



SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Part 2	
DATE:	29 th August 2020	
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	

LANGUAGE USE

1. Complete the following passage by forming ONE word from the word in brackets. The first one has been done for you.

A study shows that keeping a diary can help your brain overcome (0) emotional (**emotion**) upset and lead to greater (a) _____ (**happy**). Matthew Lieberman of UCLA asked volunteers to have a brain scan before asking them to write for 20 minutes a day for four consecutive days. Half the (b) _____ (**participate**) wrote about an emotional experience, while the other half wrote about a neutral experience. Those who wrote about an emotional situation showed more activity in the part of the brain which controls emotion. This, in turn, appeared to trick the brain into feeling (c) _____ (**good**) in an unconscious way. Lieberman says that writing a diary starts off an emotion-regulating process that the person is completely (d) _____ (**aware**) of. Research indicates that if you are writing in a diary or talking to a friend, it will often be (e) _____ (**benefit**). Paper diaries still enjoy (f) _____ (**consider**) popularity with 83 per cent of young women still keeping a diary in (g) _____ (**compare**) to 69 per cent in the 1990s. Professor Lieberman's research found that writing by hand had a (h) _____ (**big**) effect than typing. In addition, a 2007 survey found there was a range of ways in which (i) _____ (**respond**) expressed themselves in their diaries, including incorporating quotes, colours, song lyrics and made-up language. A playlist can also act as a kind of journal, prompting and charting (j) _____ (**memory**) situations.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

2. Match the spoken item on the left with the most suitable response on the right. The first one has been done for you.

0	I've met the new manager.		By all means!
(a)	Thanks for that!		Well, I don't blame him.
(b)	What a lovely day!		Yes, I'm gutted.
(c)	Can you give us a hand?	0	What's she like?
(d)	Well done!		A cold drink would be nice.
(e)	Do you think I said the right thing?		Thanks. I'm chuffed.
(f)	How are you feeling?		No, we're all ears.
(g)	John's all worked up, isn't he?		I couldn't have put it better myself.
(h)	What terrible news!		Absolutely knackered.
(i)	Have you heard the latest?		Not at all.
(j)	Can I get you anything?		Indeed it is!

(Total: 5 marks)

3. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable preposition. The first one has been done for you.

James Tapper writes about electric scooters (0) in Copenhagen.

Most of the people riding electric scooters (a) _____ the city glide like swans with their heads tilted (b) _____ the sunshine. However, I'm struggling to figure out how this thing works. Where do I put my feet? How on earth am I meant to indicate left and right and press the brake (c) _____ the same time? It doesn't take long to start gliding or to notice that people here have found all sorts of ways to use scooters since they were introduced (d) _____ January. Couple (e) _____ couple ride together, barely balancing (f) _____ the footplate and a traveller presses his suitcase between his knees while he rides (g) _____ one of the many squares in Copenhagen. Two teenagers dart (h) _____ the footpath outside the station. (i) _____ the past 18 months, it feels as though scooters have taken over many of the world's cities but piles of scooters discarded (j) _____ the roadside and a worrying number of injuries have provoked criticism.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

4. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. The first one has been done for you.

A puppy named Dogor, (0) unearthed (unearth) in Siberia could prove to be the missing link between dogs and wolves, scientists (a) _____ (believe). The puppy (b) _____ (discover) perfectly preserved by frost in eastern Siberia in 2018. Studies carried out last year (c) _____ (reveal) that it (d) _____ (freeze) for around 18,000 years.

Researchers in Sweden announced this week that so far tests (e) _____ (be) unable to confirm whether Dogor was a dog or a wolf. Experts think that this may be because the animal comes from the period when dogs (f) _____ (domesticate) and hope that the discovery of the creature (g) _____ (prove) crucial to uncovering exactly when the evolution (h) _____ (begin). Researchers in Sweden (i) _____ (study) pictures of Dogor's bones since last summer and meanwhile Dogor (j) _____ (keep) in Siberia.



(Total: 10 marks)

5. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word. The first one has been done for you.

How does fashion harm the environment?

Every (0) year, the fashion industry uses over 79 billion cubic metres of water, about (a) _____ much as gushes over the top of Niagara Falls annually. For many, though, fashion is pure pleasure. We love following it and we even love (b) _____ pictures of it online. So what would we save and what would we lose (c) _____ we chose to ignore fashion? What would change in (d) _____ fashion-free world? Ditching fashion would lift a huge (e) _____ off our planet. We would save lots of water and we would cut down on pollution. The sheer scale of our obsession with fashion is astonishing: in Europe alone we (f) _____ 6.4 million tonnes of new clothes in our wardrobes each year so can you imagine (g) _____ it's like globally? Clearly, the fashion industry has a huge impact on the environment (h) _____ unfortunately, it's only half the problem. Consumer behaviour driven by advertising and social media is also to (i) _____. We can reduce our fashion footprint and save money by donating our old clothes and buying (j) _____ ones.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

6. Fill in with one or more words showing quantity. The first one has been done for you.

The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie – the longest running show of (0) any kind in British history.

For (a) _____ years, St Martin’s Theatre in London has been home to The Mousetrap. In fact, it’s been running for forty-two years and that’s (b) _____ than any play in the history of British theatre. Agatha Christie’s great play has been thrilling audiences since Queen Elizabeth has been on the throne. During this time, the huge cast has been made up of 474 actors taking part in the play and a (c) _____ of its members are in the Guinness Book of Records. For example, David Raven features as the Most Durable Actor for 4575 performances and Nancy Seabrooke for a record-breaking 15 years as an extra. However, (d) _____ of the two are actors any longer as the cast is now replaced by a new set of actors (e) _____ year.

(Total: 5 marks)

7. Rewrite the following dialogue in reported speech in the space provided.

Sam: Have you been to *Annie’s*, the new pizza place in Valletta?

Emma: No, I haven’t been yet.

Sam: Why don’t we give it a try this evening?

Emma: I’m afraid I’m going out this evening but I’m free tomorrow.

Sam asked Emma _____

She replied _____

Sam suggested _____

Emma said _____

(Total: 5 marks)

8. Fill in the blanks by choosing ONE of the link words or phrases in the table below. The first one has been done for you. Use each link word or phrase only ONCE.

but	and	not only	notwithstanding	thirdly	especially
also	although	despite	secondly	clearly	previously

A brand new *Little Women* adaptation for film lovers (0) but with a better cast than before.

Director Greta Gerwig is surprised that her new film *Little Women* has actually made it

(a) _____ that it has been released on the big screen. What are the reasons

behind this success story? Firstly, Gerwig feels she may have underestimated the fact that

audiences still love the novel, *Little Women*. (b) _____, the new version

has all the ingredients for a box office success (c) _____ the starry cast

including Emma Watson and Meryl Streep and (d) _____, there's a love

story which goes down well with audiences of any age.

(e) _____ that it takes place over ten years, has eight different plot lines and a

lot of characters, Gerwig's latest film has made a hit. She feels lucky that

(f) _____ big studios not usually making movies about sisters, *Little Women*

is now on the big screen.

The movie's cast and director (g) _____ argue that the issues raised by the

film are still true 150 years after the publication of the book. The story is timeless and

(h) _____ the social context has changed considerably, the themes of money

and ambition are totally modern themes. (i) _____, this new version of the film

is on its way to becoming a box-office hit. (j) _____ has it already won plenty

of awards, but it has also been nominated for Best Picture at the Oscars this year.

(Total: 5 marks)

Please turn the page.

9. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one. The first one has been done for you.

(0) Hannah’s friends planned to go on a hike on Sunday.

A hike was planned on Sunday.

(a) Hannah was ill so her friends cancelled the hike.

Owing to _____
_____.

(b) As expected, she wasn’t at school today either.

It was no _____
_____.

(c) I’m sure she’s missing all her friends.

She must _____
_____.

(d) She will catch up with all the news when she gets better.

Once _____
_____.

(e) If I’d known her sister was coming to school today, I’d have given her Hannah’s books.

Had I _____
_____.

(Total: 5 marks)



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MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2020 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA – Question 1
DATE:	29 th August 2020
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

WRITING TASK

Write between 320 and 350 words on ONE of the tasks below.

You are advised to:

- **pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation;**
- **keep your writing to the number of words indicated. You will be penalised if you write less than 320 or more than 350 words.**

1. You have decided to enter a short story competition. Write a story entitled 'Breaking free'.
2. Write an article entitled 'How I can make the world a better place' to be published in a teenage magazine.
3. Imagine you are a teacher. Write a diary entry for a Friday in which you reflect on the events of the day.

(Total: 40 marks)



SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA – Question 2	
DATE:	29 th August 2020	
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.	

READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY

Passage 1

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

For a river of such importance, the Thames is rather overlooked. According to one survey, 10 per cent of children in London have never even seen the river; for those, young or old, who do come into frequent contact with the river, it tends to be just a quick walk over one of its many bridges.

5 As the main artery leading to London, the Thames provided its residents with fish, eels and oysters for centuries. Legend has it that generations ago, Londoners could grab an eel from the water, so teeming were the waters. But, in 1957, the river was declared “biologically dead”. After centuries of sewage and pollution, large swathes became devoid of oxygen and life.

10 Today roughly 125 species of fish call the river home again. There have even been sightings of osprey as far-inland as Beckton, by London City Airport. Would the fish-loving bird of prey be present if it weren’t for a good supply? From what was a watery wasteland, the Thames is thriving once again.

15 “I think the starting point of regeneration is from the Sixties,” says Alison Debney, the Zoological Society of London’s (ZSL) programme manager, who has led the charity’s monitoring of the Thames over the past 16 years. Debney points to the improvement in sewage treatment as a catalyst for the return of wildlife.

20 “The Thames isn’t always thought of as a biodiverse haven, but it should be. That dirty-brown colour is due to the mud and silt that transport nutrients along the river, like the Amazon. **It** is a good thing – we’ve got to embrace the brown, it’s what makes it a rich environment,” says Debney. It’s also what the smaller animals such as shrimp feed on, providing sustenance for animals higher up the food chain. And, ultimately, that means us.

25 Eels and oysters are famously linked to the Thames, but there’s another species that might surprise some: sea bass. According to Anna Cucknell, the ZSL’s Thames project manager, the estuary of the river is the largest sea bass nursery in the southern North Sea. Cleanliness and climate change (warmer weather) have brought **them** here in their millions, and juveniles can be found well into London.

The Thames is one of the most protected estuaries in the UK. Yet raising public awareness is key, Cucknell explains, to maintaining biodiversity in the river. “**It’s** such an asset. There’s been a big push to make London a national park city; they’re focusing on green space, but people forget there’s a “blue space” right on **their** doorsteps.”

30 Cucknell’s work involves constant monitoring of the river and all its tributaries, helping keep tabs on both wildlife and pollution. On the shingle shores in Greenwich in the south of London, along with a group of volunteers, Cucknell checks on fish stocks. The team cast their nets. They see sea bass and flounder. A 12-centimetre European eel, whose numbers have declined by 99 per cent in recent years, is caught. There are common goby and shrimp, too.

35 The team of volunteers then head down to Lewisham, in south-east London, where the Ravensbourne River, a Thames tributary, is a crucial piece in the jigsaw. They go there to monitor riverfly numbers, but Cucknell explains that the main reason behind their work is to keep tabs on pollution in the river. "If there's a change in wildlife numbers it's indicative of something bad happening," she says.

40 Volunteers also assist in the running of the "Mother Thames" campaign, which aims to highlight the importance of river estuaries as breeding and nursery grounds. They are also involved in several citizen science programmes that include a virtual reality experience near London Bridge, which offers the chance to see what lurks beneath the water.

45 "The first thing is to make sure you go down and enjoy the river," says Debney. A healthy Thames is crucial to a healthy environment. "We're on a good journey, but we're very keen that we don't rest on our laurels," Debney warns. "The presence of hundreds of thriving species shows how far we've come since the Fifties."

(Adapted from: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/>)

QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 1

1. In which section of an online newspaper is this article most likely to feature? Underline the most appropriate answer. (1)

- a. Health and Fitness
- b. Environment
- c. Opinion
- d. Business

2. Give **TWO** reasons that show that the River Thames "is rather overlooked". (line 1) (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____

3. In your own words explain why (2)

- a. it was possible for Londoners "to grab an eel from the water" (line 5).

- b. the River Thames was declared "biologically dead" (line 6).

4. Why do the osprey sightings show that "the Thames is thriving once again"? (lines 10-11) (1)

5. What, according to Alison Debney, brought about the "return of wildlife" (line 15) to the Thames? (1)

6. Explain the meaning of "a biodiverse haven" (line 16). (1)

7. a. Why is the Thames compared to the Amazon? (1)

b. What makes the writer say, "we've got to embrace the brown" (line 18)? (1)

8. Who does the word "us" refer to in "And, ultimately, that means us"? (line 20) (1)

9. What appears to have made the Thames estuary the largest sea bass nursery in the southern North Sea? Give **TWO** reasons. (1)

10. What do the following refer to? (2)

a. It (line 17) _____

b. them (line 24) _____

c. It (line 27) _____

d. their (line 29) _____

11. Explain what the "green space" (line 28) and "blue space" (line 29) are. (2)

12. In a paragraph of not less than 40 words but not more than 50 words explain the work carried out by volunteers. (6)

13. Explain what Alison Debney means when she says, "We're on a good journey, but we're very keen that we don't rest on our laurels." (lines 45-46) (2)

14. Underline the correct answer:
The writer's intention is to highlight (1)

- a. the importance of keeping the river Thames healthy.
- b. the increasing levels of pollution in the river.
- c. the importance of voluntary work.
- d. the quality of life in the river Thames.

(Total: 25 marks)

Passage 1

Passage 2

Read the following passage and answer ALL the questions that follow.

Their squawks echoed from inside the neat, ranch-style home, sounding more like parrots than tiger cubs. Then James Davidson carried Hulk into the living room, where the McCabe family waited on the couch. The kids giggled as he placed the squirming cub on nine-year-old Janet's lap and pushed a baby bottle into its mouth.

5 Everyone beamed, fondling Hulk's rough, striped fur as Davidson hovered anxiously nearby. When the bottle was empty, the 12-week-old, cocker spaniel-size cat wandered onto the coffee table and swatted our photo gear.

Davidson lured him back with another bottle to give Janet's five-year-old brother, James, a turn. Then the cub leaped off the sofa, gripped my legs with surprising strength, and tore scratches into my thighs. Davidson peeled him off and made light of it with nervous laughs.

That was in September 2018.

I later learned that seven tigers under Davidson's care had badly injured a woman in 2003. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) had fined Davidson 32,560 dollars and ordered him to never again exhibit or breed animals that required U.S. federal licensing. But within a few months, he was working with a new group of tigers in a centre that was operating under a USDA licence held by his girlfriend, Brittany Medina.

My visit to James Davidson with photographer Steve Winter was just one stop during a two-year investigation into why there are more tigers living in captivity in the U.S. than remain in the wild. We wanted to find out who owned them, what their living conditions are, and how lax regulation has allowed them to proliferate.

After years of reporting on the illegal wildlife trade in Asia, I decided to look into tigers in America when I heard a talk by Carson Barylak, a policy specialist with the International Fund for Animal Welfare. She said there may be 5,000 to 10,000 captive tigers in the United States. No one, including government officials, knows exactly how many there are, and there is no federal law regulating big cat ownership.

In our travels, we found that most tigers in this country live in small zoos and animal attractions—known generally in the industry as "roadside" zoos—where care standards can vary widely, in some cases endangering the animals in them and the humans who visit them.

In Pennsylvania we met Bruno. He's a third-generation tiger trainer who tours with one of the country's few tiger acts. We watched him put his five tigers through traditional circus tricks at the Fayette County Fair. It was July, and brutally hot. During our two-plus days at the fair, the cats spent much of their time in two-by-three-metre travel cages.

We also met people who kept tigers as pets; some seemed to truly love them. Lori, an exotic animal owner in Oklahoma, seemed oblivious to the potential danger of keeping such a large predator. She walked Langley, her nearly 140-kilogramme tiger, on a leash and sometimes took him into her home.

We saw cats kept under conditions that ran the gamut. Some were beautiful and well cared for. Others bore scars, were skinny or fat, were listless or covered in open sores. None seemed to be the confident, wide-ranging predator that *Panthera Tigris* evolved to be.

Highly regarded zoos and animal parks are accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), which does not allow public contact with tigers. The AZA also allows only purebred tigers to be bred, and only for conservation purposes.

However, many roadside zoos that brand themselves as sanctuaries do not meet the criteria for them. These standards include no breeding; prohibiting the public from hands-on contact with them; and providing proper nutrition, care, and a lifetime home.

It is widely thought that in recent years the USDA hasn't done enough to ensure animals' safety and in June 2019, the U.S. House of Representatives ordered the USDA "to cite every observed violation at any visit to a regulated entity."

I contacted the USDA about this. After a series of email exchanges, the USDA only provided a written reply that broadly quoted regulations and offered web links but refused my request for an interview.

(Adapted from <https://www.nationalgeographic>)

QUESTIONS ON PASSAGE 2

1. What type of sounds were the tiger cubs making? (1)

2. Davidson was tense when the writer visited him. Give **TWO** examples of his tension. (2)

a. _____

b. _____

3. Are the following True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give a reason. (5)

a. After Davidson’s tigers injured a woman, the USDA imposed a prison sentence.

True/False because _____

b. Although his licence was removed, Davidson was soon working with tigers again.

True/False because _____

c. The number of tigers in cages in the US exceeds the number of tigers in the wild.

True/False because _____

d. The writer did not have previous experience of writing about illegalities.

True/False because _____

e. One of Bruno’s grandparents was a tiger trainer.

True/False because _____

4. From lines (1-10) find words that mean: (3)

a. laughed _____

b. smiled _____

c. hit _____

d. tempted _____

e. grasped _____

f. removed _____

5. **In your own words** explain the following: “how lax regulation has allowed them to proliferate” (line 19-20). (2)

6. Which are the **TWO** problems about captive tigers in the United States that Carson Barylak identifies? (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____

7. Mention **TWO** dangers that roadside zoos pose. (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____

8. Bring out **ONE** contrasting thing in the way Bruno and Lori cared for their tigers. (1)

9. **In your own words** explain "We saw cats kept under conditions that ran the gamut". (line 37) (1)

10. Quote **ONE** sentence to show what, according to the writer, all captive tigers seemed to have in common. (1)

11. Mention **TWO** policies of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____

12. a. How does the writer feel about the USDA? Underline the most appropriate answer. (1)

- i. confused
- ii. disappointed
- iii. unsurprised
- iv. indifferent

b. Give **TWO** reasons for your answer. (2)

- i. _____
- ii. _____

(Total: 25 marks)

Passage 2

WRITING TASK

You are Ben and your friend Andy is considering buying a tiger cub as a pet. In between 60 to 80 words, write an email in which you try to persuade him not to. **You will be penalised if you write less than 60 and more than 80 words.**

From:	ben.borg@email.com
To:	andy.bezzina@email.com
Subject:	New Pet

Dear Andy,

Best,

Ben

(Total: 10 marks)

Writing



SUBJECT:	English Language
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 1
DATE:	29 th August 2020
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.

WRITING TASK

Write between 180 and 200 words on **ONE** of the tasks below.

You are advised to:

- pay attention to layout, paragraphing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation;
- keep your writing to the number of words indicated. You will be penalised if you write less than 180 or more than 200 words.

1. The school council is running a writing competition and the best entries will be published. Write your story entitled 'The Rescue' as suggested by the picture below:



(Source: <https://bit.ly/2U1WOGe>)

2. You have read that cars will be banned from the centre of your town. Write an article to be published on the local newspaper in which you explain your point of view on this decision.
3. You're Matt (matt@mail.com) and your friend Nicky (nicky@mail.com) is finding it difficult to study for exams. Write an email to Nicky in which you give her advice on how to study.

From	matt@mail.com
To	nicky@mail.com
Subject	

(Total: 40 marks)



SUBJECT:	English Language	TOTAL
PAPER NUMBER:	IIB – Question 2	
DATE:	29 th August 2020	
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:05 p.m.	

READING COMPREHENSION AND SUMMARY
Passage 1

Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.

A

In 2014 Jay Maddock, a professor of public health at Texas University in the US, was on a research trip to China when one aspect of local culture caught his attention. "I took a walk to a park near my hotel and noticed hundreds of senior citizens exercising together," he says.

B

- 5 It's a picture replicated across China: rather than solo runners or cyclists, the majority of people in parks are large groups of old-age pensioners. Early every morning crowds of elderly people flock to public parks for their daily exercise routine for free.

C

- 10 The morning exercise habit of elderly Chinese people has its roots in longstanding cultural tradition, says Elisabeth Hsu, a professor at Oxford University. Yet Anastasia Loukaitou, a professor at University of California, says that although culture does play a role, it is park location, design and amenities that most influence use among the elderly. "Often older adults feel unwelcome in parks that are primarily designed for younger populations," she says.

D

- 15 Indeed, some of the longest-established senior playgrounds outside China owe their success to age-specific design features. When Harry Kane from Canada, returned home from a trip to China he was so impressed by seniors' parks that he pitched the idea to the city council. "Kane chose exercise equipment based on what he observed in China," says a city councillor, adding that the most popular pieces of equipment are the ones that deal with common old age issues like balance and dexterity, such as balance beams and pulldown machines aimed at light cardio workouts and gentle strength training.

E

- 20 Nestled among oak trees, London's Hyde Park Seniors' Playground was established in 2009 and its location was picked based on proximity to roads and public transport, both about 15 minutes' walk away. A feasibility study recommendation led to the use of easy-to-read signage that clearly labels and provides instructions for machines dedicated to older adults.

F

25

One of the largest senior playground initiatives has been developed by the Spanish province of Málaga, where there are currently 400 such facilities. But according to Rafael Merino-Marbán, from the University of Málaga, many are currently underused. "The government has not studied the right location or the right kind of machine to maximise effectiveness," he says. Apart from location, Merino-Marbán cites damaged equipment and fear of being judged as barriers that can deter elderly people from exercising in public playgrounds.

G

30

"If older people exercise more, they are healthier," he says, "And that means fewer costs for public healthcare. Besides, studies show that elderly people need exercise, social connection and nature," he says. "Senior parks are a really low-cost investment that hit each of these three aspects."

(Adapted from <https://www.bbc.com>)

Questions on passage 1

1. Underline the most appropriate title for this passage: (1)

- a. Senior playgrounds in China
- b. City playgrounds for the elderly
- c. Exercise habits of the elderly

2. What 'aspect of local culture' (line 2) did the writer come across on his walk? (1)

3. Explain what the writer means by: (2)

- a. replicated across China (line 4) _____
- b. has its roots in (line 7) _____

4. Between lines 1 and 12 find **FOUR** phrases used to refer to old people. (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

5. Between lines 8 and 12 find **FOUR** facts that influence older people to use senior parks. (2)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

6. Are the following statements **True** or **False**? Circle the correct answer and give a reason for each of your answers. (3)

a. Jay Maddock was on holiday in China when he noticed older people exercising in parks.

(True/False) because _____

b. Older people may be seen exercising in senior parks in China at all times of the day.

(True/False) because _____

c. On his return from China, Harry Kane recommended the setting up of senior parks to his local city council.

(True/False) because _____

7. Mention **TWO** different types of equipment that older people use in senior playgrounds in China and explain the benefit of each. (2)

a. Equipment 1 and its benefits:

b. Equipment 2 and its benefits:

8. What **TWO** facts about London's Hyde Park Senior playground make it an ideal place for the elderly to exercise in? (2)

a. _____

b. _____

9. In a paragraph **of NOT more than 40 words**, explain why senior playgrounds in Malaga are underused. (6)

10. In what **TWO** ways are senior parks 'a really low-cost investment' (line 31)? (2)

a. _____

b. _____

11. Write down the letter of the paragraph in which the writer: (2)

a. introduces the person who brought the idea of the senior playground back home	Paragraph:
b. expresses the importance of location for senior parks to be successful	Paragraph:
c. expresses the idea that senior parks will have long-term benefits	Paragraph:
d. gives a description of the exercise habits of elderly people in China	Paragraph:

(Total: 25 marks)

Passage 1

Passage 2

Read the following passage carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.

At the crack of dawn, I set out to explore the heart of Shikoku, the smallest and least visited of Japan's four main islands. I was navigating my rental car through a seemingly deserted village of a dozen homes perched precariously on metal stilts over a river when, on turning a corner, I saw in the distance three figures slumped against an electricity pole.

5 **They** were dressed in rubber boots, farmers' trousers, and wore white gloves on their hands. Baseball caps covered their heads. Yet something was odd in their postures. They didn't seem quite human. As I got closer, I realised they *weren't* human. Their faces were made of white cloth with buttons for eyes and black thread for eyebrows.

10 Five metres further on, I saw another of these human-sized figures pushing a wheelbarrow in a field and then five of them sitting on a bench at a bus stop.

I was wondering what alternate reality I had wandered into when I spied another figure on the side of the road ahead. This one was also remarkably lifelike, dressed in black sneakers, trousers and a grey smock, and **her** head hidden under a bonnet. I turned my eyes back to the road, then abruptly stopped. That figure had taken a step! And another!

15 I pulled up and walked warily towards the bonneted figure, not quite sure who or what I was about to encounter.

"Excuse me!" I called. The figure stopped and slowly turned.

"Do you know who has created these wonderful creatures?"

She looked at me intently for a moment, then broke into a smile. "I did!"

20 That was how I met Ayano Tsukimi, the scarecrow master of Shikoku.

"Please tell me about **them**."

"It was in 2002 that I made the first *kakashi* to scare away the birds. I noticed that **they** were eating the seeds in that field out there," she said as she pointed outside her doorway.

I stopped her. "I'm sorry, but what was that word?"

25 "Kakashi."

"Ah, scarecrows!".

"I made a few more for that purpose. Then when our neighbour passed away, I missed her. So I made a scarecrow that looked like her, so that I could continue to greet her every morning."

30 "Over time," she said, with a shrug and a sigh, "more of the villagers passed away. I began to make scarecrows to remember **them** and in a way to keep them alive. Would you like to take a walk?"

We wandered down the road to an imposing two-storey building. "**This** used to be the elementary school which is now closed," she said. "Come inside!"

35 I could hardly believe my eyes. Scarecrows were everywhere. A scarecrow principal supervised the hallway, scarecrow teachers gathered in a teachers' lounge, and in a classroom, 20 scarecrow children were seated obediently at **their** desks, looking at the scarecrow teacher.

By the time **we** finished our tour, the sun was setting. I needed to get back to my hotel in Osaka before dark, so I said a hasty thank you and promised that I would return.

40 Driving back, I was filled with deeply mixed feelings. On the one hand, there was something undeniably unsettling about the figures who seemed like characters in a horror film. But on the other hand, there was a warmth to Ayano's character that took seed in my soul.

(Adapted from <http://www.bbc.com>)

Questions on passage 2

1. Write down **TWO** facts about Shikoku that we learn from the passage. (1)

a. _____

b. _____

2. Why does the writer say that the village was 'seemingly deserted' in line 2? (1)

3. Write down **FOUR** physical features of the scarecrows found between lines 5 and 10. (2)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

4. What does the writer mean by 'alternate reality I had wandered into' (line 11)? (2)

5. Why did the writer stop 'abruptly' in line 14? (1)

6. Between lines 1 and 20, find **single** words that match the following meanings as used in the passage. (4)

- a. dangerously _____
- b. slouched _____
- c. strange _____
- d. saw _____
- e. dress _____
- f. cautiously _____
- g. meet _____
- h. attentively _____

7. Why did Ayano make the scarecrows in the first place? (1)

8. Why do you think Ayano filled the school with scarecrows? (2)

9. Why does the writer use the word 'obediently' in line 36? (2)

10. In your own words explain what the writer's 'deeply mixed feelings' (line 39) were. (2)

11. What do the words below refer to in the passage? (4)

- a. They (line 5) _____
- b. her (line 13) _____
- c. them (line 21) _____
- d. they (line 22) _____
- e. them (line 30) _____
- f. This (line 32) _____
- g. their (line 36) _____
- h. we (line 37) _____

12a. How long did the writer spend in Shikoku? (1)

b. Give a reason for your answer. (1)

13. Underline the correct answer: (1)
In this passage, the writer intends to

- a. teach the reader how to make scarecrows.
- b. share a travel experience.
- c. persuade the reader to visit Shikoku.

(Total: 25 marks)

Passage 2

WRITING TASK

The student council at your school is publishing an end-of-year magazine. It has asked students to contribute by writing about their happiest memory at school. In between 50 and 60 words, write your contribution. **You will be penalised if you write less than 50 or more than 60 words.**

(Total: 10 marks)

Writing
