

Year 8 English Test Term 2

Name: _____

Reading Comprehension 1

Fill in the blanks using words from the box. There are 2 extra words.

(6 marks)

enough- homework – take – fun – give - leisure

Hi! I'm Rita. I'm fourteen years old and I live in Brazil.

I love dancing. It's my favourite _____ activity. I don't like ballet, but I like salsa. I _____ salsa lessons after school. The teacher is really cool!

At the end of the year, we _____ a salsa show. Last year's show was good _____ and everyone said we were really wonderful. We made a lot of money from the tickets. The money is to help sick children.

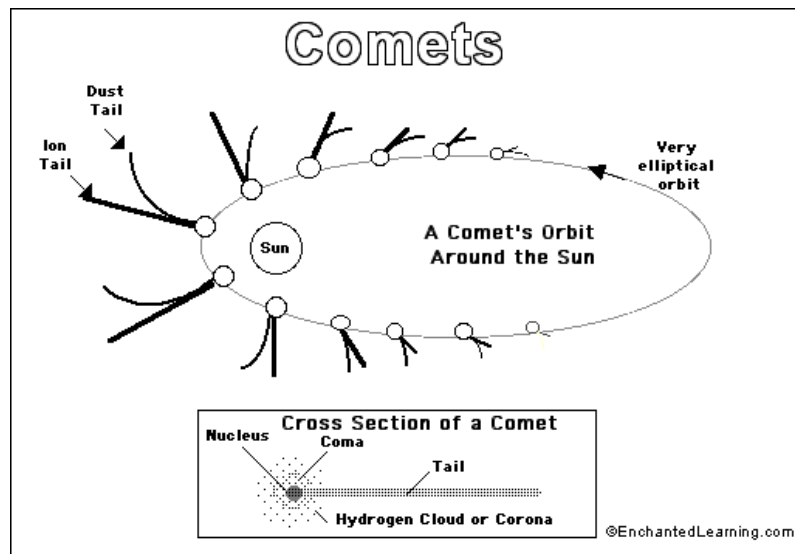
Dancing takes lots of time. Sometimes I don't have time for my _____ and I want to watch television, but I don't have _____ time. That's my biggest problem!

Reading Comprehension 2

Complete the following conversation in A using the right parts from B. (4 marks)

A	B
<p>Barbara: Hi, Katherine, how are you? Katherine: I'm great and you? Barbara: VERY busy! I'm jogging now, but later I have to do a lot! Katherine: What do you have to do? Barbara: Well, first of all, _____ (1). We don't have anything to eat at home. Katherine: and then? Barbara: I'm going to the game. My brother's soccer team is playing. Katherine: Oh, how's his team doing? Barbara: They're doing really well. Next week, they are travelling to New Zealand for a match. Katherine: _____ (2). Barbara: What are you doing today? Katherine: I'm meeting some friends for lunch, but, other than that, _____ (3) Barbara: You are so lucky! Katherine: No, you are the lucky one. _____ (4)</p>	<p>a-That's impressive! b- I have to do the shopping. c- I'd like to have so many things to do. d-I don't have much to do today.</p>
<p>Answers: 1 + _____ / 2+ _____ / 3+ _____ / 4+ _____</p>	

Comets



Comets are made from debris left over when our Solar System was formed. The solid part of a comet, the nucleus, is a chunk of ice typically measuring a few kilometres across. The ice in a comet is mainly made up of frozen ammonia, methane and water. Harvard University astronomer Fred L. Whipple, a pioneer in comet research, described the nucleus as a 'dirty iceberg' to reflect the fact that bits and pieces of dust and rocky material are mixed in with the ice.

There are over 3000 known comets. They travel in various orbits around the Sun, usually going deep into the far reaches of our Solar System. The orbits of some comets bring them close to the Sun after many years in darkness. When they come near the Sun, comets reflect the Sun's light and can therefore be seen in our sky. Some comets take between two and three hundred years to orbit the Sun.

The Sun's heat and light cause comets to shed material, which normally forms into the characteristic long tail. As a comet approaches the Sun, the heat makes it expand, evaporating gas and releasing dust. The gas and dust form a fuzzy head and a long tail.

Comet tails always point away from the Sun, regardless of the direction of the comet's motion. One of the most famous comets is Halley's Comet, which appears in our skies approximately every 75 years. When it last came close to the Sun, in 1986, it was not as bright as expected. Recently, a much more spectacular comet was Hale-Bopp. It shone brightly in the night skies in 1996 and 1997, and had an impressive double tail that was easy to see with the naked eye for several months.

Questions

1. What are comets made from?

- material from the formation of our Solar System
- rocks broken away from the Sun
- pieces of other solar systems
- gases emitted by Earth

2. The phrase 'dirty iceberg' is in quotation marks (' ') because it is

- a non-scientific description.
- an old-fashioned expression.
- a popular saying.
- a phrase that's been translated from another language.

3. A comet's tail is formed when

- a large icicle grows from the nucleus.
- the comet passes through a cloud of dust.
- the comet travels faster than the speed of light.
- parts of the nucleus are changed by the Sun's heat.

4. The main purpose of the last paragraph is to provide

- expert opinions on comets.
- a description of a comet's tail.
- examples of well-known comets.
- an explanation of how comets are formed

5. In this text, it is assumed that the reader already knows

- what Hale-Bopp is.
- who Fred L. Whipple is.
- what is in a comet's tail.
- what the Solar System is

Spelling

(10 marks)

The underlined word in these sentences is spelt incorrectly. Write the correctly spelt word on the line.

1. The actors were asked to rehearse the dramatic seen of the play until they were all word perfect. _____
2. If you step on bubble gum it will adheer to your foot. _____
3. The atmospheer is the gaseous substance that surrounds the earth.

4. The plane began to vibrat violently as it rose into the air. _____
5. It was great that so many children were able to participait in the Fun Run.

6. The builders began the construction of our new school by laying a concreet foundation.

7. The hole time we sat in class, she continued to work on her science assignment. _____
8. My brother has a hard training shedule with his soccer team. _____
9. Catching a cold is preventible if you stay warm in winter. _____
10. Ana was disapointed to miss out on dinner at the restaurant, but she was too sick to go. _____

Language Usage

(10 marks)

1. Which word correctly completes this sentence?

One benefit of the increasing use of solar panels today _____ cheaper electricity.

- is
- are
- was
- were

2. Which sentence indicates that something is not certain?
- The children will go to the beach when the pool is closed.
 - The children shall go to the beach when the pool is closed.
 - The children might go to the beach when the pool is closed.
 - The children must go to the beach when the pool is closed.
3. Which sentence shows the correct punctuation of direct speech?
- "Come here you," yelled the man, "as the children ran off."
 - The coach said, "we will play last year's winners in the final."
 - When the doorbell rang, she sat up and asked, "Now, who can that be?"
 - "Where are you, Peter?" whispered Tran "from behind the closed door."
4. Which is the correct way to combine the following sentences into one?

Peter likes shopping. Peter likes visiting the museum. Peter likes to go to the movies.

- Peter likes to shop, visiting the museum and movies.
 - Peter likes shopping, visits the museum and the movies.
 - Peter likes to go shopping, to the museum and to the movies.
 - Peter likes shopping, visiting the museum and going to the movies.
5. Which sentence uses the apostrophe (') correctly?
- These are not my sock's.
 - James' needs to go home.
 - Look at the cute puppies'!
 - He's going to be late again.

6. Which word or words correctly complete this sentence?

He _____ won if he had tried harder.

- could
- could of
- could had
- could have

7. Which word or words correctly complete this sentence?

It is requested that all phones _____ turned off during the show.

- be
- being
- are being
- have been

8. Which words correctly complete this sentence?

I have lost my bag but my keys are in my pocket _____.

- luckily I can still drive home
- it is lucky I can still drive home
- so luckily I can still drive home

