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Education Bureau
Territory-wide System Assessment 2008
Secondary 3 English Language
Reading
Question Booklet

Instructions:

1. There are 6 pages in this Question Booklet.
2. Time allowed is 30 minutes.
3. Do not write anything in this Question Booklet.
4. **Answer all questions in the Answer Booklet provided.**

Part 1

Your English teacher has asked you to compare two book reviews.

Read the reviews below.

Complete the note sheet in the Answer Booklet.

The Way Home

By Richard Brown

Review by Sam Green

Being lost in a huge forest can be a terrifying experience. That is exactly what happened to 12-year-old Jonathon Sands. He was at a campsite with his parents when, one day, he decided to go exploring on his own. On his first night, he lost his way back to the campsite and was chased by an angry bear. He was able to get away by hiding in a small cave. The next day, he ran

1 into more trouble. Late in the evening, he heard wolves howling close by. He was sure this was the end for him. Despite his fear, he was able to climb high enough up a tree to keep away from the hungry animals. 15

10 Jonathon's story is about a brave young boy who survives two long nights in the wild. 20

The Way Home

By Richard Brown

Review by Holly Black

Richard Brown's story about a 12-year-old boy is just not believable. It is not a story of courage but one of pure luck. True, it is sad that he gets lost in a thick forest and is all alone for two nights. However, knowing that he was in the middle of a thick forest, he should not have wandered away from the campsite. The first night, he tells us that he saw a bear. But then he says that the bear was in

1 the distance. He was scared but still had time to find a small cave in which to hide. Also, I believe, he only imagines the wolves circling because he never tells us that he actually sees them but only hears them howling. 15

10 This story is not one of courage. It is only a story of a silly 12-year-old boy who should have stayed at the campsite. 20

Part 2

Tony is doing a project for his Social Studies class. He is reading the following article about life in Hong Kong.

Read the article carefully and answer the questions.

Hong Kong - City of Life

Many people think that the living conditions in Hong Kong are not good. Not only is it small and crowded, but the air quality can also be very bad. However, many people from foreign countries still choose to live here. One reason may be that they find living in Hong Kong very convenient. 1

Take eating out as an example. Here in Hong Kong, people can choose from different cuisines from all over the world. Chinese food, of course, can be found everywhere. Teahouses, or 'cha chan tang', in particular, are very popular with anyone who goes out with their family or friends for an inexpensive and delicious meal. 5

Getting around in Hong Kong is also very convenient. No matter where people live, they can travel to and from their home by bus, minibus, train, tram or taxi. What's more, many of these means of public transport run all night. So people never have to worry about getting home even very late at night. 10

Finally, Hong Kong is a world famous shopper's paradise. It provides all types of quality goods for sale. People can easily buy whatever they want. There are big shopping centres for those who want brand name products. There are also street markets where people can find good bargains. A good thing about shopping in Hong Kong is that there is no sales tax! 15

In short, no matter whether eating, getting around or shopping, Hong Kong offers great choice and convenience. Wouldn't you like to live here too?

Choose the best answer and blacken the circle in the Answer Booklet.

1. According to paragraph 1, which TWO of the following are **TRUE** about living in Hong Kong?
 - A. The air is dirty.
 - B. Things are expensive.
 - C. There are many people.
 - D. Public transport is slow.
2. Which of the following has the same meaning as the word 'cuisines' in paragraph 2, line 6?
 - A. restaurants
 - B. shops
 - C. types of food
 - D. foreign food

3. According to paragraph 2, why are teahouses popular in Hong Kong?
- A. The Chinese love eating out.
 - B. Only family members are allowed.
 - C. The food is usually cheap.
 - D. They only sell tea.
4. According to paragraph 3, why don't people in Hong Kong worry about getting around late at night?
- A. People seldom go out at night.
 - B. People can usually walk back home.
 - C. There is public transport 24 hours a day.
 - D. People don't go home until the next morning.
5. In paragraph 4, line 13, what does the word 'it' refer to?
- A. the world
 - B. Hong Kong
 - C. a sale
 - D. quality goods
6. Where could you find this article?
- A. a food guide
 - B. a book review
 - C. a youth magazine
 - D. a travel magazine

Part 3

Daniel is a visitor from England. In his journal, he writes about cinemas in Hong Kong.

Read the journal carefully. Answer the following questions.

Cinemas in Hong Kong

Although it is a relatively small city in China, Hong Kong has many cinemas with features that are unique. 1

Ticket prices in Hong Kong are affordable. In the UK, for example, you have to pay an average of £ 8 (approximately HK\$ 120) for a film. However, the ticket price in Hong Kong is only around HK\$60. In addition, there are special prices for students and the elderly, who get a discount when they present their student ID or Senior Citizen Card. 5

It is also convenient to buy tickets in Hong Kong. People can reserve their tickets on the Internet or over the phone. When they arrive at the cinema, all they have to do is to collect their tickets from a ticket-machine located near the box office. This saves a lot of time queuing for film tickets, especially during festivals and holidays when nearly all cinemas are packed. 10

Talking about going to see films in Hong Kong, the choices here are many. In Hong Kong, films come from all over the world, from Hollywood (of course), and Asian countries like Korea, Japan, China or Thailand. People can choose to see comedy, horror, science-fiction, romance and action films in different languages. 15

Apart from going to *yumcha* or shopping, going to the cinema is one of the most popular activities in Hong Kong. Despite mobile phones that often ring during the show, everyone can still enjoy the wonderful experience of watching a film in Hong Kong! 20

Choose the best answer and blacken the circle in the Answer Booklet.

1. According to paragraph 2, which of the following is true about ticket prices in Hong Kong?
 - A. They are fixed at \$60.
 - B. They are the cheapest in the world.
 - C. They are cheaper than those in the UK.
 - D. All people under 18 can get a discount.

2. In paragraph 3, line 8, the phrase ‘reserve their tickets’ means to _____.
 - A. take their tickets
 - B. book their tickets
 - C. bring their tickets
 - D. borrow their tickets

3. According to paragraph 3, the main function of the ticket-machine is to_____.
- A. exchange tickets
 - B. print out tickets bought at the box office
 - C. allow people to pick up their reserved tickets
 - D. collect tickets from people
4. In paragraph 4, according to the writer, what is special about the many films shown in Hong Kong?
- A. They are produced in the States.
 - B. There are many choices of film types.
 - C. Hollywood films are the most popular.
 - D. Films are only available in Chinese.
5. In paragraph 5, the writer tells us that _____.
- A. *yumcha* and shopping are not popular in Hong Kong
 - B. people always go shopping before going to the cinema
 - C. people of all ages enjoy going to the cinema
 - D. mobile phones seldom ring in the cinemas

END OF PAPER

