

English Test

Year 11

Term 1

Name

Score

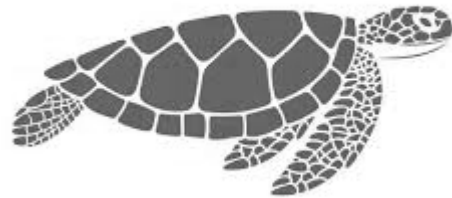
Reading Comprehension:

Spelling:

Language Usage:

Writing:

Total: /50



Exercises taken from Australian Naplan tests

Comprehension Text 1 (6 marks)

The Living Night

A guide is taking tourists to an isolated Australian beach where turtles are laying their eggs. The party of twelve stood around murmuring solemnly and casting shadows.

The sky amazed them. A woman exclaimed at a shooting star. They were in awe of constellations and geography, impressed by the blazing night and the encircling silence. The tourists were pleased with themselves just being in this yawning nightscape, especially knowing that where they presently stood would soon be deep ocean.



It was almost eleven o'clock but the moon on the white sand, the absence of any interfering artificial light – nothing along the silent breadth of land or sea or in the air – gave the night a stark clarity. Stars fizzed like fireworks. The sky was bright enough to read by. Grace could make out individual ghost crabs now resurfacing and regrouping, as well as their whorling sand patterns, as ordered and ornamental as Maori facial tattoos.

Several turtle species chose to lay their eggs on this slope of coast. Green turtles, loggerheads, olive ridleys, leatherbacks, hawksbills, flatbacks. The beach was sheltered and gently shelving, with few outcrops and obstacles to hamper the females' laboured passage up from the sea.

'Okay,' she called out. 'We're looking for semicircular marks in the sand.'

Almost immediately they saw tracks – the intuitive dragging scrape of the flippers. The imperative haul of the body. She handed out torches. 'Use these if you need to. I'd prefer not to use the headlights. We don't want to make the old girl's big night even more uncomfortable.'

The green turtle sprawled and gasped beside a pile of sandy, pulpy-looking eggs. Its straining face was eaten by the light of the torches. The front flippers, as automatic as a wind-up toy, constantly flicked sand on the eggs. When the people came nearer, the turtle heaved a phlegmy sigh, as if something important had suddenly registered, and closed its eyes. It gave another shuddering sigh and two final eggs dribbled in quick succession onto the sand. Mechanically the flippers flicked sand on them. The onlookers stood reverently by.

In its dazed convalescent state, the turtle ignored them and their dotting cameras. Neither its pained expression nor the rhythmic flippers seemed to indicate sufficient resistance to the large sand goanna that emerged then from the cliffs and snatched the last egg, still mucoid and dripping, from under it.

'Oh!' the shocked people shouted, as one. 'No!'

QUESTIONS

1. In paragraph 1, why are the tourists feeling pleased with themselves?

- They are enjoying their holiday.
- They are looking forward to a surprise.
- They think they are doing something unique and adventurous.
- They think they are knowledgeable about what they are about to see.

2. In paragraph 3, the list of turtle species that lay their eggs on this coast gives an impression of

- security.
- excitement.
- diversity.
- uniformity.

3. *Its straining face was eaten by the light of the torches...* (third last paragraph). This metaphor about the effect of the torchlight

- presents the tourists as intrusive and slightly predatory.
- suggests that the tourists are seeing something for the first time.
- suggests that the turtle is frightened and distracted by the tourists.
- implies that the tourists' behaviour may prevent the turtle laying her eggs.

4. The description of the turtle's flippers as she lays her eggs

- presents her as instinctive and robotic.
- implies that in nature all things are inevitable.
- suggests that she does not know what she is doing.
- compares her with a toy to make her seem childish.

5. This text is supported by the idea that

- the behaviour of predators in the wild is unacceptable.
- turtles would be better off if they could exist without being observed.
- tourism is damaging to the environment in ways that are not understood.
- the world is fiercer and less picturesque than many like to think.

6. In general, the tourists are presented as

- rude.
- hesitant.
- enthralled.
- perceptive

Comprehension Text 2 (6 marks)

A way forward

Budi glanced around the room. Most of the village had turned out for the meeting and every spot on the bamboo mats was taken. Mothers fanned sleeping children, fathers sat cross-legged and shared jokes with neighbours. Budi's nephew Ari had turned up, even though his young daughter was sick with dengue fever.



South-East Asian Village

Budi cleared his throat. As the village head, it was time for him to start the meeting. 'Thank you for coming. We all know why we are here. We have had a new offer from the logging company. In exchange for access to our forest, they will bring doctors from the city and set up a full-time medical clinic. The time has come for us to debate their offer,' he said.

There was a brief silence before Wawan, a visiting activist from a global conservationist group, spoke up.

'I'd like to repeat what I have said before: you should not trade your precious trees to this company. We have a duty to protect this forest—for the sake of the Earth and the animals that depend on it for survival!'

'That's easy for you to say,' muttered Ari. He coughed, and spoke again, this time with more confidence. 'You can go back home, to your city doctors. I am tired of seeing my children

shivering with fever because we have no medical care. I say we accept the offer, for the sake of our children and our elderly.'

An older man sniffed loudly in response. 'Hmph! You think you can speak for your elders? You need to think about what you are asking for. You can take your child to a doctor, even if it is a long way. It's not easy, but it is possible. But once the forest is gone, it's not possible to get it back. Our traditional way of life will be gone forever.'

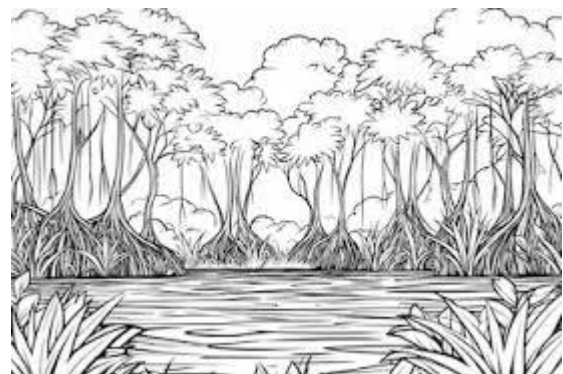
Diah, one of the mothers, stopped fanning her child to speak up. 'There are no jobs in tradition. My husband had to move to the city to find a job. Wouldn't it be better for our children if he could find work here in the village with the logging company?

Don't we have a right to jobs?'

Wawan angrily pushed his spectacles up. 'What about the endangered animals that live in this forest? Don't they have rights too?'

Soon, villagers began speaking all at once.

'Enough!' cried Budi and silence descended on the room again. 'It's time for us to make a decision together,' he said



QUESTIONS

1. Why does Wawan switch from the pronoun 'you' in his first sentence to 'we' in his second? (paragraph 5)

- to show that it is his duty to represent the animals
- to put forward the view of the global conservationist group
- to shift from speaking to just Ari to addressing the whole group
- to highlight that he and the villagers should have a common interest

2. Ari's decision to side with the loggers seems like

- a logical one—the villagers need jobs.
- an emotional one—his sick daughter needs a doctor.
- a rational one—the village is more important than trees.
- an impulsive one—he wants to get home to his children.

3. When the older man says, “You need to think about what you are asking for,” he is suggesting that Ari is too willing to sacrifice

- nature for convenience.
- animals for jobs.
- medicine for the forest.
- routine for profit.

4. ‘Soon, villagers began speaking all at once’. (second-last paragraph). What does this suggest about the meeting?

- Constructive discussion is taking place among the locals.
- The villagers are strongly opposed to Wawan’s argument.
- Opinion is still divided and agreement might be difficult.
- The villagers have no respect for Budi as the village head.

5. What best sums up the argument proposed by those who are against logging?

- Endangered animals will be harmed.
- The traditional way of life is better.
- The doctors in the city are accessible.
- Destruction of the forest is irreversible.

6. What criticism of Wawan is likely to be made by others at the meeting?

- that no one there agrees with his point of view
- that he has no personal stake in the issues
- that his concerns in the matter are entirely selfish
- that he works for the logging company and cannot be trusted

Spelling (10 marks)

Rewrite the incorrect word correctly on the line.

1. The nineteenth-century bilding was heritage listed. _____
- 2 The bravary of our lifesavers at the beach is legendary. _____
- 3 Doing daily sit-ups is an excellent way to strengthen the stummick muscles.

4. It was the begining of the school year. _____
5. Tiny particals of dust were floating in the sunlight. _____
- 6 When Kim saw the advertisment on television, she knew what she wanted for her birthday. _____
- 7 The hotel was not big enough to acommidate all the tourists. _____
8. All donations to charities are greatfuly received. _____
9. Christmas Island is home to many unique speacies. _____
- 10 . Tourists visit the island to see the anuell migration to the Christmas Island Red Crab.

Language Usage (13 marks)

1. Rewrite this sentence to show the missing apostrophe.

Peoples ideas about animals in zoos make me angry.

2. Which sentence is correct?

- Helen paid for that tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for this tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for them tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for those tickets with my money.

3. Which sentence uses speech marks (“ and ”) correctly?

“Quietly he asked,” Where did you leave it?”

Quietly he asked, “Where did you leave it?”

“Quietly he asked, where did you leave it?”

Quietly he asked”, where did you leave it?

4. How could this sentence be rewritten correctly with the same meaning?

“Does Joni want to use the computer this morning?” Ben asked his dad.

- Ben asked his dad did Joni want to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked Joni if he wanted to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked Joni that she wants to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked his dad whether Joni wanted to use the computer this morning.

Read the following and answer the questions:

Walking over a hill, Aaron saw that the thin bitumen road levelled out below to wind through the low land like a struggling eel. He stood for a minute, taking it all in: grey cloud, green ground, patches of sunlight, the lake.

5. In the first sentence, the word ‘struggling’ is used as

- a verb.
- a noun.
- an adverb.
- an adjective.

6. In the second sentence, a colon (:) is used to

- introduce an idea.
- introduce a list.
- separate items in a list.
- separate two complete ideas.

6. Write the word in this sentence is a pronoun?

They stayed away for a while. _____

7. Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The ten warmest years have all occurred _____ 1990.

- within
- since
- about
- during

8. Which sentence is correct?

- The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
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10 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Plucking the strings of a guitar makes _____ vibrate, and each produces a different range of notes.

- it
- them
- that
- those

11 Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- "Sorry I'm late, he apologised, but my car wouldn't start."
- "Sorry I'm late" he apologised "but my car wouldn't start."
- "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "but my car wouldn't start."
- "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "But my car wouldn't start."

12. Which words correctly complete the sentence?

_____ sustained, a rainforest requires a rainfall of at least 1500 millimetres a year.

- If they have
- In order to be
- So that they can
- Therefore being

13. Which pair of words completes this sentence correctly?

_____ likely to call on your skills to help finish the puzzle.

- There
- They're
- There
- They're

Writing (15 marks)

City or country?

Some people think the country is the best place to live.

Others think it is better to live in a city.

What do you think? Where is the best place to live?

Perhaps you think both places are good for different reasons.

Write to convince a reader of your opinions.

- **Start with an introduction.**

An introduction lets a reader know what you are going to write about.

- **Write your opinions on this topic.**

Give reasons for your opinions. Explain your reasons for your opinions.

- **Finish with a conclusion.**

A conclusion sums up your reasons so that a reader is convinced of your opinions.

Remember to:

- plan your writing
- use paragraphs to organise your ideas
- write in sentences
- choose your words carefully to convince a reader of your opinion
- pay attention to your spelling and punctuation
- check and edit your writing so it is clear.

