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Education Bureau
Territory-wide System Assessment 2014
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

The English Society is looking for an interesting way to promote Reading Week. Your NET teacher has found an article for you to read that may give you some ideas.

Read the article and answer the questions.



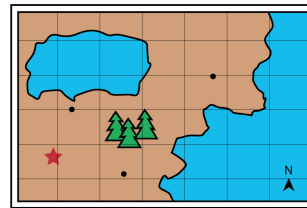
An author is in the news and at the top of bestseller lists around the world. All because of a book she started writing for her children. In an era of smartphones, the internet and instant answers, author Roberta Carroll gets readers to take a step back in time, to when life was slower and technology not as widespread. It starts with a book that has only one page. Add the use of envelopes, stamps, snail mail, postmen, a hidden treasure and you begin to see why everyone is talking about

The Treasure Hunt Build-a-Book™ by Roberta Carroll.



The treasure hunt has everyone from little children to adults excited and searching for answers. Clubs of treasure hunters have formed to see if they can win by pooling their resources and ideas!

Ms. Carroll's book is the first ever sold to contain only one page. On that one and only page is the first clue. Each book has a different page and a different clue. No two books are the same! To prevent people from buying a number of books to get different clues, there is a limit of one book per reader.



All competitors have to complete a special registration process before they can begin hunting! When a clue is solved the reader has to send the answer in a letter to an address provided. If their answer is correct, they have to wait until their next clue arrives in the mail before they can continue! If not, another letter tells them to try again!

Clues are completed at random. When all pages have been received they form a giant treasure map. This is why teams and clubs are forming. Together they work on the clues in the hope that they will be able to come up with one complete book and map and share in the prize.

Some people are making money by selling their clue pages online. Prices started out low before word of the treasure got out. With things getting crazier and more people trying to get clues, prices are soaring. It seems they will only keep going up!



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

1. The author is famous because _____.
 - A. she writes books for children
 - B. her book is about technology
 - C. her book is a bestseller
 - D. she only uses envelopes and stamps
2. The book is special because it encourages the use of _____.
 - A. smartphones
 - B. time
 - C. the internet
 - D. letters
3. To find the treasure, the treasure hunters have to use 'snail mail'. Snail mail is _____.
 - A. another term for email
 - B. mail delivered by the postal system
 - C. mail delivered by snails
 - D. another term for a postman
4. If people are 'pooling' their resources and ideas, it means they are _____.
 - A. collecting ideas and working together
 - B. working by themselves
 - C. going to the swimming pool
 - D. using information from the internet
5. The book is different from other books because it _____.
 - A. has a big map on the first page
 - B. starts with the same clue
 - C. has the same first page
 - D. has one page when it is bought
6. There is a limit per customer so that _____.
 - A. there are enough books for everyone
 - B. it is easier to register
 - C. everyone finishes with the same clue
 - D. no one gets all of the clues

7. The registration is required so that _____.
- A. treasure hunters can get their clues
 - B. the author knows how many books have been sold
 - C. people can buy more clues
 - D. treasure hunters don't have to read the book
8. The reader has to _____.
- 1. solve the clue
 - 2. register
 - 3. wait for the next clue
 - 4. mail the answer to the clue
- A. 4 → 3 → 2 → 1
 - B. 1 → 3 → 4 → 2
 - C. 2 → 1 → 4 → 3
 - D. 3 → 4 → 2 → 1
9. Teams and clubs may have an advantage over a single reader because _____.
- A. they can get more prizes
 - B. bigger groups get more excited
 - C. they can share the prize
 - D. they have more clues
10. If competitors have a complete book, they will _____.
- A. sell the treasure
 - B. have a complete treasure map
 - C. each get a prize
 - D. save money on stamps
11. People are buying books and selling them to _____.
- A. other treasure hunters
 - B. the author's children
 - C. online collectors
 - D. postmen
12. After readers have a complete book, they _____.
- A. can send a letter to get their prize
 - B. have to tell people about the treasure
 - C. can sell their book to the post office
 - D. have to follow the map to find the treasure

Part 2

You have to describe movie monsters for a project on movies. Your English teacher has given you a poem to help you get started.

Read the poem and answer the questions.

I'd Like To Meet An Alien

1 I'd like to meet an alien.
Yeah, wouldn't that be neat?
I'm sure there's not another
creature I would rather meet.

5 I wouldn't care if he was big,
or medium, or tiny,
or if his skin was rough and tough,
or super smooth and shiny.

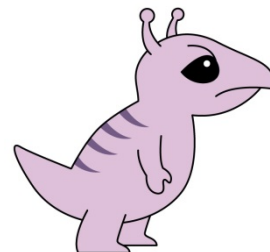
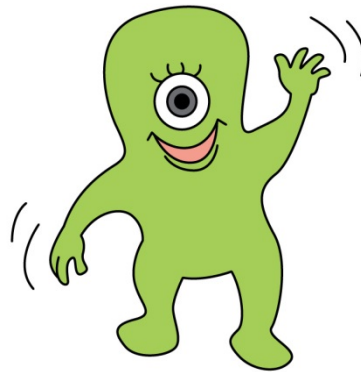
10 I'd like him if his head were bald
or covered up with hair.
I'd like him if his face were round,
triangular, or square.

15 He could be colored black and white,
or yellow, red, and green.
He might be awfully dirty
or meticulously clean.

20 I'd like him if he whispered
and I'd like him if he yelled.
I'd like him if he used perfume
or positively smelled.

It wouldn't matter much to me
if he was soft or scaly,
or if he danced the rhumba
or he played the ukulele.

25 He could look like a lizard
or be furry and mammalian.
I'd simply like to scare my mom
by bringing home an alien.



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

1. In the first stanza, 'neat' rhymes with _____.
- A. alien
 - B. another
 - C. creature
 - D. meet
2. According to stanza two, the aliens could be many sizes. Select the correct sequence of the sizes mentioned.



- A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4
3. In stanza two, the rhyming pair is _____.
- A. if and big
 - B. medium and tiny
 - C. rough and tough
 - D. smooth and shiny
4. The faces of the aliens could be various shapes. Select the correct sequence of the shapes mentioned in stanza three.



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




5. In stanza four, the alien might be ‘meticulously clean’. If something is ‘meticulously clean’, it is _____.
- A. easy to keep clean
 - B. hard to keep clean
 - C. extremely dirty
 - D. very clean
6. In stanza six, if the alien is ‘scaly’ it could look like a _____.
- A. cat
 - B. snake
 - C. bear
 - D. bird
7. The boy in the poem wants an alien because he wants it to _____ his mother.
- A. clean the house for
 - B. play music for
 - C. make perfume for
 - D. frighten
8. The title of the poem is ‘I’d Like To Meet An Alien’. Another possible title for the poem could be _____.
- A. The Alien That Smells
 - B. An Alien To Scare My Mom
 - C. The Alien Plays Music
 - D. Mom Loves My Alien

Part 3

You are going to do a presentation on transport problems all over the world. Your English teacher has given you a page from a blog about transport to help you.

Read the blog and answer the questions.

www.travellinginhongkongblog.com.hk



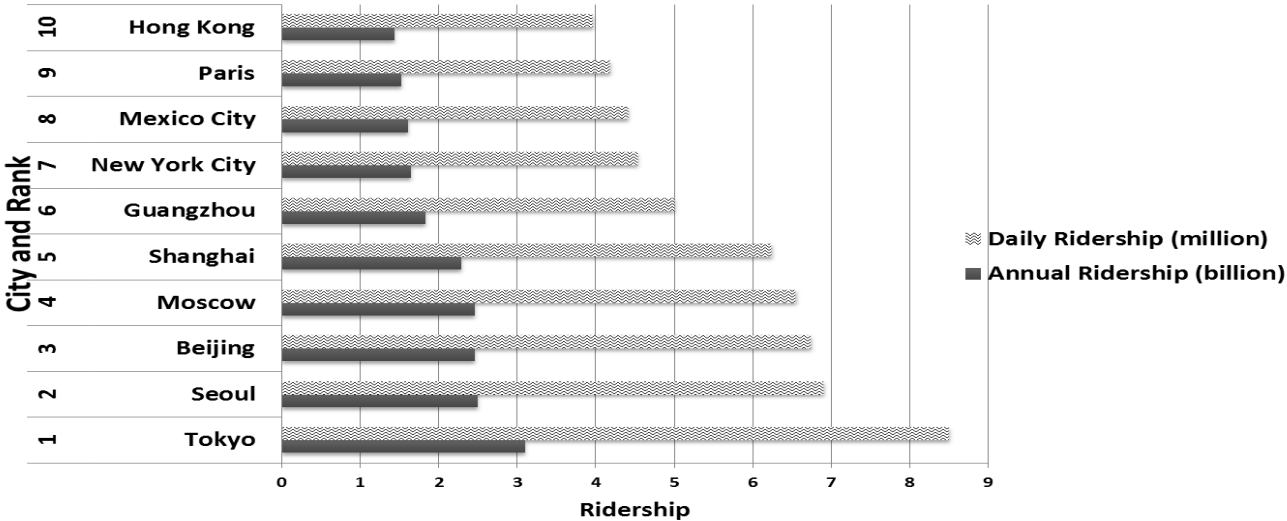
Transport Issues in Hong Kong

Recently videos and pictures of crowded trains, platforms and commuters pushing to get in and out of trains have surfaced. Commuter anger is rising. Many are using social media to vent their anger. There are concerns that the situation is just an accident waiting to happen. Some elderly people surveyed by the transport concern group *Travelling in HK* stated that they have stopped travelling at peak times because of the large number of people. They don't feel safe and are scared they will be hurt in the crush.

Passengers have also complained to the Hong Kong Transport Company. *HKTransCo@* is responsible for most local transport, including buses, trains and some trains to Mainland China. A company official responded by saying that our problem is not as bad as that in other countries. The official also said that nothing could be done. The public was outraged by the response. Local politicians have also added pressure and raised the issue in a recent meeting with the head of the government transport committee.

Travelling in HK members will be marching this Sunday to raise awareness of the issue. Marchers will be wearing green armbands. The march will start in Crawford Garden and end at the Hong Kong Transport Company offices in Wanchai. A petition will be available for commuters to sign. It will be handed to the relevant government officials after the march. *Travelling in HK* hopes that more people will become aware of the seriousness of the problem. It also hopes that the various parties will try to do something to solve the transport problems Hong Kong citizens are facing at the moment!

Public Transport Ridership All Over The World



City and Rank	Daily Ridership (million)	Annual Ridership (billion)
10 Hong Kong	~4.0	~1.5
9 Paris	~4.3	~1.6
8 Mexico City	~4.5	~1.7
7 New York City	~4.6	~1.8
6 Guangzhou	~5.0	~1.9
5 Shanghai	~6.3	~2.3
4 Moscow	~6.5	~2.4
3 Beijing	~6.8	~2.5
2 Seoul	~7.0	~2.6
1 Tokyo	~8.5	~3.1



Comments

1.



Granny#68

I worry about taking any public transport. I am old and frail. Young people have no respect for the elderly these days! They push and rush into the trains to get a seat. It is very rare that a young person will stand up and give me his/her seat! Elderly citizens are ignored! The *HKTransCo@* should put traffic police on trains and make youngsters give up their seats for us!

2.



TonyPete034

Transport everywhere is becoming more and more crowded. I was in Paris with my wife recently. We found the trains were much worse than those in Hong Kong. The government and the *HKTransCo@* are doing the best they can. However, we need more trains and buses to cope with the ever increasing numbers of commuters.

3.



Shaun45@qt

I work for *HKTransCo@*! The marchers are wrong. Yes, the situation is bad, but it is not as bad as the situation in Tokyo, Seoul or even Beijing! We are lucky in that respect! I won't be marching. I think that we are doing the best we can!

4.



TinaGirl

I can't believe the reaction of the *HKTransCo@*! I'm outraged as well! All of my friends and I will be marching on Sunday. They **MUST** do something! The situation is getting worse every day! Try catching the train in the morning peak hour rush and see what it's like!

5.



Coolman

Yeah! Let's march! We need to show them that we are serious and want change!

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

Blog

1. A 'commuter' is a person who _____.
 - A. uses public transport
 - B. uses social media
 - C. is angry and elderly
 - D. is unsafe on trains

2. People are angry because _____.
 - A. pictures of them in crowded trains have surfaced
 - B. videos of commuters on platforms have appeared
 - C. commuters on trains are using social media
 - D. travelling on trains has become difficult and dangerous

3. If something is 'an accident waiting to happen', it means _____.
 - A. people are waiting for an accident
 - B. commuters want an accident to happen
 - C. an accident has already happened
 - D. an accident is likely to happen

4. The elderly surveyed are _____.
 - A. afraid to travel at all
 - B. concerned about their safety
 - C. afraid to go to the Peak
 - D. not afraid of the people on the platforms

5. The Hong Kong Transport Company is _____ company.
 - A. a large
 - B. an overseas
 - C. an outraged
 - D. a safe

6. The Hong Kong Transport Company is _____.
 - A. trying to solve the problem
 - B. not doing anything
 - C. responding to suggestions from the public
 - D. putting pressure on the government

7. To show the public is worried about the issue, there will be a _____.
- A. tour of Crawford Garden
 - B. visit to an elderly people's home
 - C. protest march to Wanchai
 - D. petition for the *HKTransCo*© to sign
8. According to the chart, _____ has the highest daily ridership.
- A. Hong Kong
 - B. Shanghai
 - C. Moscow
 - D. Tokyo
9. According to the chart, the cities that share a similar annual ridership are _____.
- A. Hong Kong, Tokyo, Moscow
 - B. Tokyo, Paris, Shanghai
 - C. Seoul, Beijing, Moscow
 - D. Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou

Blog Comments

10. *Granny#68* writes that she is 'old and frail'. People who are 'frail' are _____.
- A. sick
 - B. weak
 - C. ignored
 - D. strong
11. *Granny#68*'s solution to the public transport problem is _____.
- A. more seats on trains
 - B. more young people on trains
 - C. ignoring elderly citizens
 - D. employing traffic police
12. To solve the problem, *TonyPete034* suggests _____.
- A. looking at trains in Paris
 - B. increasing the number of buses and trains
 - C. increasing the number of commuters
 - D. the government take over *HKTransCo*©

13. *TonyPete034* says that the government and the transport company ‘are doing the best they can’. This means they _____.
- A. are working hard to solve the problem
 - B. must stop the protest march
 - C. should march with the commuters
 - D. should visit Paris to see the trains there
14. *Shaun 45@qt* works for the Hong Kong Transport Company. His opinion of *HKTransCo*© could be considered _____.
- A. childish
 - B. negative
 - C. neutral
 - D. positive
15. *TinaGirl* says that the situation is getting worse. Her suggestion is that the government and transport company officials should _____.
- A. join the protest march
 - B. use public transport themselves to see what the situation is like
 - C. not take any action to solve the problem
 - D. go out and see her and her friends marching
16. *Coolman* wants to show ‘them’. The word ‘them’ refers to the _____.
- A. marchers
 - B. Hong Kong Transport Company
 - C. politicians
 - D. commuters

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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Prepared by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority