

**Territory-wide System Assessment 2011**  
**Secondary 3 English Language**

**Tapescript Part 1 (9EL1)**

**Narrator:** *You are doing a project on China for your Social Studies class.*

Read the information sheet, listen to the conversation between Peter and Mary and answer the questions. The dialogue will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and answer all questions the second time. You now have one minute to read the information sheet and the questions. (*music 60 secs.*)

The dialogue will begin now.

**[Mary:** Hi Peter, you lived in China for a while, didn't you?

**Peter:** Yeah, I was at a university in Beijing for four years. I've been back home for about a month now.

**Mary:** So, you must be happy to be back home.

**Peter:** Yes, I am, but at the same time, I miss China.

**Mary:** Really? Why is that?

**Peter:** China is very different from the West. It's a very old culture, but many of its cities are growing so fast. Old buildings are being knocked down and new ones are springing up everywhere.

**Mary:** That's a shame, isn't it?

**Peter:** I think so, but that's progress. However, one important old structure that most people like to see is the Great Wall of China. You know, I actually spent a night sleeping on the wall with others in my tour group.

**Mary:** Really? What was that like?

**Peter:** Not much fun to be honest. It was cold, even with my thick sleeping bag. But, worst of all, there must have been hundreds of tiny insects crawling about. I spent half the night scratching every part of my body and didn't sleep very well.

**Mary:** Oh, I wouldn't like to sleep there, but I do want to see the Great Wall someday. Where else did you go in China?

- Peter:** Let's see, I was in Guilin where the fishermen use cormorants, those long-necked seabirds, to catch fish.
- Mary:** Oh yes, cormorants. I see.
- Peter:** Before the bird goes into the water, the fisherman ties a ring round the bird's neck. This stops it from eating, or swallowing the fish. Then the fisherman forces the bird to throw up the fish. After catching enough, the bird is allowed to eat.
- Mary:** Wow! That's fascinating. I'd like to see that. Did you see anything else?
- Peter:** Well, I visited the Yangtze Three Gorges Project. It's one of the biggest dams in the world. This dam helps to stop the Yangtze River from flooding. Regular flooding is a major problem every year.
- Mary:** Yes, I've heard that it's a great engineering project.
- Peter:** Yes, it is. Apart from the different cities I've visited, it's the small, isolated villages and breath-taking scenery of the countryside that I miss the most.
- Mary:** I'm not surprised. Well I hope you get another opportunity to go back sometime.
- Peter:** I hope so.]
- Narrator:** Now listen to the dialogue again. *{Repeat []}*
- Narrator:** You have 30 seconds to check your answers. *(music 30 secs.)*
- This is the end of Part 1.