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PAPER

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SAMPLE



ENGLISH

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET  
UNTIL INSTRUCTED.

STUDENT'S NAME:

Read the instructions on the **ANSWER SHEET** and fill in your **NAME, SCHOOL** and **OTHER INFORMATION**.

Use a pencil. Do **NOT** use a coloured pencil or a pen.

Rub out any mistakes completely.

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You **MUST** record your answers on the **ANSWER SHEET**.

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Mark only **ONE** answer for each question.

Your score will be the number of correct answers.

Marks are **NOT** deducted for incorrect answers.

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Use the information provided to choose the **BEST** answer from the four possible options.

On your **ANSWER SHEET** fill in the oval that matches your answer.

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Questions may sometimes be placed next to each other. Make sure you read **ACROSS** the page and answer the questions in the correct order.

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You are **NOT** allowed to use a dictionary or an electronic translator.

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

# Humpback whales



Humpback whales are sometimes called the circus performers of the ocean. This is because they appear to perform acrobatic feats when they dive. The name 'humpback', which is the common name for this whale, refers to the distinctive arch shape the whale's back forms as it dives.

Sometimes the humpback will embellish its dive with a spectacular movement known as a breach. During breaching the whale uses its powerful tail flukes to lift nearly two-thirds of its body out of the water in a giant leap. A breach might also include a sideways twist with fins stretched out like wings, as the whale reaches the height of the breach.

A humpback whale breathes air at the surface of the water through two blowholes which are located near the top of the head. It spouts a double stream of spray that can rise up to 4 metres above the water.

The humpback has a small dorsal fin located towards the tail flukes about two-thirds of the way down its back. Other distinguishing features include large pectoral fins, which may be up to a third of the body length, and unique patches of black and white on the underside of the tail flukes. These markings are like fingerprints: no two are the same.

Humpback whales live in large groups called pods. They communicate with each other through complex 'songs'.

## Quick Facts

### Humpback Whale

**Scientific**

**name:** *Megaptera novaeangliae*

**Size:** 14m – 18m in length;  
30 – 50 tonnes in weight

**Habitat:** open ocean and shallow  
coastline waters

**Migration:** From warm tropical waters,  
where they breed and  
calve, to cold polar waters  
where they eat

**Diet:** Krill (shrimp-like  
crustaceans), plankton  
and small fish such as  
herring and mackerel

**Hunting:** Sometimes in groups, in  
which several whales form  
a circle under the water,  
blowing bubbles that form  
a 'net' around a school  
of fish. The fish are then  
forced up to the surface in  
a concentrated mass.

**Status:** Endangered: it is  
estimated that there  
are approximately  
5 000 – 7 500 humpback  
whales worldwide.

1. One way of identifying a humpback whale is by its
    - (A) diet.
    - (B) dive.
    - (C) habitat.
    - (D) blowholes.
  
  2. The words *Megaptera novaeangliae* are written in *italics* because
    - (A) they indicate a scientific name.
    - (B) the information is less important.
    - (C) the writer wants to draw attention to the information.
    - (D) they explain 'humpback whales' in another language.
  
  3. Which of the following words from the text is **DIFFERENT** in meaning?
    - (A) 'distinctive'
    - (B) 'embellish'
    - (C) 'distinguishing'
    - (D) 'unique'
- 

**For questions 4 and 5 read *The Soccer Team* and choose the best option.**

### **The Soccer Team**

Justine spotted Ben's bright red backpack in the distance and ran to catch up to him.

(4) Hi Justine said Ben. 'Where did you come from?'

Justine was so excited, she forgot about answering Ben.

'We've been selected for the school soccer team! I saw the notice up outside the school hall.'

Ben and Justine were so pleased with the news, they treated themselves to an ice-cream.

4. Which option shows the correct punctuation?
  - (A) 'Hi Justine' said Ben.
  - (B) 'Hi Justine,' said Ben.
  - (C) 'Hi Justine', said Ben.
  - (D) 'Hi Justine.' said Ben.
  
5. Which word from the text is a verb?
  - (A) 'soccer'
  - (B) 'notice'
  - (C) 'news'
  - (D) 'treated'

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## THE FOLLOWING YEAR LEVELS SHOULD SIT THIS PAPER:

<b>Australia</b>	Year 5
<b>Brunei</b>	Primary 5
<b>Hong Kong</b>	Primary 5
<b>Indian Subcontinent<sup>1</sup></b>	Class 5
<b>Indonesia</b>	Year 6
<b>Malaysia</b>	Standard 5
<b>Middle East<sup>2</sup></b>	Class 5
<b>New Zealand/Pacific<sup>3</sup></b>	Year 6
<b>Singapore</b>	Primary 4
<b>Southern Africa<sup>4</sup></b>	Grade 5

<sup>1</sup> Indian Subcontinent Region: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

<sup>2</sup> Middle East Region: United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Bahrain, Oman, Turkey, Lebanon, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Algeria and Jordan.

<sup>3</sup> Pacific Region: Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

<sup>4</sup> Southern Africa Region: South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia.



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## TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

### Example:

Choose the option that best completes the sentence.

Write your name \_\_\_\_\_ the paper.

- (A) to
- (B) on
- (C) of
- (D) with

The answer is on, so fill in the oval **(B)**, as shown.

(A)  (B)  (C)  (D)



**USE A PENCIL**  
**DO NOT USE A COLOURED PENCIL OR PEN**

## START

- |   |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) |
| 2 | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) |
| 3 | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) |
| 4 | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) |
| 5 | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) |

**SAMPLE**



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QUESTION	KEY	KEY REASONING	AREA	LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY
1	B	Interpret information in a factual description	TC	Easy
2	A	Identify the purpose of italic font in a factual description	WC	Medium
3	B	Analyse words used in a factual description to identify the one that is different in meaning	VOC	Hard
4	B	Identify the correct punctuation for speech	SYN	Medium
5	D	Identify an example of a verb	SYN	Medium

## LEGEND

**Area** refers to the particular curriculum area or strand assessed by the question.

**TC** Text comprehension questions which require students to comprehend information provided in the text as well as to interpret the information and use it to make inferences and predictions

**WC** Writer's craft questions which require students to focus on the techniques, devices and choices that writers make to create an effect on the reader

**SYN** Syntax questions about accuracy and clarity within sentences or texts (e.g. pronoun reference, tense) and the recognition of grammatical terms (e.g. noun, main clause)

**VOC** Vocabulary questions about the meaning of words or phrases

**Level of difficulty** refers to the expected level of difficulty for the question.

**Easy** more than 70% of candidates will choose the correct option

**Medium** about 50–70% of candidates will choose the correct option

**Medium/Hard** about 30–50% of candidates will choose the correct option

**Hard** less than 30% of candidates will choose the correct option

