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Education Bureau
Territory-wide System Assessment 2015
Secondary 3 English Language
Reading
Question Booklet

Instructions:


1. There are 16 pages in this Question Booklet.
2. Time allowed is 35 minutes.
3. Do not write anything in this Question Booklet.
4. **Answer all questions in the Answer Booklet provided.**

Part 1


You are the Sports Captain of Blue House. The annual school marathon is coming soon. You are doing some research to help Blue House runners prepare for the marathon.

Read the blog and answer the questions.

www.runningamarathon.com



Disasters Runners Can Avoid






CRAMPS


Caused by...

1. not enough running during the week.
2. a start that was too fast.

How to avoid cramps

1. Strengthen muscles by running more.
2. Pay attention to your watch! Excitement makes the early kilometres feel easy, but don't run too fast.
3. Drink water/sports drink according to your thirst level.
4. Before the race, eat salty foods like pretzels and nuts. Use fast food salt packets during the race.








ASTHMA ATTACK

Many runners suffer from exercise-induced asthma. Exercising in the cold can cause an attack. The sudden change in temperature can cause spasms and make it difficult to breathe.

How to avoid an asthma attack

1. On cold days, hit the treadmill or the gym.
2. If you are outdoors, breathe through your nose.
3. If you have to run outside, wear a mask to warm the air before it hits your lungs.
4. See a doctor to help control allergies which can cause an attack.





HEATSTROKE

Strokes can be life threatening. In hot weather, runners should slow down. Otherwise, the human body can't supply enough blood to cool the runner and keep muscles working!

How to avoid heatstroke

1. The day before a race, drink at least 3.5 litres of water.
2. On race day, drink at least half a litre of a sports drink to prevent electrolyte loss.
3. Wear clothing that allows heat to escape. A white hat deflects the sun. Put ice under your hat to cool your head!



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

1. Look at the section titled Cramps. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'cramps' below. Which meaning corresponds to the word in the title?

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. (n) a tool used to clamp two objects together for gluing or other work
e.g. <i>The wooden blocks are held together by cramps until the glue dries.</i> | 2. (v) to stop the development of something
e.g. <i>The rules and regulations will cramp the growth of the economy.</i> |
| 3. (n) an involuntary contraction of a muscle or muscles caused by tiredness or stress
e.g. <i>He suffered from severe stomach cramps after eating too much dessert.</i> | 4. (phr) prevent someone from acting freely
e.g. <i>My father is going to cramp my style if he comes to the cinema with us.</i> |

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

2. Cramps can be prevented by _____.

- A. slowing down
B. exercising more
C. eating certain food
D. all of the above

3. Cramps can _____.

- A. strengthen muscles
B. be prevented by buying a watch
C. be caused by eating too much salt
D. stop runners from running

4. Getting excited at the beginning of a race can cause a runner to _____.

- A. eat too much salt
B. drink too much
C. run too quickly
D. lose his/her watch

5. Runners should drink _____.
- A. only salty liquids
 - B. when they are thirsty
 - C. water made from nuts
 - D. when they have a cramp
6. Salt is used by runners to _____.
- A. make themselves thirsty
 - B. get rid of excess water
 - C. add the salt lost when they sweat and run
 - D. help them get excited and run faster
7. An 'asthma attack' can be caused by _____.
- A. not exercising enough
 - B. exercising in cold air
 - C. wearing a mask
 - D. all of the above
8. If a runner suffers from exercise-induced asthma, he/she should _____.
- A. run outdoors in cold weather
 - B. breathe through his/her mouth
 - C. breathe in and out quickly
 - D. none of the above
9. Wearing a mask will _____.
- A. cause muscle spasms
 - B. help prevent an asthma attack
 - C. make it impossible to breathe
 - D. attack allergies

10. Look at the section titled Heatstroke. Now look at the dictionary entry for ‘stroke’ below. Which meaning corresponds to the word in the title?

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. (n) an act of hitting or striking someone or something; a blow
e.g. <i>The student received a stroke of the cane for misbehaving.</i> | 2. (n) a mark made by drawing a pen, pencil or paintbrush in one direction across paper or canvas
e.g. <i>The painter applied the gold paint with one careful stroke.</i> |
| 3. (v) move one’s hand with gentle pressure over a surface; caress
e.g. <i>He put his hand on the dog’s body and gave it a long stroke.</i> | 4. (n) a sudden attack or loss of consciousness caused by an interruption in the flow of blood to the brain
e.g. <i>The man suffered a stroke and was taken to hospital.</i> |

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

11. Heatstroke can be prevented by _____.

- A. running only in hot weather
B. putting your head in ice before the race
C. wearing warm clothes
D. drinking water and running at a slower pace

12. Sports drinks and water are useful for runners because they _____.

- A. help prevent heatstroke and cramps
B. help increase electrolyte loss
C. aid in preventing asthma attacks
D. none of the above

Part 2

You have to write a story about doing homework. Your English teacher has given you a poem to help you get started.

Read the poem and answer the questions.

I Tried To Do My Homework

1 I tried to do my homework
but a show was on TV.

A song was on the radio.

4 A friend was texting me.



My email chimed, and so, of course,

I had to look at that.

It linked me to a video

8 of someone's silly cat.



I watched a dozen videos,

and then I played a game.

I almost didn't hear her

12 when my mother called my name.



I looked up at the clock

and it was time to go to bed.

I didn't get my homework done;

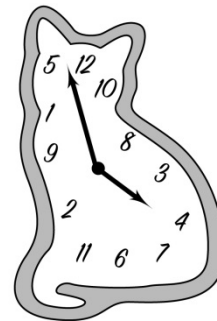
16 just other stuff instead.

I hope my teacher listens

to the cause of my inaction.

It's really not my fault the world

20 is just one big distraction.



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

Stanza One

1. In the first stanza, 'TV' rhymes with _____.
- A. me
 - B. friend
 - C. song
 - D. radio

Stanza Two

2. According to stanza two, the email 'chimed'. If something chimes, it _____.
- A. makes a noise
 - B. gets deleted
 - C. sounds like a cat
 - D. plays a video
3. In stanza two, the rhyming pair is _____.
- A. course and that
 - B. course and video
 - C. look and video
 - D. that and cat

Stanzas Two and Three

4. The student received a link to a video about a cat, but this link _____.
- A. didn't work
 - B. led to more videos and a game
 - C. made him sing songs
 - D. made him write an email to his friend

Stanza Three

5. In stanza three, the student said he almost didn't hear his mother when she called his name. This was because he was _____.
- A. busy playing with the cat
 - B. playing a video game
 - C. texting a friend
 - D. concentrating on doing homework

Stanza Four

6. The student's mother called him because it was _____.
- A. time to sleep
 - B. time to show her the cat video
 - C. time to start his homework
 - D. time to eat dinner
7. In stanza four, line 16, the student refers to 'stuff'. The 'stuff' that he did was _____.
- A. texting friends, emailing and singing
 - B. texting friends, watching videos and playing a game
 - C. playing with the cat, watching a video and talking to his mother
 - D. talking to his mother, talking to his teacher and going to bed

Stanza Five

8. In the last stanza, the student blames not getting his homework done on _____.
- A. everything else but himself
 - B. being lazy and playing with the cat
 - C. helping his mother check her email
 - D. making a cat video

Part 3

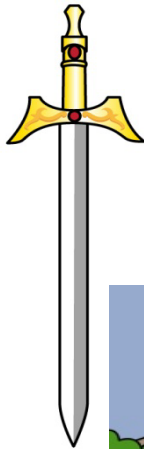
To celebrate International Reading Day, your English teacher has prepared an extract from a graphic novel.

Read the novel extract and answer the questions.



The Fawn Sword

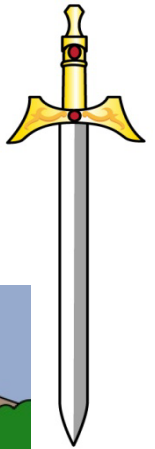
MARLY
SMITH



MARLY SMITH

World News Bestselling Author

Book One of The Searchers' Trilogy



The Fawn Sword

A Graphic Novel

Illustrated by Markus Chau & Celia Wong

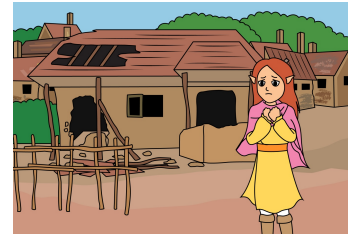


Chapter 1

The Fawn Sword must be found!

No one believed in the existence of the Fawn sword, which had not been seen for a long time. No one even knew what it looked like. There were no pictures or drawings. Every time the sword was mentioned, it was in a story of daring or in a fight of good against evil. How then could Asha find something that probably didn't exist and deliver it to the council to save her family?

Asha didn't know how she was going to do it, but she knew that she had to try. The council held her parents, brother and sister. It was her job now to follow the trail of a long lost sword and save those she loved.



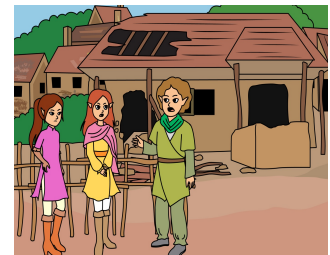
Before she set out, Asha took one last, long look at the place where she had been born and which she had called home for 16 years. There was no warmth left. All the spirit had been sucked out of the place the night her family had been captured by the council. She had been lucky.

Together with Gerald and Peonie, Asha had been deep in the forest for 10 days looking for various herbs, spices and food. They had missed the roundup of the villagers that had taken place 12 days ago. The three had returned to find the village in turmoil and her family missing, spirited away by council soldiers. They had given the rest of the villagers a message: Find the sword, or else....



Asha shook her head and strained to focus on the task at hand. She had gathered what she would need for her journey – well, what she could carry. She really had no idea where to start looking for the sword that the council thought her family had something to do with. Her only hope of any information was to find a ghost people only spoken of in whispers. The Malachi were rumoured to be deep in the lands to the south of the village. At least a five day journey, just to get to the border. Then, who knew where...

Asha sighed and fought back the tears that threatened each time she thought of the huge task she had in front of her. She was only a girl and what did she know of a quest for a sword? Gerald came upon her at that moment. 'Ready to go?' he asked. Asha glanced at him. 'Not really, but I don't have any choice, do I!?'



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

Book Cover

1. The author of the graphic novel is _____.
 - A. Marly Smith
 - B. Celia Wong
 - C. Markus Chau
 - D. none of the above

2. ***The Fawn Sword*** is book one in a ‘trilogy’. This means there are still _____ books to come.
 - A. one
 - B. two
 - C. three
 - D. four

3. A graphic novel is a story that has _____.
 - A. no pictures at all
 - B. words and lots of pictures
 - C. no words, only pictures
 - D. been written by an award-winning author

Chapter 1

Paragraph One

4. The story is about a _____.
 - A. drawing called Asha
 - B. picture of a sword
 - C. search for a sword
 - D. fight among the villagers

5. Asha is _____.
 - A. a boy in the story
 - B. the main character in the story
 - C. the name of the sword
 - D. the name of the council

6. The sword _____.
- A. has been mentioned in stories
 - B. has not been seen for a very long time
 - C. was probably used to fight evil
 - D. all of the above

Paragraph Two

7. Asha has to _____.
- A. find the sword
 - B. meet with the council
 - C. find a job
 - D. trail her brother and sister
8. There are _____ people in Asha's family.
- A. four
 - B. three
 - C. two
 - D. five

Paragraph Three

9. Asha is only _____ years old.
- A. three
 - B. twelve
 - C. sixteen
 - D. ten
10. While Asha was away, _____.
- A. the sword was stolen
 - B. the villagers were killed
 - C. her family was taken prisoner
 - D. the village was inhabited by spirits

Paragraph Four

11. Asha was in the forest _____.
- A. looking for food
 - B. hiding from the council
 - C. having fun with Peonie and Gerald
 - D. running from the villagers

12. The council left _____ for Asha.
- A. a sword
 - B. herbs and spices
 - C. food
 - D. instructions

13. The council wants Asha to _____.
- A. find more food
 - B. locate the sword
 - C. leave the village forever
 - D. fight them with the sword

Paragraph Five

14. Asha _____.
- A. knows where the sword is
 - B. is going to the south
 - C. has to whisper to the ghosts
 - D. will stay in the village
15. Asha will try to get some information _____.
- A. near the village border
 - B. by listening to the whispers of the villagers
 - C. from the ghost people
 - D. in five days' time

Paragraph Six

16. The main character is a girl who is _____ what lies ahead.
- A. delighted by
 - B. scared of
 - C. not worried about
 - D. excited by

END OF PAPER

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Answers written on this page will not be marked.

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Answers written on this page will not be marked.

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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