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**Education Bureau**  
**Territory-wide System Assessment 2018**  
**Secondary 3 English Language**  
**Reading**  
**Question Booklet**

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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 have to write an article for the English magazine. Your teacher has given you a page of an online news site that deals with interesting but short stories as an example.*

Read the stories and answer the questions.

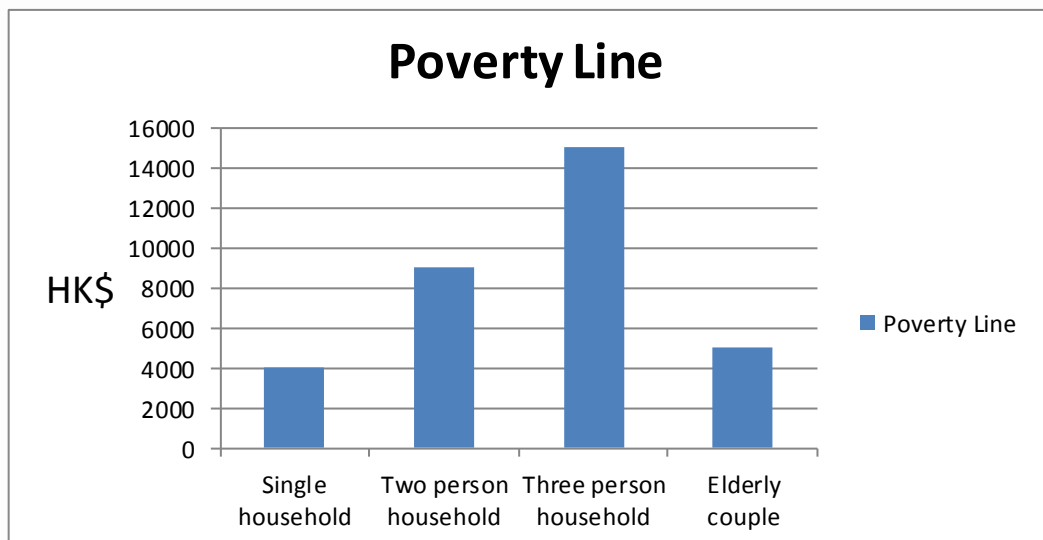
### Online News Site

www.shortBUTint.hk.com →

## Short **BUT** Interesting Tidbits

The poverty rate in Hong Kong has risen again. Out of the 7.35 million people in Hong Kong, at least 1.4 million of them live below the poverty line. Nearly half a million of them are elderly.

The poverty line is measured at half of the average monthly household income. It is also based on household size.



The government has announced some measures to help the poor. Each household living below the poverty line will receive a rental and food allowance with a travel subsidy.

In addition, each elderly person above the age of 60 will receive a medicine allowance as well as an increase in their rental allowance.



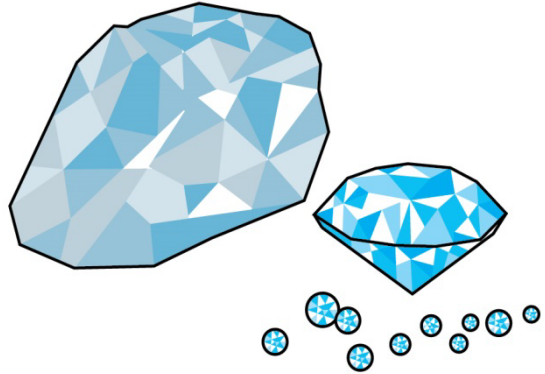
## Short **BUT** Interesting Tidbits continued...

Sales records were broken in the Asian art world yesterday. At the sales held by Smiths & Sapphire, a rare black and blue diamond had everyone buzzing.

The diamond is unique because it is uncut, very large and has a strange colouring.

It was sold to an Asian collector for HK\$700.9 million.

Uncut diamonds can be kept in one piece or cut into smaller pieces. If it is cut into pieces, it could make the collector even more money.



A shipwreck found in Hong Kong had millions of dollars' worth of gold, rare ceramics, pottery and other historical items still onboard.

The ship was discovered by the husband and wife team, Tom and Mary Smith, who work at the Hong Kong Academic University.



The location of the wreck is under 24-hour police guard. It has also been kept secret to avoid any problems with thieves and visitors.

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

1. The population of Hong Kong is \_\_\_\_\_ million.
  - A. 1.4
  - B. 7.35
  - C. 0.5
  - D. 60
  
2. In the chart, the household earning the most money is the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. single person household
  - B. two person household
  - C. three person household
  - D. elderly couple
  
3. In the chart, the single person household earns \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. 4,000
  - B. 5,000
  - C. 9,000
  - D. 15,000
  
4. The poverty line is based on income and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. rental allowances
  - B. government measures
  - C. household size
  - D. food allowances
  
5. The government measures will include a \_\_\_\_\_ allowance just for elderly people.
  - A. food
  - B. rental
  - C. medicine
  - D. travel
  
6. The diamond was sold \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. at a sale
  - B. in pieces
  - C. by a collector
  - D. by Mr. Smith

7. The diamond 'had everyone buzzing'. This means people \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. were very unhappy
- B. sounded like insects
- C. were extremely excited
- D. started imitating bees

8. The best meaning that corresponds to the word 'unique' in the story is \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1. (adj.) having no equal skills
- 2. (adj.) limited to a given class, situation or area

*Bob was unique when he played basketball.*

*The koala is a species unique to Australia.*

- 3. (adj.) the only one of its kind
- 4. (adj.) limited to a single outcome or result

*It was a unique painting found shortly after the artist died.*

*These types of problems have unique solutions.*

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

9. The diamond \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. can change colour / be cut up into small pieces
- B. must be kept in one piece / will change colour
- C. can be cut into small pieces / may make the collector even more money
- D. is very small / has a strange colouring

10. A 'shipwreck' is a ship that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. has been damaged
- B. has not been located
- C. has nothing onboard
- D. belongs to the university

11. The shipwreck and what it contains is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. not valuable
- B. only suitable for visiting
- C. a problem for the police
- D. extremely valuable

12. The shipwreck was discovered by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the police
- B. thieves
- C. visitors
- D. a husband and wife team

## Part 2

*You are going to visit the Hong Kong Museum and do a report on dinosaurs. Your English teacher has given you a poem to help you get started.*

Read the poem and answer the questions.

### I Tried to Find a Dinosaur

I tried to find a dinosaur.  
I started in my yard.  
I dug and dug for days and days.  
The work was long and hard.



I dug through dirt and mud and muck.  
I dug through rocks and soil.  
My arms grew sore. My legs grew weak  
from all the sweat and toil.



I shoveled tons of gravel out.  
I moved a bunch of stones,  
until, at last, to my surprise,  
I found some fossil bones.



I put the bones together in  
my bedroom on the floor.  
When I was done, those bones had formed  
a half a dinosaur.



My parents weren't too happy when  
I told them of my goal.  
I found a half a dinosaur,  
but then they found the hole.



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

**Stanza One**

1. The poet is trying to find a dinosaur. This means he is trying to find \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. rocks
  - B. soil
  - C. a skeleton
  - D. a live animal
2. The rhyming words in the first stanza are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. dinosaur and yard
  - B. yard and hard
  - C. days and days
  - D. dug and dug

**Stanzas One and Two**

3. In stanza one the poet writes the work was 'long and hard'. The words that show this in stanza two are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. dirt and mud
  - B. rocks and soil
  - C. sweat and toil
  - D. arms and grew

**Stanzas Two and Three**

4. The words that describe the work the boy did are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. dug, shoveled and gravel
  - B. sweat, moved and stones
  - C. toil, found and bones
  - D. shoveled, dug and moved

**Stanzas Three and Four**

5. The boy actually found \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. lots of different dinosaurs
  - B. bones on the floor of his bedroom
  - C. an incomplete dinosaur
  - D. a bunch of stones



### Stanza Five

6. In stanza five the word that rhymes with 'goal' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. half
  - B. when
  - C. found
  - D. hole
7. In the poem, the boy wants to find a dinosaur because he \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. was asked to by his parents
  - B. is interested in dinosaurs
  - C. wants to be infamous
  - D. is bored at home
8. The poem is called 'I Tried to Find a Dinosaur'. It could also be called \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. I Made My Parents Angry
  - B. I Found Some Bones
  - C. My Yard Now Has A Hole
  - D. all of the above

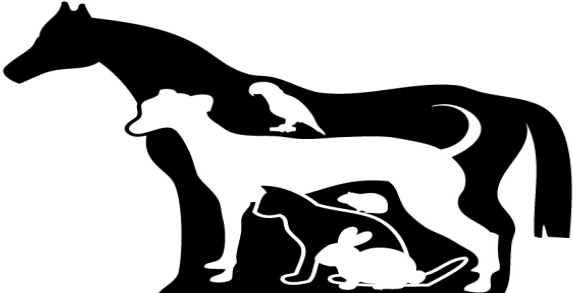
### Part 3

*You are preparing to write an article about World Pet Day. Your English teacher has given you two pages from the blog about World Pet Day in Hong Kong and a report on pet ownership in Hong Kong to help you.*

Read the blog pages and report and answer the questions.

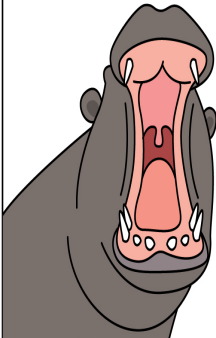
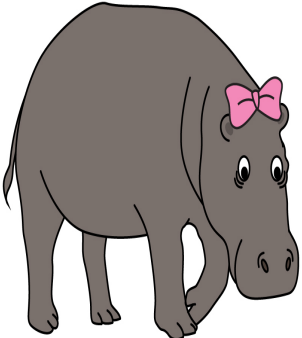
#### Blog Pages

[www.worldpetdayinhongkong.com.hk](http://www.worldpetdayinhongkong.com.hk)



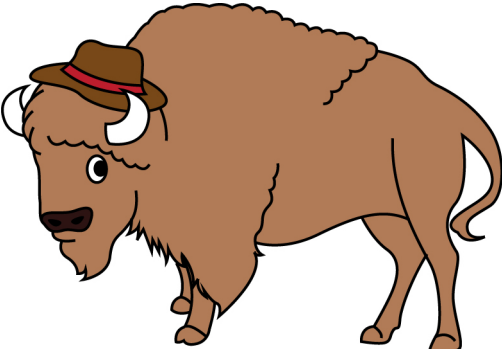
## WORLD PET DAY

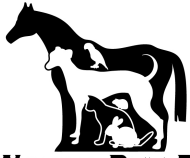
To celebrate **World Pet Day**, we are going to be looking at some strange pets belonging to people around the world. All of these animals are dangerous. Most of us wouldn't even consider them to be pets; we would think of them as wild animals.



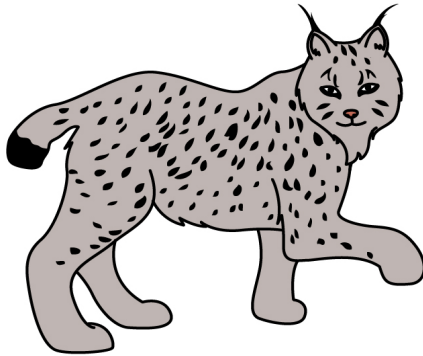
**HEATHER** the Hippo belongs to Mary and Peter Snowfeldt of South Africa. They found the baby hippo on the banks of a river near their home. The calf had been swept away from its mother. The Snowfeldts have raised Heather and she has grown into a large adult hippo who is visited by other hippos living in the area. The hippopotamus is the deadliest animal in Africa.

**BABY** is a bison. Bison once roamed the plains of America. They are sometimes called buffalo, even though they are a different species. Baby was adopted by a lonely cowboy. He follows his owner to the local bar for a drink like a loyal dog.



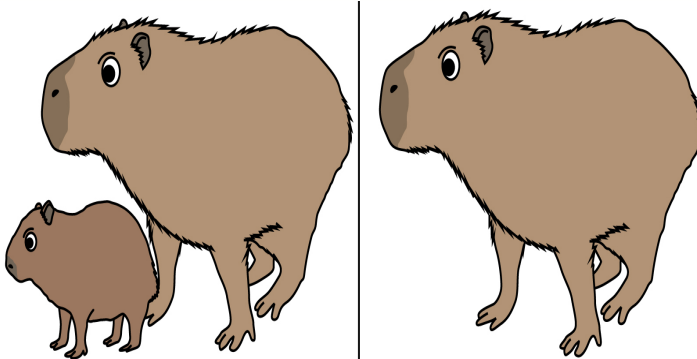
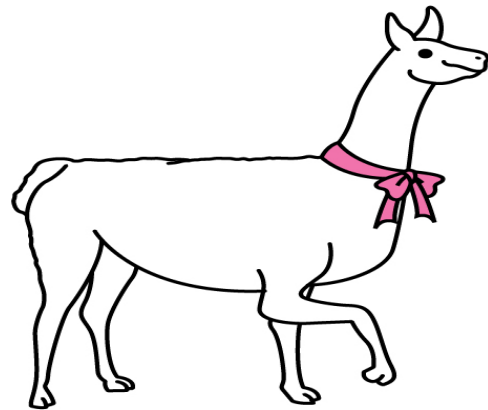


## WORLD PET DAY



**KAL**, the lynx. A lynx looks a lot like a cat but is really quite different. Kal was adopted by a Russian family. Marie, the daughter, played with Kal as though he really was a kitten and he became a member of the family. Kal is not a baby anymore but a fully grown hunter who behaves more like a dog than a cat.

**LARRY** is a llama. Llamas are known to spit and smell bad! When Larry was young he was injured. His keeper took him inside her home to better care for him. When it was time to go back to the zoo he was unable to adjust and is now a permanent house guest.

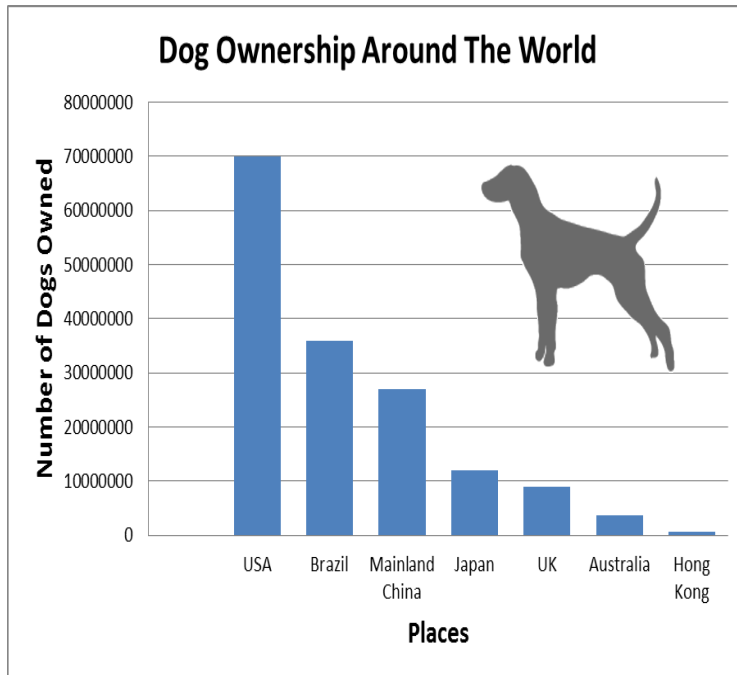


**CAPPY** is a capybara. A capybara is a rodent, so just think of it as a big rat that can do tricks and loves to swim. His owner fell in love with the breed when she was on holiday in Venezuela. When she got home, she got Cappy who has an adorable personality and is very smart.

## Pet Ownership In Hong Kong Report

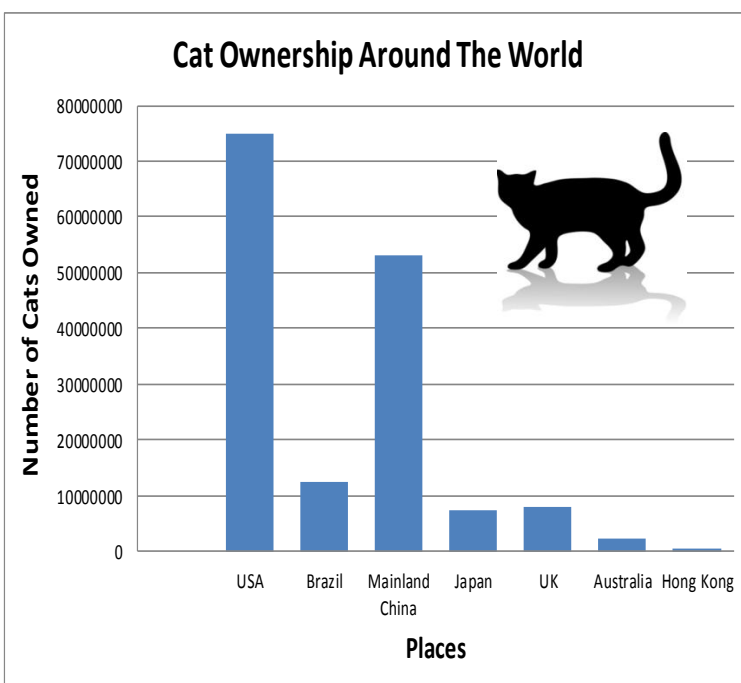
Pet ownership is on the increase in Hong Kong and around the world. In Hong Kong the number of pet owners has increased, but compared to other places, pet ownership is still quite low.

A number of factors affect pet ownership in Hong Kong.



### FACTORS AFFECTING PET OWNERSHIP IN HONG KONG

- Flat size
- Pet size
- Outdated laws about pet ownership
- Ban on pets in some residential buildings
- Pets are banned on public transport
- Pets are banned from most city parks



Hong Kong only has 41 'pet gardens' where dogs are allowed off the leash.

Many laws need to be updated or do not exist in Hong Kong, especially when compared to other cities which are animal-friendly.

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

**Blog Pages**

1. World Pet Day is celebrating \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. only wild animals
  - B. very dangerous animals
  - C. all kinds of pets
  - D. the Snowfeldt family of South Africa
  
2. Heather the Hippo was found \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. when she was a baby
  - B. with other hippos
  - C. in the river
  - D. with her mother
  
3. Baby the Bison \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. drinks with a dog
  - B. is a different species of buffalo
  - C. barks like a dog
  - D. belongs to a cowboy
  
4. A baby lynx looks like \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a fully grown hunter
  - B. a kitten
  - C. a Russian dog
  - D. Marie
  
5. Larry the Llama became a permanent house guest because he \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. spat and smelled bad
  - B. was too young to live at the zoo
  - C. was always injured at the zoo
  - D. was used to living with his keeper
  
6. Cappy the Capybara is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a clever animal
  - B. able to swim
  - C. like a large rat
  - D. all of the above

7. The animals mentioned in the blog are \_\_\_\_\_.
- not dangerous
  - bought from the zoo
  - not common everyday pets
  - all living in the wild
8. These are only two pages of the blog. The rest of the blog will be about \_\_\_\_\_.
- World Pet Day events
  - where you can get a llama in Hong Kong
  - what to do if you don't like animals
  - how to keep a lynx in a Hong Kong flat
9. People who own strange pets \_\_\_\_\_.
- need special skills
  - must understand their animals
  - must have the space for the animals
  - all of the above

### **Pet Ownership in Hong Kong Report**

10. Compared with other places, the number of people in Hong Kong who own pets is \_\_\_\_\_.
- too large to count
  - the same
  - very small
  - not enough to be counted
11. Look at the word 'factors'. Which meaning corresponds to the word in the section?
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. (n) one of two or more numbers that when multiplied together produce a product | 2. (n) any substances necessary for a process                             |
| <i>6 and 3 are factors of 18.</i>   | <i>The chemical factors needed for the recipe to work were not known.</i> |
| 3. (n) business organisations that lend money or buy and collect accounts         | 4. (n) one of the things contributing to a result                         |
| <i>The factors bought the accounts belonging to the bankrupt firms.</i>           | <i>Poverty is only one of the factors in the crime that he committed.</i> |
- 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4

12. If people live in a building where pets are ‘banned’, it means that they \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. can have as many pets as they like
  - B. are only allowed to keep pets in non-residential buildings
  - C. can only have a small pet
  - D. are not allowed to have any pets at all
13. According to the chart ‘Dog Ownership Around The World’, the place with the largest number of dog owners is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Brazil
  - B. the USA
  - C. Mainland China
  - D. Australia
14. The number of dog owners in Mainland China is more than in \_\_\_\_\_ but less than in \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. the USA / the UK
  - B. Brazil / Australia
  - C. Brazil / Japan
  - D. Hong Kong / the USA
15. Look at the chart ‘Cat Ownership Around The World’. The number of people who own cats in Mainland China makes it the \_\_\_\_\_ cat owning place in the chart.
- A. largest
  - B. smallest
  - C. second largest
  - D. fourth largest
16. If a dog is allowed ‘off the leash’, it means the animal is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. allowed to walk freely
  - B. not allowed to walk at all
  - C. supposed to be carried
  - D. locked up in the pet garden

**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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