common yawning is, then says scientists still disagree about why we do it.

10. C. The oxygen theory is probably wrong.
Volunteers yawned just as often with extra oxygen or extra carbon dioxide, so yawning did not track oxygen levels.

11. D. A gulp of hot air would not cool the brain.
The text says people yawn less on very hot days, when a gulp of air would not cool them down.

12. A. The body may be trying to make the brain more alert.
Supporters say a cooler brain is a more alert brain, so the body may be trying to wake us up.

13. B. to involve the reader and show how contagious yawning is
It speaks directly to the reader and plays on the point just made: even reading about yawning can set you off.

14. C. empathy
The text says contagious yawning seems to be linked to empathy, our ability to understand others’ feelings.

15. D. Nobody knows for certain, and yawning may have more than one purpose.
The final paragraph says nobody knows for certain and the yawn may do more than one job.

Balloons belong on the ground — page 4 of the magazine

16. A. Deliberate balloon releases should be stopped.
The title and closing line argue for keeping balloons on the ground, and he calls for the rest of the country to ban releases.

17. B. to set up a contrast with the harm balloons cause
He starts with the attractive image, then turns with “But what goes up must come down” to the damage.

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18. C. Deflated balloons look like jellyfish, which turtles eat.

A deflated balloon with its ribbon looks remarkably like a jellyfish, a favourite turtle food.

19. D. Balloons were a small share of the plastic swallowed but the most likely to kill.

Although balloons were only a small share of what the birds swallowed, they were by far the most likely item to kill them.

20. A. to show that the claim is less reassuring than it sounds

He grants that the word sounds reassuring, then points out latex can take months or years to break down.

21. B. to answer the worry that celebrations would be dull without balloons

The paragraph begins, “None of this means our celebrations have to be dull,” then offers alternatives.

22. C. an animal that might swallow the balloon

Earlier paragraphs describe turtles and seabirds swallowing balloons; “someone” makes the animal’s suffering personal.

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PREVIEW

That’s the end of the preview answers

These are the answers to the 22 preview questions. The full answer key covers all 50 questions in Reading Year 7 — Practice Paper 1, with the working behind every mark.

STILL TO COME	QUESTIONS	MARKS
Nan’s garden, after — page 5 of the magazine	6	6
How do noise-cancelling headphones work? — page 6 of the magazine	6	6
Fred Hollows: the doctor who gave sight — page 7 of the magazine	6	6
Tidebreaker — page 8 of the magazine	5	5
How Year 7 spends its afternoons — page 9 of the magazine	5	5

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

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