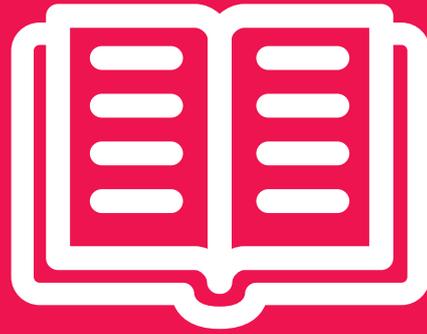


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SAMPLE



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.

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

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

Your score will be the number of correct answers.

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

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.

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

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

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Hearsay

Readers are invited to submit brief comments to Hearsay on current issues or interesting social observations. Humour and satire are welcomed in this column as are brevity and pertinence.

The newspaper reserves the right to edit length and content of correspondence as deemed necessary.

Dear Editor,

I note with interest and a smattering of good humour previous correspondence related to supermarket etiquette. In addition to previous examples of ill-mannered behaviour I wish to add my own recent observation.

Conversation stoppers and aisle blockers are endemic in the supermarkets I frequent. It is my most fervent hope that supermarket chains begin to post 'No Stopping' signs to prevent capricious conversation. Alternatively, aisle monitors could keep customers moving or post fines on their trolleys. I'd welcome other readers' perspectives on this issue.

In perpetual motion
24 June 2006

Dear Editor,

A close friend of mine recently invited me to join her in learning line dancing. Put simply, I dislike country music with a vengeance and the thought of dancing in unison to woeful tales of unrequited love in rural settings makes my stomach churn.

I fear this seemingly innocuous invitation will instigate a rift in our twenty-year relationship. I wonder if your enlightened readers might offer advice.

Anonymous
26 June 2006

Dear Editor,

I refer to a previous letter by your correspondent 'In perpetual motion'. What nonsense!

Obviously this writer has no concept of the significant social benefits to be gained from conversing to alleviate the tedium of supermarket shopping.

I'd suggest next time 'In perpetual motion' chances upon a group of aisle blockers with trolleys askew and purchases forgotten, that he or she ceases movement and instead joins the conversation.

Janet Frazer
26 June 2006

Dear Editor,

With regard to Anonymous' line dancing dilemma, I'd like to relate my own experience in the hope this may shed light on a suitable resolution.

A few months ago my mother-in-law invited me (actually it was more of a command) to join her lawn bowls club. This necessitated the purchase of white wear, regulation stockings, hat and the obligatory set of high quality titanium-weighted bowls in a handcrafted leather bag.

During my first game I 'fell' forward rather heavily as I bowled my first ball. The resultant 'injury' prevented me from furthering my bowling career but salvaged the relationship with my mother-in-law. Might I therefore suggest a strategic 'fall', causing minimal damage to soft tissue but maximising social integrity.

Patella Kneebone
28 June 2006

1. Anonymous is most concerned that she will have to
 - (A) learn line dancing so as not to look out of place.
 - (B) pretend to enjoy line dancing for her friend's sake.
 - (C) break her friendship in order to avoid line dancing.
 - (D) endure badly-played country music to do line dancing.

 2. A suitable pun that could be used as a pen-name by Anonymous is
 - (A) Out of Line.
 - (B) Country Style.
 - (C) Waltzing Matilda.
 - (D) In Step with Dancing.

 3. Which of the following quotes from the letter by Patella Kneebone is **NOT** intended to be humorous?
 - (A) 'in the hope this may shed light on a suitable resolution'
 - (B) '(actually it was more of a command)'
 - (C) 'the obligatory set of high quality titanium-weighted bowls in a handcrafted leather bag'
 - (D) 'causing minimal damage to soft tissue but maximising social integrity'
-

For questions 4 and 5 choose the best option to complete the passage.

Kidnapped

Then followed a heated exchange in a language that Tom did not understand. Although he could not understand a word of what the men said, he could sense the hostility all around him. He understood well enough the danger he was in.

A heavy wooden chest stood against one wall of the low room. In a flash a flurry of hands was laid on the chest, ___(4)___, the men dragged it to one side, to reveal a square hole in the boarded floor. Down through this hatchway Tom was ___(5)___, landing in the dank basement of the building.

4.
 - (A) by determination
 - (B) by hook or by crook
 - (C) and beyond all expectation
 - (D) and with much grunting and panting

5.
 - (A) eased into it
 - (B) hastily pulled
 - (C) heaved under it
 - (D) unceremoniously shoved

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Australia	Year 9
Brunei	Form 4
Hong Kong	Form 3
Indian Subcontinent¹	Class 9
Indonesia	Year 10
Malaysia	Form 3
Middle East²	Class 9
New Zealand/Pacific³	Year 10
Singapore	Secondary 2
Southern Africa⁴	Grade 9

1 Indian Subcontinent Region: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

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

3 Pacific Region: Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

4 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	C	Interpret a letter writer's main concern in a persuasive text	TC	Easy
2	A	Analyse the content of a humorous letter to identify a suitable pen-name	WC	Medium
3	A	Synthesise a persuasive text to identify humour	WC	Easy
4	D	Analyse the text to identify the option that correctly maintains text cohesion	SYN	Medium
5	D	Identify the option that best completes the clause	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

