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Education Bureau
Territory-wide System Assessment 2012
Secondary 3 English Language
Reading
Question Booklet

Instructions:

1. There are 12 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

You are researching information about cycling in Hong Kong for an end of year activity.

Read the information leaflet and answer the questions.

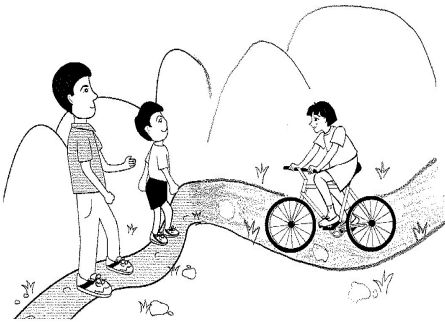


Cycling in Hong Kong

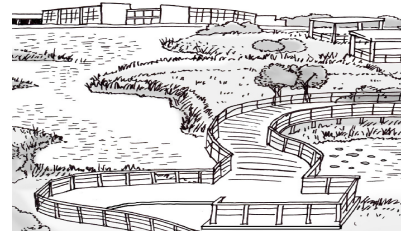


Riding in Country Parks

Riding in country parks is allowed if you have a permit. You must wear a helmet, colourful clothing like a yellow vest and shoes that make you visible to hikers.



Your bicycle must have a horn or bell. The brakes must be in excellent condition as there are many hills and steep climbs.



Cycling is Good for You

Cycling is a great way to enjoy the countryside of Hong Kong. As well as enjoying the natural beauty you will also become fit and healthy.

Besides the health benefits and fun, cycling can help reduce pollution and clean the air.

Cycling DOs and DON'Ts

You can cycle in the urban and rural areas. A rider cycling on roads must observe the traffic lights, traffic signs, road markings and other traffic rules. Cycling is not allowed on expressways and footpaths. Bicycle riders need to keep to the left and travel in single file except when overtaking or making a right turn.



Safety when Cycling

You need to know the basic riding skills. If you haven't ridden a bicycle for a long time, it is advisable to start in a safe area. All riders should wear safety helmets and protective pads. Cyclists should ride on bike tracks where possible.



A bicycle cannot carry passengers, goods or animals! Carrying a passenger or a heavy load may upset your balance or obstruct your vision! While riding in the dark or at times of poor visibility, you should turn on a white light in front and a red light at the rear of your bicycle.



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

1. One advantage of riding a bicycle is that _____.
 - A. you can explore Hong Kong with friends and pets
 - B. a bike is the best way to get around the urban areas of Hong Kong
 - C. you can enjoy all that Hong Kong has to offer
 - D. it helps to protect the environment

2. Starting to ride in a safe area will help you to _____.
 - A. show off your safety helmet
 - B. practise falling on your protective pads
 - C. reduce pollution
 - D. practise riding safely

3. Bicycle riders must ***NOT*** _____.
 - A. travel on expressways
 - B. travel on bike tracks
 - C. ride on the left-hand side
 - D. wear helmets and pads

4. In **Cycling DOs and DON'Ts**, if you ride in 'single file' it means you are _____.
 - A. the only bicycle rider
 - B. riding one after the other
 - C. riding next to each other
 - D. taking it in turns to ride

5. If you ride your bicycle in the dark your bicycle must have _____.
 - A. a horn
 - B. excellent brakes
 - C. red and white lights
 - D. a permit

6. Some equipment that you need when you ride a bike is _____.
 - A. a safety helmet
 - B. a set of colourful yellow lights
 - C. a seat for carrying a passenger
 - D. a rack for carrying goods

7. A horn or bell is required so that the riders can _____.
- A. play music in the country park
 - B. warn the hikers they are coming
 - C. attract animals
 - D. ride down steep hills
8. If you want to ride in the country parks you need _____.
- A. excellent brakes
 - B. colourful clothing
 - C. a permit
 - D. all of the above


Part 2

You are working on a history project and your teacher gave you this blog to read.

Read the History Blog excerpt and answer the questions.

www.thehistoryblog.com.sa


1 **East and West Germany**



5 At the end of the Second World War, Germany was divided into sections. The city of Berlin was divided into four sections and East Germany was controlled by the Russians. About 3.5 million East Germans defected because life was so hard. In 1961, the government erected a wall to try to stem the flow of people from east to west. It made it almost impossible for people from East Germany to get to the West. However, the number of escapes attempted after 1961 totalled 5000.

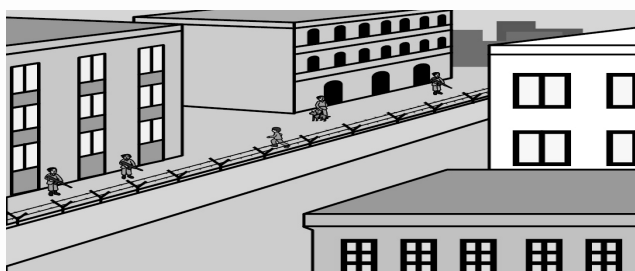
10 **Escapes from East Germany**

The most famous section of the wall was known as the Berlin Wall. One escape from East Berlin was unusual. Two families working together bought small amounts of nylon cloth. The buying of the cloth in secret and in small amounts did not raise any suspicion. When they had enough cloth they sewed it together to form a hot air balloon. They had just enough fuel to get in the air and barely floated over the Berlin Wall. They reached West Berlin safely. As a result of this successful escape, the purchase of lightweight cloth in East Germany was strictly controlled.



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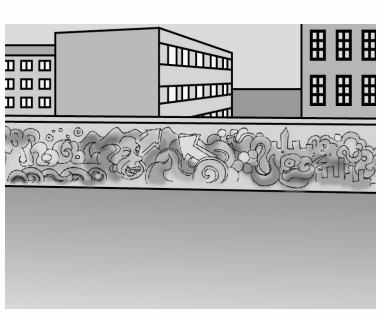


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Another person tried to crash through the Berlin Wall in a tank. The driver of the tank was shot by the East German border guards. Then he was rescued by West German police.

'No-man's land'

In the early days of the Berlin Wall people used the buildings they lived in to help get them across. Some jumped out of their windows. Others used rope strung between the east and west to slide across. In response, the East German government demolished all the buildings next to the wall that divided east and west. The area was patrolled regularly by soldiers and dogs. There were mines, wire, fences and guard towers to stop anyone trying to run across the area. This area was called 'No-man's land'. It is estimated that nearly 200 people died trying to get across to West Germany.



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

1. To escape from East Germany to the West became difficult after _____.
 - A. Berlin was divided into four sections
 - B. the Russians got control of East Germany
 - C. the wall went up
 - D. many people died trying

2. Why were people defecting to the West? They _____.
 - A. wanted a better life
 - B. wanted to escape with friends
 - C. wanted to see what it took to escape
 - D. were worried about their families in the West

3. To 'stem the flow (of people)' in lines 6-7 means to _____.
 - A. stop in parts
 - B. start slowly
 - C. continue quickly
 - D. stop completely

4. Which of the following escapes were attempted?
 1. using a hot air balloon
 2. crashing a tank
 3. jumping out of windows
 4. patrolling 'No-man's land'
 - A. 1 and 4
 - B. 1, 3 and 4
 - C. 2 and 3
 - D. 1, 2 and 3

5. The buying of lightweight cloth was controlled because _____.
 - A. it was expensive
 - B. people used it to escape
 - C. it was dangerous material
 - D. it was too small

6. 'No-man's land' was _____.
 - A. safe and accessible
 - B. easy to get across
 - C. a course used for training dogs
 - D. a dangerous area to try to get across

7. The number of people trying to escape from East Germany after the wall was erected totalled _____.
- A. 3.5 million
 - B. 5000
 - C. 200
 - D. not given

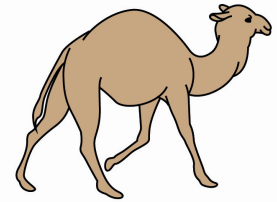
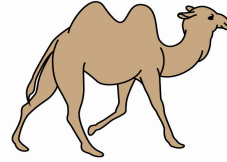
Part 3

You are working on a geography assignment. Your teacher gave you this article to read.

Read the article and answer the questions.

Camel Facts

- (1) Known as the ship of the desert
- (2) They have one hump (the dromedary) or two (the bactrian)
- (3) They can go for a long time without water
- (4) They spit
- (5) Camels are omnivorous – they can eat both meat and vegetation
- (6) Camel meat has no cholesterol and little fat
- (7) The fat is in the hump
- (8) 90% of the world's camels are dromedaries
- (9) Camels sway when they walk – one reason they are called the ships of the desert



- 1 Camels are suited to the desert environment. They can go for a long time without water. The heat does not affect them. A camel's thick coat reflects sunlight and protects it from the intense heat of the desert sand. Their long legs keep them further from the hot ground. Camels have also been known to swim.
- 5 They can be found where there are deserts. They are causing problems in one country in particular. Australia has the largest wild camel population in the world. It is growing at about 10 per cent per year and doubling every nine years. Their numbers have exploded to about one million, and the population spans large parts of Australia. Camels roam across vast stretches of wilderness in Australia's outback, which is bone dry and remote.
- 10 Camels were introduced to Australia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to haul material and supplies. Thousands of camels were imported between 1840 and 1907 to open up the arid areas of central and western Australia. They were used for riding, and as draught (working) and pack animals for exploration. Camels were also used to supply goods to remote mines and settlements.
- 15 They compete with Australian native animals for food and water. They are the cause of the extinction of some desert marsupials and plant species. They are also blamed for producing methane gas. Methane adds to greenhouse gas emissions which are damaging our ozone layer.

- 20 Australian environmentalists have campaigned to reduce the growing numbers of camels. Yet nothing is being done to solve the problem. It has been suggested that these wild animals should be culled. However, animal activists have said it is cruel to kill camels.

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

There are nine facts in the *Camel Facts* box. Read each sentence and match with one corresponding fact.

The first one has been done for you as an example.

Example

Camels are unfriendly animals.

The corresponding fact is _____.

- A. 5
- B. 9
- C. 4 ✓
- D. 6

1. Camels are good for you to eat.

The corresponding fact is _____.

- A. 7
- B. 3
- C. 5
- D. 6

2. Camels have a special way of walking.

The corresponding fact is _____.

- A. 8
- B. 2
- C. 9
- D. 1

3. The diet of camels is varied.

The corresponding fact is _____.

- A. 5
- B. 3
- C. 6
- D. 7

4. Most camels in the world have one hump.

The corresponding fact is _____.

- A. 7
- B. 1
- C. 8
- D. 2

5. Which word(s) in paragraph 2 describe(s) the environment that camels live in?
- A. growing
 - B. roam
 - C. bone dry
 - D. outback
6. The word 'remote' in paragraph 2, line 9 could be replaced with _____.
- A. secret
 - B. wild
 - C. private
 - D. far away
7. Why do you think that camels are called the ships of the desert? They _____.
- A. can swim well
 - B. used to transport goods in the Australian desert
 - C. can have one or two humps
 - D. do not need to drink lots of water

Are the sentences a Fact , an Opinion , or is the information Not given ?	Camels can have one or two humps.	8. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	Camels do not need to drink large amounts of water.	9. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	Camels are friendly creatures.	10. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	Camels were introduced to Australia in the late 19 th century.	11. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	Camels are destroying the desert environment.	12. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given

Are the sentences a Fact , an Opinion , or is the information Not given ?	The number of camels should be reduced.	13. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	Tourists like to ride camels.	14. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given
	It is cruel to kill camels.	15. A. Fact B. Opinion C. Not given

16. Camels were introduced to Australia because they were able to _____.

- A. work in a harsh environment
- B. compete with native animals for food and water
- C. go for a long time without food
- D. work in the mines

17. If nothing is done to solve the camel problem, _____.

- A. plants and wildlife species will be introduced to Australia
- B. materials and supplies will be lost
- C. the environment will be damaged
- D. camels will migrate to other parts of Australia

18. Look at the word 'culled' in line 21. Now, look at the dictionary entry for 'cull' below. Which meaning corresponds to the word in line 21?

1. (v) choose or gather the best	2. (v) gather (flowers, fruit)
3. (v) destroy animals (especially weak ones) in a herd	4. (v) stop employing someone

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

19. A title for this piece of writing could be _____.

- A. Australia's Cute Camels are in Danger
- B. Spitting in the Wilderness is a Crime
- C. The Ship of the Desert is Destroying the Environment
- D. Greenhouse Gas Emissions are Rising

20. Where would you find this piece of writing? In a _____.
- A. travel blog
 - B. pamphlet
 - C. story
 - D. magazine

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the Territory-wide System Assessment Report on the Basic Competencies of Students in Chinese Language, English Language and Mathematics published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

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