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**Reading Comprehension 1****(6 marks)**

**Read carefully the three book blurbs on the opposite page.  
Now answer the questions below.**

**1. Underline the correct answer.****3 marks**

- (a) *St Paul's Bay* has come adrift (during the night, during the day, in the afternoon).
- (b) The village is floating towards (Africa, America, Italy).
- (c) It is always (interesting, boring, frightening) to visit Shirley's Hairdresser's.
- (d) *Monster Haircut and Other Stories* is a (sad, funny, frightening) book of short stories.
- (e) (Four, Five, Six) girls make up the Sleepover Club.
- (f) *The Sleepover Club at Tracy's* is a (funny, horror, relaxing) story.

**2. Read the following sentences. Write a **T** if the sentence is True, an **F** if it is False and an **N** if No Information is Given.****2 marks**

- (a) All three books are quite short. \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Each book is written by one author. \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) John Brighton is one of the authors. \_\_\_\_\_
- (d) Only one of the books consists of short stories. \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Complete the following sentences.****1 mark**

- (a) The Sleepover Club is invited to sleep over at \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_ has designed the cover of *The village that went North!*

## The village that went North!

by  
Jacob King

A whole village is adrift in the channel between Malta and Gozo!!!

One morning the people of St Paul's Bay wake up to find that their village has come adrift from the rest of Malta and is floating gently across the channel to Gozo! And that's the beginning of their journey for they carry on floating north to Sicily and further north to Italy ...



What happens to the inhabitants of the floating village? If you want to know, start reading now! A wonderful story full of surprises and adventurous thrills!

*Cover illustration by John Brighton*

## Monster Haircut and Other Stories

by  
Pauline Waters

Welcome to the strangest hairdresser's in town, where every day's a bad hair day. Green hair, purple hair, monster haircuts – you name it. It certainly is never boring at Shirley's Hairdresser's.

A really delightful read full of amusing episodes!  
Be sure to read the title story as well as all the other stories in this short fifty-page book.



## The Sleepover Club at Tracy's

by  
Maryrose Wall

Join the Sleepover Club: Julia, Anne, Jane, Meg, Tracy and Mandy – *girls who just want to have fun, but who always end up in mischief.*



It's Tracy's birthday and the Sleepover Club plan a spooky sleepover, with the most frightening video they can find. Only, once the lights are finally out and everyone has snuggled down, the spooks suddenly seem for real ...

What frightening events happen on the sleepover night? Read this exciting and thrilling story!

## Reading Comprehension 2

Read the passage below, which is divided into two sections. Then, answer the questions that follow each section.

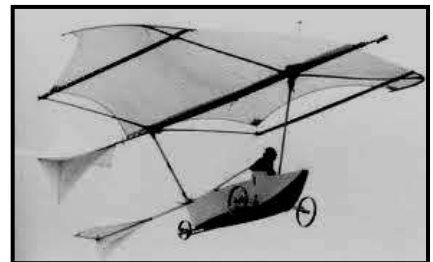
### Section 1



John Logie Baird, a very famous Scottish inventor, was born on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1888 before there was radio and television. There were few cars on the roads, and no planes in the skies. When Baird died in 1946, there were rockets, jet planes, the first computers – and television. He had played an important role in the invention of television. **(paragraph 1)**

John had an older brother and two older sisters. He hated school. He was often ill which caused him to miss lessons. Neither did he like sports lessons, after which the boys had to take cold baths! However, John liked science. He enjoyed going through his collection of books with stories about the future. He hoped that one day people might send pictures through the air. **(paragraph 2)**

John showed his talent at invention from a very early age. When he was just twelve, he joined his phone to the homes of four friends across the street, by hanging wires from trees and chimneys. He had to take down his wires after the driver of a horse-drawn carriage had his hat knocked off! Another time John and his friend Godfrey also tried their hand at making a glider but somehow it flew off the roof with John in it! He was lucky not to be hurt when the glider crashed in the garden. Some experiments, however, were more successful. Aged thirteen, John built a generator, to make electric power to light the house, so that, the Bairds' house was the first in the town to have electricity. **(paragraph 3)**



**Questions on Section 1**

1. Write down John Logie Baird's date of birth.

1/2 mark

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Mention **THREE** things that were invented during Baird's lifetime.

1 1/2 marks

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

3. What happened after sports lessons?

1/2 mark

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which **word** in **paragraph 3** is the **opposite** of *late*?

1/2 mark

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Read the following sentences. Put a **T** if the sentence is True, an **F** if it is False and an **N** if there is No Information Given in Section 1.

3 marks

(a) John Logie Baird was from Scotland.	
(b) Radio was invented before television.	
(c) John Logie Baird was the eldest in the family.	
(d) All his experiments were successful.	
(e) John Logie Baird liked reading stories about the future.	
(f) John Logie Baird liked inventing things.	

6. Underline the best answer.

2 marks

(a) John was (badly hurt, unhurt, slightly hurt) when he crashed with his glider.

(b) John's favourite activity was (gliding, experimenting, hanging wires).

7. In what way was the Baird family better than other families in the town?

2 marks

\_\_\_\_\_

## Section 2

In 1914, when World War One broke out, Baird tried to join the Army but due to his bad health he could not participate in the war. After that he tried out many activities. First he worked in a factory but did not like it. He then successfully went into business selling a soap called 'Baird's Speedy Cleaner'. But his dream lay elsewhere. Eventually he sold his business and concentrated on creating television, a dream of many scientists for decades.

(paragraph 4)

People passing Baird's house were often puzzled when they saw strange flashing lights. Baird would be busy trying to send pictures through the air. One day he wrote to a friend, "I am trying to invent a way of seeing by wireless." His friend said, "Stick to soap!"



(paragraph 5)

His first basic apparatus was made of odds and ends, but by 1924 he managed to transmit a flickering image across a few metres. In 1925, he gave the first public display of a working television in a shop in London. Shoppers saw slightly unclear but readable images of letters.

(paragraph 6)

Baird's first television pictures were black and white but soon he was making colour TV. Sound and vision were at first sent separately, and only began to be transmitted together from 1930. However, Baird was not the only inventor trying to develop television at that time. Other inventors were hard at work too. The television age had begun. This life-changing invention today brings us news, education, sport and entertainment. It was Baird who helped to make this possible.

(paragraph 7)

Adapted from *BBC Primary History Famous People*

### Questions on Section 2

10 marks

8. How do we know that Baird had wished to become a soldier?

1 mark

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9. Give **TWO** reasons to show that Baird was not satisfied with his business.

2 marks

(a)

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(b)

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10. Why were there strange flashing lights in Baird's house?

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11. What were the first images transmitted on television? 1 mark

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12. What important development took place in 1930? 1 mark

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13. Write down **the sentence** from **paragraph 7** which shows the effect television has had. 1 mark

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14. Read the following sentences. Put a **T** if the sentence is True, an **F** if it is False and an **N** if there is No Information Given in Section 2. 2 marks

(a) Baird tried a lot of things in life.	
(b) A number of scientists wished to invent television.	
(c) His first television was very sophisticated.	
(d) Baird sold many televisions.	

**Questions on the whole passage** **4 marks**

15. Match the following: 2 marks

(a) John Logie Baird passed away.
(b) John Logie Baird built a generator.
(c) World War One started.
(d) John Logie Baird launched his television.

1. in 1901
2. in 1914
3. in 1925
4. in 1946

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_

16. Why do you think Baird's friend advised him to 'Stick to soap'? 2 marks

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**END OF READING COMPREHENSION PAPER**