

# READING

YEAR

5

2012

0:50

Time available for students to  
complete test: 50 minutes

Use 2B or HB  
pencil **only**



## YEAR 5 READING

Read *Giddy galahs* on page 2 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 6.

1

The text suggests that galahs are

- uncommon.
- quiet.
- gentle.
- playful.

2

*So, if you haven't seen a galah, you will have probably heard one!*

What does this suggest about galahs?

- Galahs can be very loud.
- Galahs can see in the dark.
- It is unusual to see a galah.
- Galahs sound like other birds.

3

When galahs are *foraging*, they are

- doing tricks.
- making a noise.
- looking for food.
- cleaning their feathers.

4

According to the text, where do galahs play?

- on a special perch
- on tree branches
- on powerlines
- on the ground

## YEAR 5 READING

5

The way the text is written suggests that the writer

- worries about galahs.
- enjoys watching galahs.
- thinks galahs are a pest.
- trains galahs to perform tricks.

6

Which sentence best matches the information in the text?

- The early bird catches the worm.
- A forest bird never wants a cage.
- Birds of a feather flock together.
- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

**Read *Postal cats* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 7 to 12.**

7

This story is about a man who

- loses his cats.
- is helped by cats.
- does not like cats.
- wants his cats to help him.

8

Why does Leon make the backpacks?

- to put his lunch in
- for the cats to sit in
- for people to put letters in
- to give to the children in the village

## YEAR 5 READING

9

Why does Leon think his plan will work?

- People will chase the cats away.
- The cats like meeting new people.
- People hate using the red postboxes.
- The cats will return home for dinner.

10

What is one thing Leon finds out about his cats?

- They cannot be trained.
- They like to stay together.
- They can walk a long way.
- They do not like being outside.

11

What idea does Leon have at the end of the story?

- to leave his job
- to use the dog as his helper
- to collect the mail himself
- to make the dog scare away the cats

12

Which words best describe Leon?

- lazy but creative
- greedy but funny
- selfish but intelligent
- careless but kind-hearted

## YEAR 5 READING

Read *Honey bees* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 13 to 19.

- 13 The purpose of the text is to show
- how honey bees fly.
  - where honey bees live.
  - how honey bees make food.
  - how honey bees talk to each other.

- 14 What do the arrows show in the text?
- which picture belongs with each box
  - the order to read the information
  - which piece of information is the most important
  - the direction that honey bees move around the hive

- 15 A honey bee uses its tongue like
- a fine comb.
  - a long spoon.
  - a sharp needle.
  - a drinking straw.

- 16 How do honey bees turn nectar into honey?
- by adding beeswax to the nectar
  - by storing the nectar in their nectar sacs
  - by reducing the amount of water in the nectar
  - by passing nectar between the honey stomach and real stomach

## YEAR 5 READING

17

*Soon, young honey bees will be flying around looking for nectar ...*

The way this sentence finishes ( ... ) suggests that

- the honey will stay fresh for a long time.
- the honey is not good enough to eat.
- the life cycle of honey bees continues.
- the honey bees have a happy life.

18

What does the text suggest about honey bees?

- They are hard-working.
- They make a lot of noise.
- They are dangerous to humans.
- They get along with other insects.

19

Write the numbers 1 to 5 in the boxes to show the order of events in the text. The first one (  ) has been done for you.

A honey bee chews the nectar.

A honey bee collects the nectar.

A honey bee uses its wings to dry the nectar.

A honey bee adds beeswax to the honeycomb.

A honey bee passes the nectar to another honey bee.

## YEAR 5 READING

Read *Chooky Dancers go global* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 20 to 25.

20

According to the text, the dance that made the Chooky Dancers famous was

- invented by them.
- adapted from a film.
- learned from the Internet.
- taught to them in Greece.

21

*... on a dusty basketball court ...* (paragraph 2)

What is the most likely reason that this description was included in the text?

- to provide a contrast to the success of the dancers at that point
- to show that the court was run down and not used very often
- to indicate they danced because they were not very good at basketball
- to emphasise that it is an unlikely place to become famous

22

According to the text, what was the response of the Beijing audience?

- cautious approval
- thorough enjoyment
- complete confusion
- growing disappointment

23

According to the text, what made the Chooky Dancers successful?

- their formal dance training
- their experience of concert tours
- their combination of dancing and basketball
- their talent being exposed through technology

## YEAR 5 READING

24

What is the effect of using *you* in the first two paragraphs?

- to bring the reader into someone else's world
- to make the reader feel sorry for the dancers
- to encourage the reader to see the topic from all sides
- to remind the reader of similar experiences they have had

25

What contrast is made in the text?

- successful youth with unsuccessful youth
- Chinese humour with Australian humour
- remoteness with fame
- TV with the Internet

**Read *Through the break* on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 26 to 31.**

26

Shai is best described as someone who

- resists new experiences.
- is able to confront his fears.
- sets himself unrealistic goals.
- takes pleasure in being different from others.

27

The last paragraph suggests that Shai is

- afraid of the future.
- longing for the past.
- ready for the future.
- worried about the past.



## YEAR 5 READING

28

*Counts one ... two ... three ... until they emerge, then watches the practised flick of their hair.*

What does this sentence suggest?

- Shai is anxious about the surfers' safety.
- Shai is familiar with the surfers' behaviour.
- Shai is critical about the surfers' technique.
- Shai is bored with the surfers' repetitive routines.

29

The text draws attention to which of the following issues?

- age
- gender
- poverty
- immigration

30

What is the effect of the phrase *too late to turn back* in paragraph 4?

- It encourages readers to evaluate Shai's actions.
- It shows readers that Shai has made a wrong decision.
- It makes readers appreciate the drama of Shai's situation.
- It helps readers form an opinion about what Shai should do next.

31

In what way has Shai changed by the end of the text?

- He has gained a new confidence.
- He has realised the need for patience.
- He has accepted that he can learn from the past.
- He has discovered that failures lead to opportunities.

## YEAR 5 READING

Read *Space junk* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 32 to 38.

32

What is the main reason for Kevin Barker's concern about the space junk issue?

- Authorities have continued to ignore the issue.
- Some people believe that space junk is not real.
- Matthew Haymin's solution might be accepted.
- Governments continue to rely too much on satellites.

33

What is Kevin Barker's main objection to Matthew Haymin's proposal?

- It would be too risky.
- It would take too long to set up.
- It would not be technologically possible.
- It would make the current problem worse.

34

Why does the writer use an exclamation mark (!) to describe the number of redundant satellites?

- to emphasise his point
- to highlight a contrast
- to show he does not believe this
- to reinforce an idea that will be referred to later in the text

35

What is the purpose of the questions Kevin Barker asks in paragraph 3?

- to highlight the flaws in Haymin's proposal
- to challenge Haymin to write a letter of reply
- to encourage readers to find the answers to these questions
- to draw attention to the fact that these questions are unanswerable

## YEAR 5 READING

36

Kevin Barker's tone is best described as

- indignant.
- enthusiastic.
- restrained.
- insensitive.

37

What does the phrase *human footprint* in space refer to?

- humans' desire to use space
- technological advances in space
- consequences of human activity in space
- the places humans have visited in space

38

What is the main reason Kevin Barker wrote the letter?

- to correct the media
- to dispute Haymin's ideas
- to explain why governments have not taken action
- to make organisations that produce satellites realise they are irresponsible

**STOP – END OF TEST**

## PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Read *Sara's early morning* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions P1 and P2.

**P1**

What did Sara plan to do on Saturday morning?

- homework
- play football
- go horseriding
- make breakfast

**P2**

Write the numbers 1 to 4 in the boxes to show the order of events in the text.  
The first one (  ) has been done for you.

- Sara put on football boots.
- Sara went back to bed.
- Sara got up early.
- Sara put on her shirt.