

## QUESTION PAPER

# Reading Year 7 — Practice Paper 1

### YOU WILL NEED

The Reading Magazine for this paper (a separate PDF). Print it too, or open it on a screen beside you.

Total time: 65 minutes

### SECTIONS IN THIS PAPER

- The night shift — page 2 of the magazine
- Why do we yawn? — page 3 of the magazine
- Balloons belong on the ground — page 4 of the magazine
- Nan's garden, after — page 5 of the magazine
- How do noise-cancelling headphones work? — page 6 of the magazine
- Fred Hollows: the doctor who gave sight — page 7 of the magazine
- Tidebreaker — page 8 of the magazine
- How Year 7 spends its afternoons — page 9 of the magazine

### INSTRUCTIONS

Each part of this paper tells you which text in the magazine to read and the page it is on. Read the text first, then answer its questions. You may look back at the magazine as often as you like. Answer every question you can. Write your working in the space provided for long-answer questions. Marking guidance and full explanations are provided in the separate answer key.

Read ***The night shift*** on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 8.

1. What was unusual about the birthday present Mei asked for?

A. She asked to spend a night shift at the bakery with her father.

B. She asked for her own bakery.

C. She asked to sleep in on a school day.

D. She asked her father to come to an assembly.

2. "Her body was begging her to stay under the doona." This sentence suggests that Mei

A. was cold and unwell

B. was very tired

C. had changed her mind about going

D. was afraid of the dark

3. Before her birthday, Mei mostly knew her father as someone who

A. worked late into the night at an office

B. baked cakes for special occasions

C. had just started working at a bakery

D. slept in the afternoons and missed early assemblies

4. "Flour dusted every surface like a light fall of snow." The writer uses this comparison to show that the flour

A. lay in a thin white layer over everything

B. was very cold

C. was falling from the ceiling

D. had been spilt by accident

5. When Dad says, "You can't rush bread," he means that

A. bread tastes better when it is cold

B. each step takes time and must be done in order

C. Mei is working too slowly

D. the bakery opens late

6. "The smell was so good it was almost a sound." This description suggests that the smell was

A. unpleasant

B. coming from the radio

C. so strong it seemed to fill everything

D. very faint

7. What does Mei come to understand about her father's missed assemblies?

A. He had been too tired to come because he napped in the afternoons.

B. He had not known when the assemblies were on.

C. He did not like school events.

D. He missed them because he was feeding people who start work early, not because he did not care.

8. Why does Dad leave the lumpy roll and the note on the bench?

A. to show he is proud of her effort

B. to tease her about her poor baking

C. because there was nothing else for afternoon tea

D. to remind her to practice at home

Read ***Why do we yawn?*** on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 9 to 15.

9. What is the main purpose of the first paragraph?

A. to explain the oxygen theory

B. to show that yawning is common but still a mystery

C. to list animals that yawn

D. to argue that yawning is rude

10. What did the experiment in the 1980s suggest?

A. People yawn more when they breathe extra oxygen.

B. Carbon dioxide makes people sleepy.

C. The oxygen theory is probably wrong.

D. Yawning cools the brain.

11. According to the cooling theory, why might people yawn less on very hot days?

A. People are less bored in summer.

B. Hot air contains less oxygen.

C. People sleep more in summer.

D. A gulp of hot air would not cool the brain.

12. How might the cooling theory explain why we yawn when we are bored?

A. The body may be trying to make the brain more alert.

B. Boredom makes the brain hotter than sleep does.

C. Bored people breathe less oxygen.

D. Boredom is contagious.

13. Why does the writer include “(Are you yawning yet?)”?

A. to ask readers to take part in a study

B. to involve the reader and show how contagious yawning is

C. to suggest the article is boring

D. to introduce the cooling theory

14. Contagious yawning seems to be linked to

A. age

B. hunger

C. empathy

D. oxygen

15. Which statement best sums up what the writer concludes about yawning?

A. Yawning is caused by a lack of oxygen.

B. Yawning is only a sign of boredom.

C. The cooling theory has been proven.

D. Nobody knows for certain, and yawning may have more than one purpose.

PrepNest

Read ***Balloons belong on the ground*** on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 16 to 22.

16. What is the writer's main argument?

A. Deliberate balloon releases should be stopped.

B. Balloons should only be used at weddings.

C. Latex balloons are safe for the ocean.

D. Sea turtles should be kept in sanctuaries.

17. Why does the writer begin by describing a "magical" balloon release?

A. to show that he enjoys balloon releases

B. to set up a contrast with the harm balloons cause

C. to describe a wedding he went to

D. to explain how balloons are made

18. Why do sea turtles swallow balloons?

A. Turtles like the bright colours.

B. Balloons taste like seaweed.

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

D. Turtles cannot see well underwater.

19. What does the study of seabirds show?

A. Most seabirds eat balloons every day.

B. Seabirds avoid balloons.

C. Balloons are the most common plastic in the sea.

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

20. Why does the writer discuss the word "biodegradable"?

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

B. to praise balloon makers

C. to explain how latex is made

D. to suggest balloons break down in hours

21. Why does the writer list bubbles, flags, streamers, trees and candles?

A. to describe his favourite party

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

C. to show which items are also dangerous

D. to sell party supplies

22. "We are sending it ... into someone else's stomach." By "someone else" the writer means

A. a person at the celebration

B. the balloon maker

C. an animal that might swallow the balloon

D. a child who catches the balloon

PrepNest

Read ***Nan's garden, after*** on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 23 to 28.

23. What has happened to Nan?

A. She has moved into a new house.

B. She has gone on holiday.

C. She has stopped gardening.

D. She has died.

24. "The tomatoes didn't know she'd gone." This opening line suggests that

A. the garden carries on growing as if nothing has changed

B. the tomatoes are dying

C. Nan had forgotten to pick the tomatoes

D. the family has not told anyone

25. Why does the speaker notice that the gloves are "still curled to fit the shape of hands"?

A. The gloves are too small for anyone else.

B. They keep a trace of Nan, as if she had only just taken them off.

C. The speaker wants to use them.

D. The gloves have been damaged by the tap.

26. Mum holds the lemons "like she used to hold me". This shows that Mum

A. finds them heavy

B. is about to throw them away

C. holds them tenderly, as something precious

D. is angry with the speaker

27. Which words best describe the mood of the poem?

A. angry and bitter

B. excited and cheerful

C. frightening

D. sad but gentle

28. What does the last line, “Nan’s way of staying for a while”, suggest?

A. The lemons from her tree kept her memory close for a time.

B. Nan came back to visit that week.

C. The family decided to keep Nan’s house.

D. Nan had asked them to eat lemons.

PrepNest

Read ***How do noise-cancelling headphones work?*** on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 29 to 34.

29. How does the writer begin the explanation?

A. with a definition of sound

B. by describing an experience the reader may have had

C. with a warning about loud noise

D. by comparing different brands

30. On a drawing of a sound wave, a peak shows where the air is

A. spread apart

B. moving fastest

C. squeezed together

D. silent

31. What do the microphones on the outside of the ear cups do?

A. play the music

B. block sound from entering

C. record your voice

D. pick up the noise around you

32. What does the chip inside the headphones create?

A. a sound wave that is the exact opposite of the noise

B. a louder copy of the noise

C. a recording of the music

D. a wave that matches the noise exactly

33. In the text, “destructive interference” is the name for

A. a fault in the headphones

B. two waves cancelling each other out

C. noise that damages your hearing

D. sound bouncing off walls

34. Why are sudden sounds harder to cancel than an engine’s drone?

A. They are always louder.

B. The microphones cannot hear them.

C. They change too quickly for the chip to predict.

D. They come from inside the plane.

Read ***Fred Hollows: the doctor who gave sight*** on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 35 to 40.

35. What is trachoma?

A. a clouding of the lens of the eye

B. a type of eye surgery

C. an eye test used by doctors

D. an infectious eye disease that can cause blindness

36. Why was Hollows shocked by what he found in outback communities?

A. A disease gone from most wealthy countries was common there.

B. There were no doctors in Australia.

C. Children refused to be treated.

D. The communities had too many hospitals.

37. What was the aim of the program Hollows led from 1976 to 1978?

A. to build eye hospitals in Sydney

B. to take eye care to Aboriginal communities across Australia

C. to train doctors in Nepal

D. to make cheap plastic lenses

38. Why were cataract operations out of reach in poor countries?

A. The operation takes many days.

B. Cataracts cannot be treated.

C. The plastic lenses were too expensive.

D. There were no people with cataracts.

39. What did Hollows' foundation do after his death?

A. closed down

B. moved to New Zealand

C. stopped working overseas

D. built factories in Nepal and Eritrea to make cheap lenses

40. Which sentence best states the main idea of this text?

A. Hollows worked to bring eye care to people who could not otherwise get it.

B. Hollows was named Australian of the Year in 1990.

C. Trachoma scars the inside of the eyelids.

D. Hollows moved from New Zealand to Sydney.

PrepNest

Read ***Tidebreaker*** on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 41 to 45.

41. The first sentence tells the reader that the reviewer thinks the film

A. is perfect for everyone

B. looks beautiful but has problems

C. is too frightening for children

D. is not worth seeing at all

42. Why does Nia set out to find the Tidebreaker?

A. She wants to become famous.

B. Her boat was stolen.

C. A storm has sunk the fishing fleet, and the whale is said to calm any sea.

D. Scuttle asks her to.

43. “The ocean is almost a character in its own right.” The reviewer means that

A. the ocean can talk in the film

B. the ocean is the villain

C. the ocean is the main character’s name

D. the ocean is shown so vividly that it seems alive

44. Which of these is NOT a criticism the reviewer makes?

A. The hermit crab is annoying.

B. The first half is slow.

C. The ending is rushed.

D. The songs are forgettable.

45. The final twist “can be seen coming from a mile away”. This means the twist is

A. exciting

B. predictable

C. confusing

D. set far out at sea

## YEAR 7 READING

Read ***How Year 7 spends its afternoons*** on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 46 to 50.

46. How many students took part in the survey? Write a number.

47. According to the table, how long did students spend on homework on an average afternoon?

A. 18 minutes

B. 31 minutes

C. 34 minutes

D. 72 minutes

48. Which activity took the least time?

A. chores and jobs

B. sport or exercise

C. reading for fun

D. other

49. Why was the Student Council surprised?

A. Students spent so little time on screens.

B. Students wanted more homework.

C. Hardly anyone did sport.

D. Most students wanted more time with friends in person, not more screen time.

50. How does the Student Council plan to use the results?

A. to argue for more lunchtime and after-school clubs

B. to ban phones at school

C. to set more homework

D. to shorten the school day