



NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
LITERACY AND NUMERACY

# READING

YEAR

# 7

2008

## 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:

**0:65** Time available for students to complete  
test: 65 minutes

Use 2B  
pencil **only**



# YEAR 7 READING

Read *Dale Richards* on page 3 of the magazine and answer questions 1 to 5.

1 Dale has been surfing since

- 1988.
- he was 11.
- he finished school.
- he moved to Townsville.

Shade one bubble.



2 As a student at school, Dale surfed

- as much as he could.
- on the weekends only.
- at 4 am every morning.
- for eight hours each day.

3 This text mainly describes Dale's

- school life.
- plans for the future.
- daily surfing routine.
- development as a surfer.

# YEAR 7 READING

4 According to the text, one thing that has contributed to Dale's surfing success is that

- he has been given support.
- he has a background in football.
- he has had to fight for his dreams.
- he has surfed in different countries.

Shade one bubble.



5 What is the main purpose of this text?

- to warn
- to argue
- to inform
- to criticise

*continued on next page*

© MCEETYA 2008

1234567

# YEAR 7 READING

Read *Lacy* on page 4 of the magazine and answer questions 6 to 11.

6 ... *the air was baked thin above the shed.*

This suggests that

- the shed was used as a bakery.
- the roof of the shed was very hot.
- the narrator lived high up in the mountains.
- the drought had changed the look of things.

Shade one bubble.



7 According to the text, why did the narrator think that the goanna was a dinosaur?

---

---

---

Write the answer on the lines.



8 The narrator chases after Lacy goanna when she heads for the chookhouse.

This is because the narrator thinks

- the goanna might be in danger.
- the chickens might be in danger.
- the goanna might escape from her farm.
- the tree might break under the goanna's weight.

Shade one bubble.



# YEAR 7 READING

9 The narrator suggests that Lacy goanna climbs the wattle tree to

- get away from her.
- rest in the heat of the day.
- get ready for a fight with her.
- get a better view of the chookhouse.

Shade one bubble.



10 Near the end of the story, why is the narrator *eye-to-eye* with Lacy goanna?

- The narrator is on the chookhouse roof.
- The narrator has also climbed up the tree.
- The branch holding Lacy goanna is bent down.
- Lacy goanna has climbed halfway down the tree.

11 *No, you can't see me really.* (second last paragraph)

Who is *you* in this sentence?

- the reader
- the chooks
- the goanna
- the narrator

*continued on next page*

© MCEETYA 2008

1234567

# YEAR 7 READING

Read *Pet dogs* — *what do you think?* on page 5 of the magazine and answer questions 12 to 16.

12 What do the two writers agree about?

- Dogs deserve good food.
- Dogs should be properly trained.
- Dog owners need a sense of humour.
- Dog owners spend too much on their pets.

Shade one bubble.



13 According to Sarah, *bounders* are dogs that

- chase you.
- attack you.
- bark at you.
- jump at you.

14 John suggests that having a pet dog in the classroom is

- a good way of training a dog to be calm.
- cruel for the dog but useful for the teacher.
- disruptive for the teacher and the students.
- a way of making classrooms happier places.

15 Which sentence best describes John's attitude to dog training?

- It is hard work for the dog.
- It is not hard for the owner to do.
- It is a good thing for both the dog and the owner.
- It is unnecessary because dogs easily understand humans.

16 John writes, *we do give dogs a good life.*

Which paragraph of Sarah's letter is he responding to most directly?

- paragraph 1
- paragraph 2
- paragraph 3
- paragraph 4

# YEAR 7 READING

Read 'Oddball' idea protects island penguin population on page 6 of the magazine and answer questions 17 to 22.

17 What had happened to most of Middle Island's penguins?

- They had been killed by other animals.
- They had been scared away by people.
- They had stopped breeding for no obvious reason.
- They had been taken to another island for protection.

Shade one bubble.



18 About how many penguins were on the island when it had a flourishing population?

27

70

1990

2000

19 What was Allan Marsh's radical plan?

- to use alpacas as guard animals
- to use dogs to guard wild animals
- to use dogs to guard farm animals
- to use volunteers to guard the island

20 What feature of maremma dogs is most important in this story?

- They come from Italy.
- They are very territorial.
- They are an ancient breed.
- They are large and shaggy.

# YEAR 7 READING

- 21 The purpose of the last paragraph is to suggest that
- people should think globally but act locally.
  - Allan 'Swampy' Marsh is a typical Australian.
  - it may be possible to use this local idea more widely.
  - every environmental problem needs a unique solution.

Shade one bubble.



- 22 Allan 'Swampy' Marsh is portrayed to the reader as
- a lonely man who often comes up with unusual plans.
  - a humorous, down-to-earth man with independent ideas.
  - an ordinary man reluctantly caught up in an extraordinary story.
  - an idealistic man who has spent his life working for environmental causes.

**Read *Across the Pacific* on page 7 of the magazine and answer questions 23 to 28.**

- 23 Where did the Polynesians first come from?
- Tonga and Samoa
  - Indonesia and Malaysia
  - the easterly Hawaiian islands
  - islands scattered throughout the Pacific Ocean

- 24 According to the text, we know how widely the Polynesians travelled and settled because
- they left traces of their Lapita pottery.
  - they built gigantic stone statues.
  - they used sturdy dugout canoes.
  - they created detailed maps.

# YEAR 7 READING

25 According to the text, why were the Easter Island statues made?

- to display the people's carving skills
- to take advantage of the soft rock
- to help sailors navigate
- to protect the island

Shade one bubble.



26 *They navigated incredible distances in sturdy dugout canoes, 'reading' changes in the swell of the sea.*

Inverted commas are used around *reading* to show that this word is

- a quotation.
- particularly important.
- an old-fashioned word.
- used with a special meaning.

27 The main purpose of *Across the Pacific* is to provide information about

- the variety of Pacific islands.
- Polynesian settlement of the Pacific.
- the artworks found on Pacific islands.
- early Polynesian navigation techniques.

28 The attitude towards the first Polynesians suggested by the section *Reading the Sea and the Sky* is one of

- caution.
- criticism.
- neutrality.
- admiration.

# YEAR 7 READING

Read *Wasp* on page 8 of the magazine and answer questions 29 to 35.

- 29 This poem encourages the reader to think about
- a wasp's view of the world.
  - a human's view of the world.
  - what wasps should do to protect themselves from humans.
  - what humans should do to protect themselves from wasps.

Shade one bubble.



- 30 In the first verse, the poet is
- asking a question.
  - making a statement.
  - giving an instruction.
  - making an exclamation.

- 31 For the wasp, the *World's all wrong* because it
- is afraid of humans.
  - cannot breathe properly.
  - cannot sense the difference between air and glass.
  - is worried that the air in the car might be poisonous.

- 32 In the poem, the way the wasp feels changes from
- excited to sleepy.
  - frantic to relieved.
  - furious to frightened.
  - disbelieving to despairing.

# YEAR 7 READING

33 The third verse describes

- what the wasp longs for.
- where the wasp is flying.
- why the car has stopped.
- how fast the car is travelling.

Shade one bubble.



34 Treason is a crime of disloyalty.

The line *Air itself in treason* suggests that

- wasps are untrusting by nature.
- the wasp is acting like a criminal.
- the wasp will now be suspicious of cars.
- the wasp can no longer trust its environment.

35 Overall, the poet's view of the wasp is one of

- fear.
- sadness.
- sympathy.
- admiration.

*continued on next page*

## YEAR 7 READING

Read *The double life of a slippery axolotl* on page 9 of the magazine and answer questions 36 to 40.

36 Up until the 1865 exhibition, scientists thought that

- axolotls and salamanders were members of different species.
- axolotls and salamanders did not live in the same natural habitat.
- axolotls were an earlier stage in the development of salamanders.
- axolotls were incapable of changing outside their natural environment.

Shade one bubble.



37 The effect of using the word *So* at the beginning of the second paragraph is to

- shift the reader's attention to a different topic.
- draw attention to a current point of view on the subject.
- signal that the following information picks up from the first paragraph.
- introduce a second argument that is unrelated to the content of the first paragraph.

38 What is the *environmental pressure* referred to in the second paragraph?

- the scarcity of food in the lakes where axolotls live
- the aridity of the land near the lakes where axolotls live
- the absence of breeding sites for axolotls in the local environment
- the lack of a reliable food source in the axolotl's natural environment

# YEAR 7 READING

39 What is likely to affect the amount of thyroxin released in an axolotl?

- differences in its diet
- variations in hours of daylight
- sudden increases in body size
- differences in its physical maturity

Shade one bubble.



40 Which of the following expressions is an example of figurative language?

- were different species*
- reach sexual maturity*
- switch off this biological signal*
- affects a part of the brain called the hypothalamus*

*continued on next page*

# YEAR 7 READING

Read *Space Exploration: Is it worth it?* on page 10 of the magazine and answer questions 41 to 46.

41 Which aspect of space exploration does Switched-on mainly write about?

- its cost to the community
- its capacity to encourage heroes
- its effect on ecological sustainability
- its contribution to technology in everyday life

Shade one bubble.



42 Planet Girl writes that *Space exploration is a luxury we cannot afford*. She means that space exploration is

- expensive but necessary.
- expensive and unnecessary.
- very important but too expensive.
- not very important but affordable.

43 Planet Girl wrote:

*Meanwhile the US space agency has US\$16 billion to play with every year.*

What do the words 'play with' add to the tone of Planet Girl's argument?

- variety
- sadness
- criticism
- approval

44 What is the most likely reason that JJ does not discuss the cost of space exploration?

- He knows Planet Girl is wrong about the cost of space exploration.
- He thinks space exploration is worthwhile, whatever the cost.
- He does not know how much space exploration costs.
- He agrees that space exploration costs too much.

# YEAR 7 READING

45 Who would be most likely to say that it is good to have *science fiction dreams*?

- Planet Girl
- Dragon
- JJ
- Penny

Shade one bubble.



46 What is one point that Planet Girl and JJ are most likely to agree about?

- Earth's resources are fast disappearing.
- Spending money on war is unnecessary.
- Space exploration encourages creativity.
- Living on other planets is a real possibility.

## END OF TEST

# YEAR 7 READING PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Read *Barn Owls* on the back cover of the magazine and answer questions P1 to P3.

P1 This text is mainly about the Barn Owl's

- diet.
- habitat.
- hunting.
- breeding.

Shade one bubble.



P2 Which word in the text describes the Barn Owl's hearing?

inactive

excellent

exceptional

night

P3 Why do Barn Owls need good night vision?

Write the answer on the line.



---