

End of Primary Benchmark

Thursday, 2nd June 2011

English: Listening

Total: 20 marks

Time: 30 minutes

Task 1

Listen carefully.

Underline the correct word or phrase in each bracket.

(8 marks)

Polar bear operation

1. The operation on the bear's tooth was (quite easy, easy, not easy).
2. It took the bear (no time, a long time, some time) to recover from the operation.
3. Walker broke off (all, part, half) of his tooth.

Librarian wins award

4. The librarian won (first, second, third) prize in the competition.
5. (Nearly, Less than, More than) a hundred schools participated in the competition.

Weather report

6. The weather on the first day of summer was (not bad, fairly good, fantastic).
7. There is (no, a strong, a slight) possibility of light rain.
8. In the next few days, the weather will (improve, stay the same, get worse).

TURN OVER THE PAGE

Task 2

Listen carefully.

(12 marks)

1. True, False or No Information Given?

Tick (✓) the correct box.

(5 marks)

a) Tim Allen thinks that the movie has a brilliant story.

True False No Information Given

b) Tim Allen lost his toys in a flood.

True False No Information Given

c) The ending of Toy Story 3 is a new beginning.

True False No Information Given

d) Andy's mother puts away Andy's toys for him.

True False No Information Given

e) Andy's toys are taken to a day care centre by bus.

True False No Information Given

2. Tick (✓) the best answer.

(2 marks)

a) At the Day Care Centre the toys were

in heaven.

unhappy.

cared for.



b) Tim Allen thinks that playing the role of Buzz Lightyear is

not funny.

quite funny.

very funny.

3. Tick (✓) to show the correct answer.

We can tell that Tim Allen really likes his childhood toys because

- a) he was happy that they were saved.
- b) he gave them to his own children.
- c) he didn't let his mum give them away.

4. Complete the sentences.

(4 marks)

a) The two things Tim Allen found difficult about doing Buzz Lightyear's voice were and

b) Tim Allen enjoyed taking part in these films because and

END OF LISTENING EXAMINATION

End of Primary Benchmark

Thursday, 2nd June 2011

English: Reading Comprehension

Total: 30 marks

Time: 50 minutes

Reading Comprehension 1

Read carefully.

Mandy, Emma and Mark are at a library. They want to choose books to read from the different sections of the library.



Hello, I'm Mandy.

I like reading about people's lives. I also enjoy reading books about past events. I would like to borrow books about netball, crafts, and theatre.



Hello, I'm Emma.

I prefer reading imaginative stories about future worlds. Sometimes, I read information books about the sun and the planets. I like books about things to make and do. I also enjoy reading poems.



Hello, I'm Mark.

I like to read detective stories. I'm also interested in books about the Romans and I would like to read about famous paintings and the life story of famous people.

Look at the library sections on the next page.

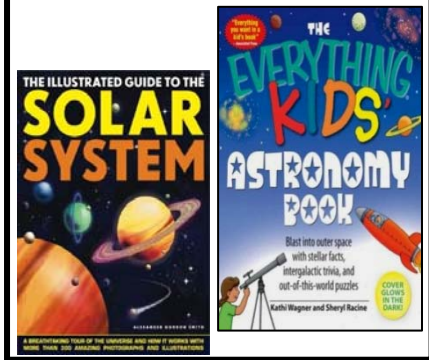
Write the letters of the library sections that match their reading preferences.

(6 marks)

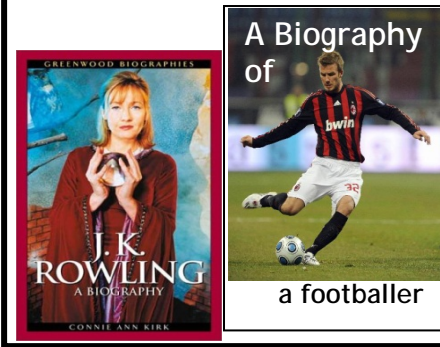
| Reading Preferences | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Mandy | | Emma | | Mark |
| Example: people's lives | B | | | |
| past events | | imaginative stories about future worlds | | detective stories |
| netball | | the sun and the planets | | the Romans |
| crafts | | things to make and do | | famous paintings |
| theatre | | poems | | the life story of famous people |

The Library

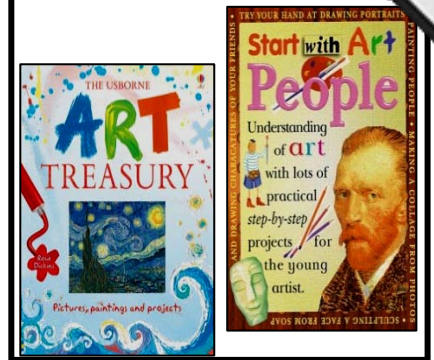
A. ASTRONOMY



B. BIOGRAPHIES



C. ART AND ARTISTS



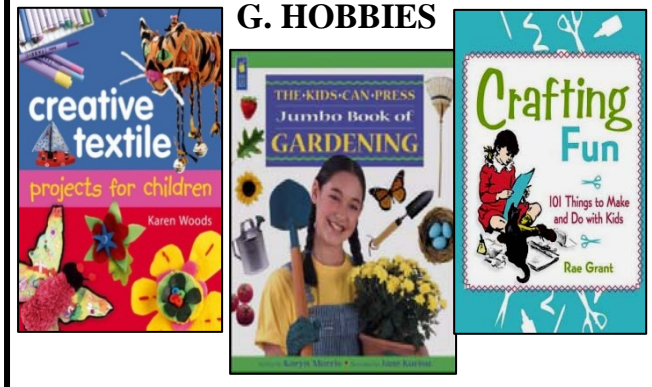
D. ADVENTURE AND MYSTERY



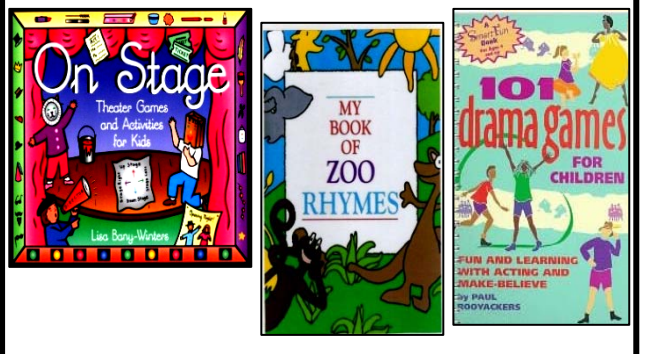
E. SCIENCE FICTION



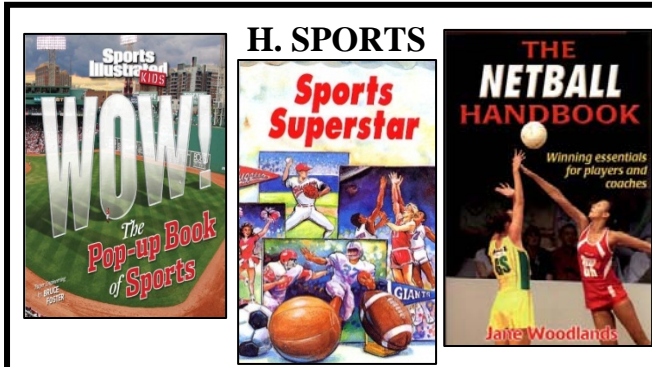
G. HOBBIES



F. POETRY AND DRAMA



H. SPORTS



I. HISTORY



TURN OVER THE PAGE

Reading Comprehension 2

Read the following comprehension passage which is divided into 3 sections to help you. THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW EACH SECTION.

Bicycles

SECTION 1 Today, bicycles are very common. It's hard to believe they haven't always been around. In fact two hundred and twenty years ago, bicycles didn't even exist. The first machine that looked like a bicycle was built around 1790 in France. It was very different from our bicycles today. It was made of wood and it didn't even have pedals. Since then, however, many changes and improvements have been made.



(paragraph 1)

In 1839, Kirkpatrick Macmillan, a Scottish blacksmith, made great improvements on the original bicycle design. Macmillan's machine had tyres with iron rims to keep them from getting worn down. He also added pedals so the rider could ride the bicycle at a quick pace. It didn't look much like a modern bicycle, though, because its back wheel was larger than its front wheel.

(paragraph 2)

In 1871, James Starley, an English inventor, revolutionized bicycle design. He made great changes by making the front wheel many times larger than the back wheel. He put a gear on the pedals to make the bicycle work better. He also lightened the wheels by using wire spokes. This bicycle was much lighter and less tiring to ride but it was still clumsy.

(paragraph 3)

Questions on Section 1

(6½ marks)

1. In which year was the first bicycle made? (½ mark)
2. a) Which **word** in **paragraph 1** is **the opposite of the same**? (½ mark)
 b) Which **word** in **paragraph 1** means **changes for the better**? (½ mark)
 c) Which **paragraph** tells us about **the original bicycle**? (½ mark)
3. Name **TWO** things that the blacksmith added to the bicycle. (½ mark each)
 a) b)
4. Why did Macmillan add pedals to the bicycle? (½ mark)

5. How was Macmillan's bicycle different from the modern bicycle? (1 mark)

6. a) Who was James Starley? (½ mark)
 b) What did Starley do to make the bicycle work better? (½ mark)

- c) Mention **TWO** good things about Starley's bicycle. (½ mark each)
 i) ii)

SECTION 2 It wasn't until 1874 that the modern bicycle was invented by H. This bicycle would look familiar to today's cyclists. The wheels were of equal size and it was less prone to topple over. He also attached a chain which linked the back wheel to the pedals. With these improvements, the bicycle became extremely popular and useful for transportation. **(paragraph 4)**

As bicycles became safer and cheaper, women started to use them. Women felt it gave them freedom and some called the bicycle, "the freedom machine". In 1895 a well-known woman, Frances Willard, wrote a book in which she praised the bicycle that she had learned to ride late in life. She named her bicycle "Gladys" because it made her feel glad when she rode it. **(paragraph 5)**



Bicycles brought about many changes. An important one was the change in women's fashions. Clothes became more practical to allow women to ride bicycles. Of course, once people started building bicycles, it didn't take long for them to want to race each other. The first recorded bicycle race took place on 31st May, 1868 in Paris. The 1.2 km race was won by Englishman James Moore. Interest in bicycle racing grew. It was only natural that bicycle racing was included as one of the events in the first modern Olympic Games held in Athens, Greece in 1896. **(paragraph 6)**

Questions on Section 2

(6½ marks)

7. Read the following sentences. Put a **T** if you think it is true, an **F** if you think it is false and an **N** if there is no information in this section. *(½ mark each)*

- a) Lawson's bicycle looked similar to today's bicycle.
- b) Francis Willard knew how to ride a bicycle when she was young.
- c) Francis Willard used the bicycle to go to work.
- d) Bicycle racing started in 1896.
- e) James Moore was in Paris on 31st May, 1868.

8. What happened after bicycles became less dangerous and less costly? *(1 mark)*

.....

9. Underline the best answer to complete the sentence. *(1 mark each)*

- a) Lawson's bicycle was (certain, unlikely, expected) to fall.
- b) Women's clothes became (more fashionable, more suitable, more colourful) for bicycle riding.
- c) Bicycle racing soon became (more expensive, more practical, more popular).



TURN OVER THE PAGE

SECTION 3 Today there are many different types of bicycles. There are mountain bikes, road bikes, cruisers and more, depending on where and how you want to ride. Bicycles have many more benefits when compared to motor vehicles. These include exercise, no need for fossil fuels, no air or noise pollution, no traffic jams and easier parking. Besides, roads are not damaged. However, there are some disadvantages. The cyclist is not protected in a crash with a motor vehicle. It also takes longer to travel and the cyclist faces different weather conditions. **(paragraph 7)**

In most countries there are laws that cyclists must obey. For example, bicycles must have front and rear lights when ridden in the dark. Since a moving bicycle makes little noise, bicycles have a warning bell for use when approaching pedestrians and other cyclists. Both children and adults must wear helmets, as this may protect them from head injuries. **(paragraph 8)**



One can say that the bicycle is a cheap, healthy and environmentally friendly mode of transport. It is for this reason that bicycles are built, used and enjoyed all over the world. **(paragraph 9)**

(Adapted from Wikipedia)

Questions on Section 3 **(6½ marks)**

10. Think of TWO examples of weather conditions that a cyclist might face. *(½ mark each)*

- a)
- b)

11. How do we know that cyclists have rules to follow? *(½ mark)*

.....

12. **Underline the best answer to complete the sentence.** *(½ mark each)*

- a) A moving bicycle is (absolutely silent, almost soundless, completely noiseless).
- b) A bicycle must have lights on the (front and side, back and side, front and back).

13. In what way could a cyclist be dangerous to others? *(1 mark)*

.....
.....

14. a) Find a **word** from **paragraph 7 or 8** that means **advantages** *(½ mark)*

b) Find a **phrase of TWO words** from **paragraphs 8 or 9** that shows that the bicycle **causes no harm to nature**.

..... *(1 mark)*

c) Which **paragraph** tells us that **the bicycle is used worldwide**? *(½ mark)*

15. Read the following sentences. Put a **T** if you think it is true, an **F** if you think it is false and an **N** if there is no information in this section. (1/2 mark)

a) Cyclists can decide whether to wear a helmet or not.

b) Bicycles have as many advantages as motor vehicles.

Questions on All Three Sections of the text

(4 1/2 marks)

16. Find a word from paragraphs 1 or 2 that means the first (1/2 mark)

17. Match TWO changes with each inventor by writing the letter in the boxes. ONE is extra. (1/2 mark each)

- a) made both wheels of the same diameter
- b) fixed pedals to the bicycles
- c) made the bicycles less heavy
- d) increased the size of the back wheel
- e) increased the size of the front wheel
- f) suggested the wearing of helmets
- g) included a chain in the design

Macmillan

Starley

Lawson

18. Underline what could be a better title for the text.

(1 mark)

- a) Bicycles are Cheap and Fast
- b) Bicycles: From Past to Present
- c) The Popularity of Bicycles Nowadays
- d) Bicycles are Better

