



STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT

AIM 2007

Achievement Improvement Monitor

**Year
9**

ENGLISH TEST

STUDENT DETAILS

TEST INSTRUCTIONS

1. You must do your own work.
2. Do not speak to other students during the test.
3. Raise your hand if you need to speak to the teacher.
4. Follow all directions given to you by the teacher.
5. All questions must be answered using the pencil you have been given. If you need to change an answer, carefully erase it and write another answer.
6. To confirm you have the correct booklet, print your name below.

Print your name here:

YOU HAVE 45 MINUTES TO COMPLETE THIS TEST

Practice Questions

Turn to page 5 of *Perspectives* and answer question P1.

P1

The title of the passage on page 5 is

- ☐ The Writer.
- ☐ What a scam!
- ☐ The River Kings.
- ☐ Exploring our seas.

Shade one
bubble

For questions P2 to P6 you do NOT need *Perspectives*.

P2

Which word should be used to complete this sentence?

What is the _____ book you have ever read?

- ☐ so
- ☐ my
- ☐ best

P3

Which of the underlined words should end with an 's'?

How many of your friend were at the concert?

☐ ☐ ☐

P4

Where is the best place to put a question mark (?) in the following passage?

It's a lovely day ☐ Do you want to go swimming ☐ I think it will be great fun ☐

P5

Which **two** words should start with capital letters?

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
my friend harry and his sister bought me a fantastic book for my birthday.

Shade two
bubbles

P6

Write the circled word correctly in the space provided.

My uncle's hous is near the park.

Write one word
in the box

You have 45 minutes to complete this test.

Reading

Turn to page 3 of *Perspectives*.

Read 'What a scam!' and answer questions 1 to 4.

Shade one
bubble

1

The main purpose of this passage is to

- ☐ provide advice.
- ☐ debate an issue.
- ☐ give instructions.
- ☐ present a personal opinion.

2

Some fee-based scams appear to work by

- ☐ rewarding the first few people who respond.
- ☐ using software to predict who is most likely to send money.
- ☐ getting people to pay for things that have little or no real value.
- ☐ training people to differentiate between genuine and fake guarantees.

3

The passage suggests that if computer prediction software worked, then

- ☐ it would be far cheaper.
- ☐ it would be available in stores.
- ☐ the owners would be more confident.
- ☐ the owners would be using it rather than selling it.

4

Some successful scams rely on people

- ☐ recognising a good deal when they see one.
- ☐ realising when something is too good to be true.
- ☐ making informed decisions based on good information.
- ☐ paying for something in anticipation of a greater reward.

Turn to page 4 of *Perspectives*. Read 'A brief history of tea' and answer questions 5 to 10.

5

The flavour of tea comes from

- ☐ caffeine.
- ☐ volatile oils.
- ☐ trace minerals.
- ☐ B-complex vitamins.

Shade one
bubble

6

The expression 'most egalitarian of beverages' suggests tea is a drink that is

- ☐ easily produced.
- ☐ uninteresting and tasteless.
- ☐ the world's most profitable crop.
- ☐ enjoyed by a wide range of people.

7

Green, oolong and black teas are included in the passage as examples of teas that

- ☐ are of different qualities.
- ☐ are produced in different ways.
- ☐ have similar fermenting techniques.
- ☐ have names that have been changed.

8

In the first instance, the names of teas relate to

- ☐ their leaf size.
- ☐ a particular person.
- ☐ their place of origin.
- ☐ a preparation method.

9

According to the passage, the most popular tea variety in the United States is

- ☐ highly exotic.
- ☐ of low quality.
- ☐ lightly processed.
- ☐ highly fermented.

10

The name 'Gunpowder tea' is deceptive because the tea is

- ☐ subtle.
- ☐ exotic.
- ☐ dramatic.
- ☐ expensive.

Turn to page 5 of *Perspectives*. Read ‘The River Kings’ and answer questions 11 to 16.

11

The passage suggests that the

- ☐ *Lazy Jane* has just arrived at the river port.
- ☐ *Lady Mabel* is a large and well-equipped boat.
- ☐ *Lazy Jane* and the *Lady Mabel* are in competition for cargo.
- ☐ *Lazy Jane* and the *Lady Mabel* are owned by the same person.

Shade one
bubble

12

What was Shawn doing when Cap’n Elijah came on board?

- ☐ fishing
- ☐ eating cream
- ☐ getting steam up
- ☐ rounding up the lads

13

In this passage, Angus and Shawn are most likely to be

- ☐ local fishermen.
- ☐ crewmen on a boat.
- ☐ Cap’n Elijah’s spies.
- ☐ passengers on a ship.

14

Why was Cap’n Elijah smiling ‘like a cat who has seen a bowl of cream’?

- ☐ He had eaten a good meal.
- ☐ He was pleased with himself.
- ☐ He was happy to be on board.
- ☐ He had beaten the *Lady Mabel* into port.

15

‘... even the pelicans were in his pay.’

This refers to the fact that

- ☐ Cap’n Elijah lives and works on the river.
- ☐ Cap’n Elijah feeds the pelicans on a regular basis.
- ☐ Cap’n Elijah seems to know things that few others know.
- ☐ Cap’n Elijah is a man who spends his money on ridiculous things.

16

Which of the following words best describes Cap’n Elijah?

- ☐ rich
- ☐ lazy
- ☐ ignorant
- ☐ resourceful

Turn to pages 6 and 7 of *Perspectives*.

Read ‘Bamboo extinction warning’ and answer questions 17 to 21.

17

The “Bamboo Diversity” report is mainly about

- ☐ how to identify alternatives to bamboo for human use.
- ☐ how the destruction of forests is affecting bamboo.
- ☐ the role of bamboo in wider deforestation.
- ☐ the lifestyles of endangered animals.

Shade one
bubble

18

According to the passage, bamboo is important because it

- ☐ is the world’s largest woody grass.
- ☐ can be used to make handicrafts for sale to tourists.
- ☐ is less expensive but more attractive than most timber.
- ☐ meets the needs of a wide range of people and animals.

19

‘... co-author of the study and ecologist at the UNEP World Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, eastern England ...’

Why is this information included in the passage?

- ☐ to explain the meaning of the acronym, UNEP
- ☐ to indicate the authority of the report’s findings
- ☐ to suggest that the report is focused on ecology
- ☐ to show the relationship between UNEP and INBAR

20

What conservation strategy does Valerie Kapos suggest?

- ☐ Focus resources on areas of greatest need.
- ☐ Immediately end all human uses of bamboo.
- ☐ Encourage India’s poor to use wood instead of bamboo.
- ☐ Locate alternative food sources for endangered animals.

21

The main purpose of this passage is to

- ☐ highlight the findings of a report.
- ☐ critically analyse the findings of a report.
- ☐ dismiss the findings of a report as being overstated.
- ☐ balance the findings of a report with other sources.

Turn to pages 8 and 9 of *Perspectives*.

Read 'Exploring our seas' and answer questions 22 to 26.

22

The Prickly Anglerfish uses its 'lure' to help it

Shade one
bubble

- ☐ attract prey.
- ☐ protect itself.
- ☐ move at lightning speed.
- ☐ blend in with its surroundings.

23

At night, the Southern Dumpling Squid protects itself from predators by

- ☐ burying itself in the sand.
- ☐ pretending to be the moon.
- ☐ becoming very difficult to see.
- ☐ forming the silhouette of a larger creature.

24

The hairs on the backs of Spider Crabs help them to

- ☐ locate seaweed and sponges.
- ☐ protect themselves.
- ☐ move quickly.
- ☐ catch prey.

25

The name 'decorator crab' reflects the

- ☐ habitat of the crabs.
- ☐ eating habits of the crabs.
- ☐ interactions between the crabs.
- ☐ camouflage techniques of the crabs.

26

The main purpose of this passage is to

- ☐ evaluate the success of the exhibition.
- ☐ encourage people to visit the exhibition.
- ☐ describe the unique nature of the museum.
- ☐ outline the key features of marine animals.

Turn to page 10 of *Perspectives*.

Read 'The Writer' and answer questions 27 to 30.

27

Four letters suggested that the narrator write about 'self-reticulating irrigation systems'.

We know this is an exaggeration because

Shade one
bubble

- ☐ these words sound unusual when read aloud.
- ☐ it is rare for any author to receive so much mail.
- ☐ the narrator has already written a book about this topic.
- ☐ it would be unusual for so many people to make this suggestion.

28

At the end of the passage, which of the following would the narrator be most likely to say about writing?

- ☐ The best ideas always come from other people.
- ☐ It is impossible to please everyone all of the time.
- ☐ To perfect your craft you must be able to accept criticism.
- ☐ A cooperative effort will ultimately achieve the best results.

29

The postman says, 'Must be tough, being a writer. I wouldn't know where to get the ideas from.'

One irony in this remark is that the postman

- ☐ is delivering more ideas to the narrator.
- ☐ is well aware of the frustration the narrator feels.
- ☐ has some ideas of his own to give to the narrator.
- ☐ recognises how difficult it must be to find new ideas.

30

The narrator finds that the ideas in the letters he receives become increasingly

- ☐ sensible.
- ☐ humorous.
- ☐ unhelpful.
- ☐ complimentary.

Turn to page 11 of *Perspectives*.

Read 'Seeking more, reaping less' and answer questions 31 to 34.

31

Clive Hamilton's assessment of Australian society is best described as

Shade one
bubble

- ☐ favourable.
- ☐ optimistic.
- ☐ guarded.
- ☐ critical.

32

According to Clive Hamilton, people in affluent countries most want to

- ☐ fit in with the group.
- ☐ acquire more and more material things.
- ☐ have a range of choices available to them.
- ☐ understand their preferences before they are adults.

33

According to Clive Hamilton, most young people are

- ☐ unable to make informed choices.
- ☐ not happy with most of the things they buy.
- ☐ learning to identify their needs and preferences.
- ☐ entering adulthood with a critical understanding of advertising.

34

The title of the book *Affluenza* is a play on words which suggests that

- ☐ the constant need for affirmation is contagious.
- ☐ illness is rampant even in wealthy societies.
- ☐ citizens in rich countries are too affluent.
- ☐ consumerism is like an illness.

Language Conventions

For questions 35 to 57 you do NOT need *Perspectives*.

The spelling errors in these sentences have been circled.

Write the words correctly in the spaces provided.

35

Have you ever wundered how many stars there are in the sky?

36

There have been many examples of fine architecture threwout history.

37

The total quantitie of milk required is the same as last year.

38

The angry customer threatned to take his business elsewhere.

39

I was satisfyed with the mark I received for my history project.

40

I had no trouble finding accomodation when I travelled in Europe.

41

Most people agreed that the report was extremely biasied.

42

The journies of the early explorers are a source of great fascination to many people.

43

I did not intend to embarass you with my question.

44

My new electronic game came with a lifetime garantee.

Which word in each of questions 45 to 48 is spelled incorrectly?

Shade one
bubble

45

- ☐ alternate
- ☐ alteration
- ☐ altenative
- ☐ aggravation

46

- ☐ explosion
- ☐ expulsion
- ☐ exhaustion
- ☐ explanaiton

47

The problem arose because of a quarell between two of the competitors.

48

The evidence against the accused man was flimsey and irrelevant.

49

Which word should be used to complete this sentence?

Sally's report was the most accurate and precise ____ all the reports we received.

- ☐ of
- ☐ on
- ☐ for
- ☐ from

50

Which word should be used to complete this sentence?

Despite her best intentions, Susan was _____ for the performance than she had expected.

- ☐ late
- ☐ later
- ☐ latest
- ☐ lately

51

Which of the following is written correctly?

- ☐ The tourists was sitting quietly, waiting for the gates to be opened.
- ☐ Damien and his family was hopeful of an early sale for their house.
- ☐ Last week, a derelict building and an old bridge was saved from demolition.
- ☐ Of the children in the group, Larry was the only one who answered correctly.

52

'The polar bear is an effective and ruthless arctic hunter.'

This sentence would most likely be found in

- ☐ a persuasive text.
- ☐ an advertisement.
- ☐ a newspaper editorial.
- ☐ an informative report.

53

Where should the **two** commas (,) go in this sentence?

Shade two
bubbles

The party was rather dull until Vince who has many funny stories finally arrived.

54

Which of the following is punctuated correctly?

Shade one
bubble

- ☐ “Are you sure? asked Max in a worried voice. I am not totally convinced.”
- ☐ “Are you sure? asked Max in a worried voice. “I am not totally convinced”
- ☐ “Are you sure”? asked Max in a worried voice “I am not totally convinced.”
- ☐ “Are you sure?” asked Max in a worried voice. “I am not totally convinced.”

55

What type of word is underlined in the following sentence?

Earthquakes usually occur when the Earth’s plates grind or bump against each other.

- ☐ verb
- ☐ noun
- ☐ adverb
- ☐ adjective

56

‘Please contact me if you require clarification or further information.’

This sentence is best described as

- ☐ an opinion.
- ☐ a description.
- ☐ an instruction.
- ☐ an explanation.

57

Where is the best place to break this passage into two paragraphs?

Cats have been kept as domesticated pets for thousands of years. ☐ They were worshipped by Ancient Egyptians, and mummified remains have been found in the tombs of the wealthy. ☐ In Ancient Egypt, the penalty for killing a cat was death. ☐ Today, people are quite divided in their opinion of cats. ☐ Some people adore them, buying them fluffy toys, diamond-studded collars and expensive foods, while others would prefer to have dogs.