

Question BANK

READING

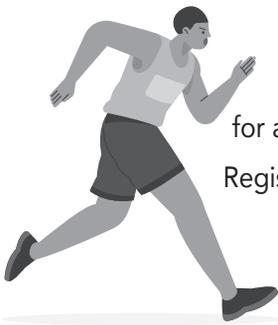
PART 1 Short Texts

PRACTICE 1

Read the text carefully in each question. Choose the best answer **A**, **B** or **C**.

PHOENIX HIGH SCHOOL

CROSS COUNTRY FUNDRAISER



Join us this
Saturday on
June 26th, 7a.m.
for a non competitive 4KM run.
Registration is RM10 per person.

All fees will go to the
Phoenix High School
Cross-Country Team.

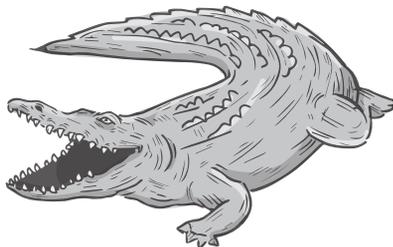
Thank you for your support!

1. The aim of this cross-country run is to
 - A encourage people to join the cross country team.
 - B raise funds for the cross-country team.
 - C thank the public for their support.



DANGER

BEWARE OF CROCODILES



**REMINDER FROM THE
CONTROLLER OF WILD LIFE**

2. This sign is to
 - A inform the public to feed the crocodiles.
 - B attract tourists to take photos of the crocodiles.
 - C warn the public that the river is infested with crocodiles.

Hey Tyler,

I just wanted to ask you if you are interested to join Devin and me next month for the badminton training camp at Miri? Drop by my home later. I'll tell you more about the camp.

From,
Elson

3. The message above is about
 - A Elson enquiring if Tyler would like to join the badminton training camp.
 - B Elson telling Tyler that Devin is not interested in going to the camp.
 - C Devin and Elson planning to have the fun of their lifetime in Miri.

RAFFLE'S GOT TALENT

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS

AUDITIONS WILL BE ON

AUGUST 6TH 3 p.m.

at

The WHITE ORCHID AUDITORIUM

For those interested
please see Ms. Joyce to fill the form by July 31st.

4. According to the poster
 - A every staff and student can participate in this audition.
 - B auditions will be held at the auditorium.
 - C Ms. Joyce is one of the panel judges.

MY BLOG

Hey guys! Welcome to my blog. I'm Mike and I'm 13. I'm super excited to know that everyone is interested to know about skateboarding.

I think skateboarding is just awesome. The most important lessons that you will get from skateboarding are learn to balance and how to pick up yourself after you've fallen. Let me tell you, you'll fall countless of times. Just like life, you need to pick yourself up and try again!

5. Based on Mike's blog,
- A he thinks skateboarding is easily done.
 - B he has been skateboarding for 13 years.
 - C he advises aspiring skateboarders to persevere despite many falls.

LAWAS TIMES
SUNDAY, AUGUST, 3rd



Will climate change prolong the wildfire seasons?
By Sammi Guang

6. The word **prolong** in the newspaper headline means
- A that the climate change will last longer than the wildfire.
 - B that the wildfire is the main reason for the extreme weather.
 - C that the wildfire seasons will last longer probably due to climate change.



IS THIS YOUR CAT?

He is trying to move into our house.

Please call Brian at 012 09899222 and bring your cat home safely. Paying rent in our house isn't cheap.

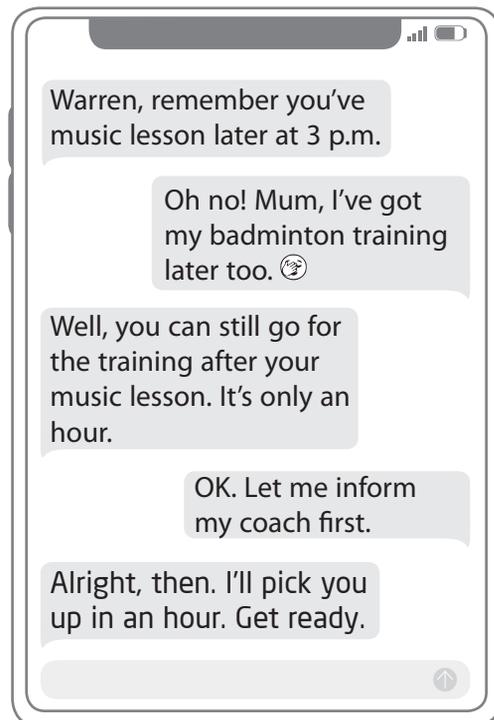
7. This is a hilarious poster about
- A a cat that is causing nuisance in the neighbourhood.
 - B a cat found its way and living in a stranger's home.
 - C a cat scratching the door of a stranger's home.



8. The tigers in the Coat of Arms of Malaysia
- A are resting on the shield.
 - B are clawing at each other.
 - C are supporting the shield.

PRACTICE 2

Read the text carefully in each question. Choose the best answer **A**, **B** or **C**.



1. From the chat above,
- A Warren is unable to attend the music class.
 - B Warren will not be able to go for his badminton training.
 - C Warren will have to be an hour late for badminton practice.

To : olivia@mail.com
 Subject : Enquiries about Masai Mara National Reserve

Dear Miss Olivia,

My friends and I are planning a trip to Kenya next month. We are very much interested in visiting a Kenyan safari and so we think the iconic Masai Mara is the place to go. We would also like to have a guide with us during our trip.

We would appreciate if you could provide us all the necessary details including fees, accommodation and the guide. We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,
 Kimberly Chong

2. Kimberly and her friends are
- A eager to visit the iconic Masai Mara.
 - B returning to Kenya for a second trip.
 - C hesitating about the trip to Kenya next month.



3. The photograph shows
- A four persons demonstrating the sport of stand-up paddle.
 - B another way to clean up the ocean with the combination of sports.
 - C that the cleaning of the ocean is a compulsory duty for stand-up paddlers.



The World-Famous Greek Island SANTORINI

- * Located at the south of the Aegean Sea (best for scuba diving)
- * Scintillating sunset shows
- * Unbelievable hotels
- * Rich in history
- * Undisputed best trails for hiking

4. From the travel brochure, the word *scintillating* means
- A gloomy
 - B gleaming
 - C shadowy

Now ONLY for RM799!

BLUE HD 10 TABLET

32/64 GB Storage
 Long lasting 12-hour Battery
 3 GB Ram Processor
 Enjoy your favourite apps

Grab the latest from BLUE!

5. Potential buyers of this new tablet will
- A face issue with the short-lived battery.
 - B still be able to use their favourite apps.
 - C have to pay RM30 for shipping to Selangor.

TRAVEL

Writing Competition 2024

Organised
By the English Language Club

Open to all students

Write stories that capture the readers' attention and have a strong sense of destination and the local culture.

*Entry is free

* Only one entry is permitted per participant

* Only original articles will be considered for this competition

*Article submitted must not exceed 1,000 words

*Articles can be handwritten or type

* Submission deadline is August 30th

*The winner will receive RM500

6. Interested students must

- A be members of the English Language Club.
- B write engaging articles about travelling.
- C share the winning prize equally.



7. The men in the picture are

- A thrill seekers who are bungee jumping from the wind turbine.
- B wind technicians who are servicing the wind turbines.
- C practicing swinging from the wind turbine.

Hi Rizal,

Have Madam Juan contacted you yet about our trip to Kuching? She did text me earlier today. Anyway, we are supposed to meet her in her office tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

I will wait for you at the staircase outside your class. I think she wants to brief us about the trip and wish us good luck in our running events.

Your mate,

Danny

8. From the message above, it is obvious that

- A the boys are representing their school in sporting events.
- B the boys are not interested to meet Madam Juan in her office.
- C Madam Juan wants to have a serious conversation about the boys' attitude.

PRACTICE 3

Read the text carefully in each question. Choose the best answer **A**, **B** or **C**.



1. From the notice, the place is only for anyone who

- A gets out of a taxi.
- B needs to book a taxi.
- C wants to take a ride in a taxi.

Lim : Hmm, the park is so much cleaner now. It was in such a sorry state the past few days.

Leela : Yes, you're right. We'll be able to enjoy our morning walks and exercise sessions. The volunteers deserve a pat on the back. They worked their fingers to the bone to clean up the park.

2. The dialogue is focused on complimenting the volunteers for their work. The expression that shows this most aptly is

- A deserve a pat on the back.
- B worked their fingers to the bone.
- C enjoy our morning walks and exercise sessions.

Charity Bazaar

A non-profit organisation will be holding a charity bazaar to raise funds for the less fortunate and disabled. Join the bazaar and donate in cash or kind.

Help us to help them. Non-profit all the way.

3. Another word to replace the word 'non-profit' is
- A kindness
 - B charity
 - C helpful

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

Travel writer Bill Bryson tackles the 2,000-mile Appalachian Trail, the world's longest continuous footpath that crosses through 14 states from Georgia to Maine. What ensues is a travelogue written in Bryson's classic 'riotously funny', LOL style that recounts his five-month journey with his friend Stephen Ratz hiking through some of the most striking landscapes in America.

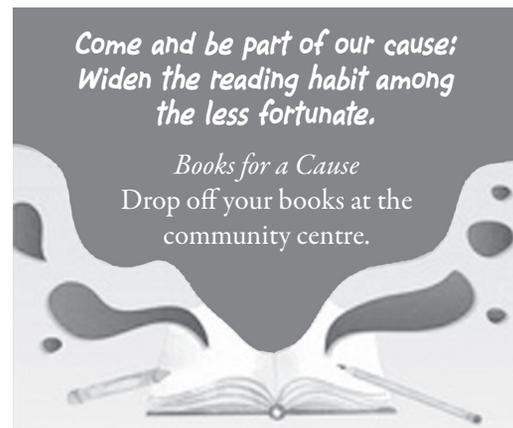
4. The word that best describes the book is
- A memoir
 - B catalogue
 - C travelogue

Cecilia : Thank you for these leafy organic greens. I'll have some for dinner tonight.

Lim : You're most welcome. As you can see, we have a whole garden full of leafy and root vegetables – a combined neighbourhood effort.

Cecilia : Yes, they look inviting. Health wise greens, whether organically grown or not do us a lot of good.

5. From the dialogue, we can say that the neighbourhood residents
- A enjoy gardening.
 - B are vegetarians.
 - C take a lot of vegetables.



6. The main reason for the poster is to encourage
- A donations of books.
 - B spirit of generosity.
 - C the reading habit.

LITTLE STROKES FELL GREAT OAKS

7. The idiomatic expressions means anyone can achieve success with _____
- A intermittent efforts and strong determination.
 - B strong efforts and casual determination.
 - C continuous, steady efforts and pure determination.

Tech Wonder

Play the game on the wonderful world of places of interest and win prizes!

How to participate:

- Go to SMS menu
- Type Tech Wonder – space – GAME – space – 5699
- You will receive your question
- Answer and win a wonderful vacation in an exotic place



8. Which of the following statements is incorrect?
- A To win prizes you must play the game
 - B To win prizes you must answer the question correctly
 - C To win prizes you must watch the places of interest

PART 2 Error Correction

PRACTICE 1

Read the text below and correct the underlined errors.
For each question, write the correct word in the space provided below.

The International Space Station is a research facility in space that **(0)** orbit Earth. It is used for scientific research and developing new technology. The station is **(1)** manages by a crew of six astronauts **(2)** which live aboard for six months before a new crew takes over. This cycle keeps on repeating.

However, in 2021, Mark Vande Hei **(3)** breaks the record for the time spent on the space station. He was in space for 355 days!

It goes without saying that living and working in space is different from Earth. Since the **(4)** early days of space, eating in zero-gravity environment has been challenging for the astronauts. They can't sit in chair or at the table and have a normal meal on plates. This is because everything **(5)** floating! Therefore, all their meals are specially made and packaged. Even using the toilet is a whole new adventure. The astronauts have to be **(6)** strap in or else they will be floating.

Occasionally the astronauts go outside the space station which is called spacewalking. They have to wear special suits. Sometimes some **(7)** experiment, are done outside the spacecraft which allow the scientists to learn how being in space affects different things. While **(8)** live in space has presented some challenges, the space station and crew have learnt to adapt to it.

Example:

0	orbits
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1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

PRACTICE 2

Read the text below and correct the underlined errors.
For each question, write the correct word in the space provided below.

The famous detective Sherlock Holmes **(0)** but his sidekick Dr John Watson are fictional characters created by the Scottish writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In Doyle's first novel **(1)** publishes in 1887, Holmes was penned as the world's first and only "consulting detective". The prolific author had written four novels and fifty-six short **(2)** story of Holmes. In all these stories Holmes diligently demonstrated his prowess at using logic and astute **(3)** observing to solve cases. So it is not surprising that Holmes has remained a popular figure in the 21st century and an icon of the British culture.

Today many of Sherlock Holmes's enthusiasts will get the chance to **(4)** visited the Sherlock Holmes Museum which has been opened to the public **(5)** for 1990. In Doyle's stories, 221B Baker Street is the fictional address of the detective and his flat mate, Dr Watson. In reality, the museum is located between 237 and 241 Baker Street but the museum **(6)** displayed a 221B address sign to stay true to its character. The Sherlock Holmes International Society manages the museum.

Visitors will need to purchase tickets from the "landlady" Mrs Hudson who will give an overview of the living quarters. It has been designed to look exactly as described in the stories. Holmes' famous study **(7)** where, overlooks Baker Street is on the first floor with the armchair sits by the fireplace. On the second floor are Dr Watson and Mrs Hudson's bedrooms. Every part of the interior has **(8)** being restored to its Victorian era origins and the museum assistants are dressed in Victorian era costumes too. So for fans of Sherlock Holmes, the visit to the museum will certainly be an experience of a lifetime.

Example:

0	and
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1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

PRACTICE 3

Read the text below and correct the underlined errors.

For each question, write the correct word in the space provided below.

Birds don't seem to suffer from jet lag. But, again they don't suffer **(0)** for airport delays, crowded seating or lost luggage. Human jet lag seems to be bound inextricably to passing **(1)** rapid through different time zones. Birds usually migrate from north to south often not **(2)** encounter any time change in their journey. One is likely to get jet lag when one **(3)** flying east to west or west to east. Thus, birds are not likely to get jet lag. Another reason for birds not getting jet lag is they don't fly as **(4)** faster as an airplane, so they have more time to adjust. Some migrations **(5)** must take several weeks. Birds don't stretch their physical limits unless they have to, such as when flying over a **(6)** larger body of water. If they are tired, birds stop and go to **(7)** sleeping, while their human counterparts often have trouble getting some shut-eye on a plane. As a rule, migration doesn't upset birds' **(8)** nature sleeping patterns. They sleep when it is dark and awaken when it is light.

Example:

0	from
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1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

PRACTICE 4

Read the text below and correct the underlined errors.

For each question, write the correct word in the space provided below.

Rome: An Italian cycling champion has **(0)** find a special way to exploit his ability as an athlete. He uses his bike to deliver medicines and food to the **(1)** elder in his home village amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Davide Martinelli – a cyclist with Astana and the Italian national team – is now a zero-cost **(2)** ride for his fellow citizens in the village of Lodetto. "Lodetto is a **(3)** specialised place for me. Around 1,500 people live there, but **(4)** unfortunate there's no pharmacy or food shops" Martinelli wrote on his Instagram account. "I **(5)** decide it was my chance to do something to help and pay back the people who have always supported me. "The initiative started thanks to the idea of some **(6)** youth in the village. With his bike and backpack, he felt he could do his part. **(7)** Its takes him only thirty minutes to ride the 10km route, nothing special for a professional cyclist. For **(8)** he, cycling is great but there's nothing like the feeling when you help someone in need.

Source: The Star, Sport April 2020

Example:

0	found
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1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

PART 3 Information Transfer

PRACTICE 1

Read the text below and complete the following mind map with **no more than three words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.

From Street Busker to Global Stardom

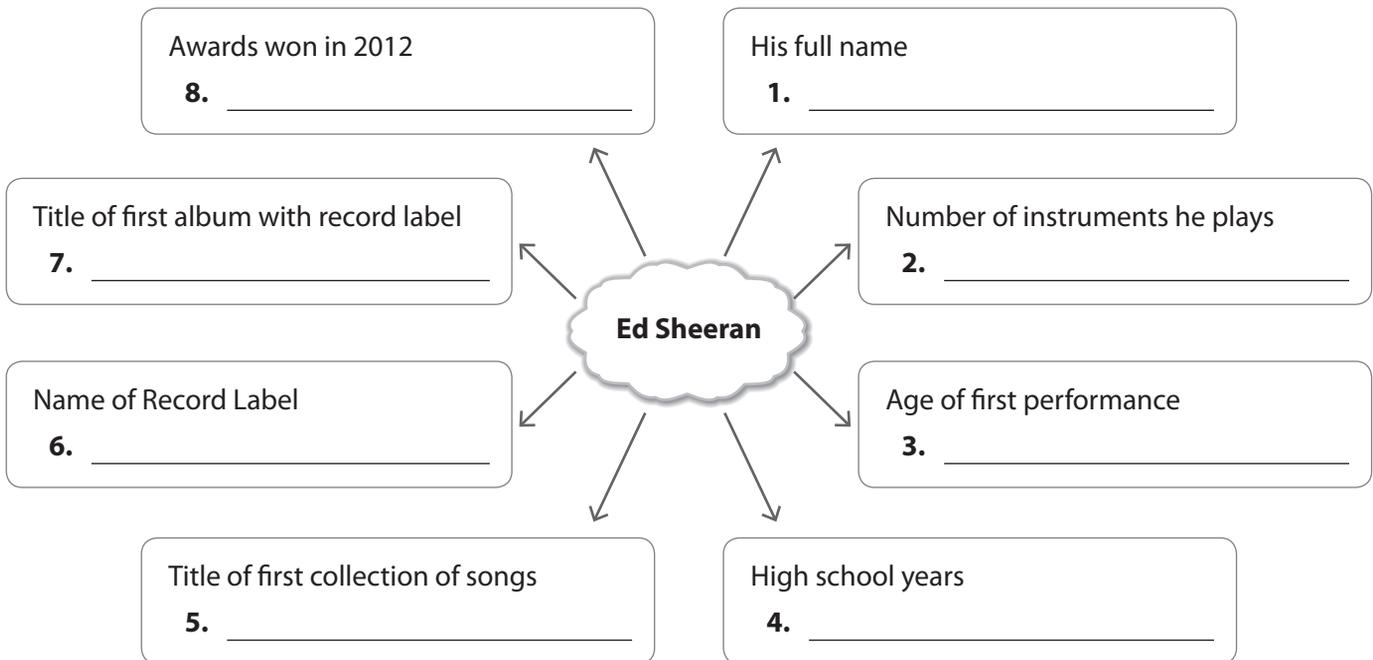
He is among the best selling music artists across the globe. Among his notable songs are "Perfect", "Shape of You" and "Castle on the Hill". Edward Christopher Sheeran who is better known as Ed Sheeran was born on 17 February, 1991, in Halifax, West Yorkshire. Then the family moved to Fralingham, Suffolk where he spent most of his childhood. He comes from a family who loves art and music. His parents are in the art world and his elder brother, Matthew is a classical music composer.

From a young age he was encouraged to be in music. He started to join the church choir at the age of four and learned the cello before starting the guitar at eleven years old. Along the years he also picked up the piano, bass and drums. He dabbled in songwriting when he went to high school.

His first ever performance happened quite accidentally. It was meant to be a duo. His friend, Dan was supposed to play the piano. Unfortunately, things didn't happen according to plan. They couldn't bring the piano on stage. So, the duo performance turned to a solo performance with Ed singing alone on the stage.

Although he felt nervous, he went ahead with the performance. When it was over, he was pleasantly surprised to know that people thought he was good. It was the day the 11 year-old realised that he could do something with it. He started busking and performing in London at the age of 18. In his "Photograph" music video, fans are given a rare glimpse into his childhood in a montage of videos. This home-movie video clip also included Sheeran busking on the street during his early days as a new artist.

He continued to push forward and in 2004, he started recording his music independently with his first collection of songs called the "Spinning Man". He went on to release more songs. His big break came when he signed with Atlantic Records in 2011. Sheeran first album titled '+' (Plus) was released in September 2011. The album went platinum six times! It shot him to superstardom and internationally well known. In 2012, he went on to win the Brit Awards for British Breakthrough Act and British Solo Male Artist. Sheeran's star continues to soar in the music industry. He has composed over 120 songs to date and released six albums. There is no stopping this man and his unruly ginger hair.



PRACTICE 2

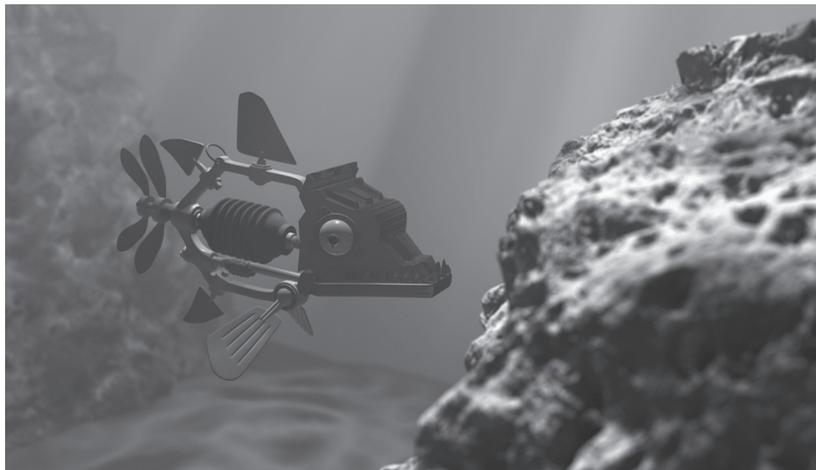
Read the text below and complete the following mind map with **no more than three words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.

A robotic fish to spy on ocean life

It looks like a fish. But, it isn't a fish. It's SoFi, the robotic fish. Developed by researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, SoFi is a soft-bodied robot that glides silently through the water with a smooth, undulating motion designed to mimic the movements of real fish.

It is the first robotic fish to contend with the currents and pressures of an actual ocean setting for an extended period of time. It can nimbly navigate a coral reef in Fiji in three dimensions, swimming up, down, left, right and forward, all at the behest of a diver armed with Nintendo controller. It can handle water depths of about 18.2m and appears to swim alongside real fish without spooking them.

SoFi is a fairly small robot, about 45cm long and weighing at just 1.5kg, a hydraulic pump moves water in its soft rubber tail from side to side, allowing it to swim in a fish-like motion. Electronics, along with a fisheye lens, are stored in the robot's head. It runs off a small battery and in its current situation, it can swim for about 40 minutes at a time. Many of SoFi's parts are 3D printed, making it relatively easy and inexpensive to reproduce. The design of SoFi can be easily scaled up or down. But, if it were bigger, it would be harder for a diver to get it into and out of the water and if it were smaller, it would struggle to move more against currents.



A robotic fish to spy on ocean life

What is SoFi	1. _____
Motions in water – like real fish	2. _____
Purpose of Sofi – contend with oceanic	3. _____
Helped by a diver armed with	4. _____
Length and weight	5. _____
Parts and electronics : – tail	6. _____
– eyes	7. _____
– powered by	8. _____

PRACTICE 3

Read the text below and complete the following mind map with **no more than three words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.

What's killing the coral reefs?

Reefs are home to millions of animals – at least 25 percent of all fish species. They have become known as rainforests of the sea. However, worldwide half of all reefs have vanished. So, what's killing the coral reefs?



Overfishing

Increasing demand for fish has led to the overfishing of reef species. Overfishing of certain species can easily affect the ecological balance and biodiversity of the reef.

Destructive fishing methods

Dynamite fishing and cyanide make the fish easier to catch. These practices do not target species, they destroy everything where they are applied. Damage on the coral reef affects the entire reef ecosystem, and thus has an immediate impact on the livelihood of fishermen.

Pollution

Pollution from land-based human activities – smother coral reefs, depriving them of sunlight and nutrients. Also, fish are unable to feed and coral polyps are unable to grow, leaving the area inhospitable to reef life.

Rising ocean temperature

If the ocean surface temperatures continue to rise, the frequency and severity of coral bleaching will also increase, possibly affecting the ability of coral reefs to multiply.

Increased tourism

Increased tourism is one of the major causes of the destruction of coral reefs. Careless tourist behaviour - divers, snorkelers, and other sea lovers often inadvertently damage the reef by playing on them, stepping or sitting on them to rest, or simply by touching them.

Boats and other vessels used for recreational activities can damage coral reefs with carelessly dropped anchors or accidental grounding.

Dying coral reefs

Reefs / rainforest of the sea – home	1. _____
Coral reefs dying – overfishing of reef species affect	2. _____
Destructive fishing methods - affect	3. _____ and 4. _____
Pollution from land-based human activities – heightens	5. _____
Rising ocean temperature increases	6. frequency and severity of _____
Increased tourism : careless tourist behaviour vehicles for water recreation	7. _____ 8. _____

PART 4 Short Answer**PRACTICE 1**

Read the text and answers the questions that follow. Choose **no more than five words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.

Escape from Deadly Volcano Eruption

It was a day that Andang Larasti would not forget. It was the day Mount Semeru which stands at 3,676 metres is the tallest volcano in Java erupted in December 2021. Indonesia, an archipelago of 270 million people, is nestled on the "Ring of Fire" which is a band around the Pacific Ocean that triggers frequent earthquakes and volcanic activity. There are 129 active volcanoes within this archipelago.

Andang has lived at the foot of this active volcano since childhood. It was the only home she ever knew. It never crossed her mind to uproot her family to a safer area because all of her other family members and relatives lived here. However, this farmer was forced to leave her village in Kamar Kajang when the volcano suddenly erupted on 4th December.

Initially she thought it was just a regular flood. Instead it rained gravel and ash. Then the sky darkened. This dire situation had propelled Andang, her husband and their 9-year-old son to leave the house with flashlights at 4:30p.m. They had to leave all their livestock behind.

Andang also heard that one of the villagers had his house completely destroyed razed to the ground. She also heard that houses in Renteng village were submerged in four metres high of lava, ash and sand. Renteng was one the worst area affected by this volcanic eruption.

The volcano ejected thick volcanic ash more than 4,000 feet into the air and dangerous lava flowed down the slopes toward the Besuk Kobokan river which was eight miles from the crater. Andang and her family were among 3,697 evacuees from the Lumajang area who seek shelter at the 19 temporary evacuation centres set up by the National Disaster Management Agency. Authorities had estimated about 100,000 homes were destroyed or partially damaged.

It was weeks before Andang and her family were allowed to return home. They were devastated to see everything in the village was covered in thick ash, lava and sand. She saw that nothing could be salvage at home and so it was the very last time she set eyes on her village.

- _____ is the tallest volcano in Java.
- The _____ is a band around the Pacific Ocean that sets off earthquakes and volcanic activity.
- Indonesia, an archipelago of 270 million people has _____.
- Andang lived in _____ with her husband and 9-year-old son when the volcano erupted.
- The volcano erupted on _____ 2021.
- Andang and her family evacuated the village and left _____ behind.
- Houses in the badly affected Renteng village were submerged in _____ of ash, lava and sand.
- Evacuees took shelter at the nineteen _____.

Questions 9 and 10

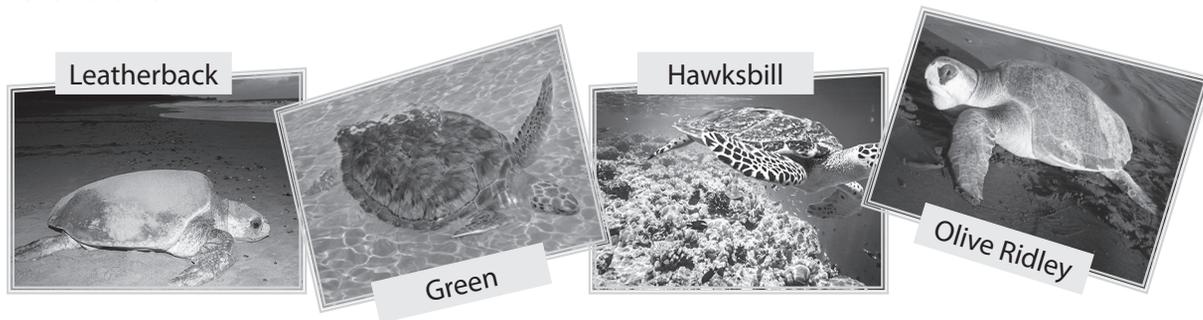
Complete the table with **a word** from the text.

For each question, write your answer in the space provided.

Meaning	Word
9. an area of large sea containing many scattered islands	
10. a person who is sent away from a dangerous place to a safer place	

PRACTICE 2

Read the text and answers the questions that follow. Choose **no more than five words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.



Turtles of Peninsular Malaysia

Malaysia is fortunate to host four species of marine turtles: Leatherback, Green, Hawksbill and Olive Ridley turtles. The Leatherback and Hawksbill have been classified as Critically Endangered, Green and Olive Ridley sea turtles have been classified as Endangered.

Did you know?

- One of the earth’s most ancient creatures, sea turtles once navigated the world’s oceans in huge numbers. But, in the past century, human demand for turtle meat, eggs, skin and colourful shells have reduced their populations. Destruction of feeding and nesting habitats and pollution of the world’s oceans are all taking a serious toll on remaining sea turtle population.
- Many breeding population have already become extinct and some surviving species are being threatened to extinction.
- The natural obstacles faced by sea turtles are staggering, but it is the increasing problems caused by humans that are threatening their future survival. They are facing unprecedented threats and the number of sea turtles in most places has plummeted.
- Sea turtles are classic travellers – These great gentle reptiles of the sea swim great distances and come on land only to nest. Leatherback sea turtles can travel more than 16,093km every year!
- For sea turtles, home is where the heart is – Sea turtles return to the same nesting ground where they were born, to lay their eggs. They use a simple navigation system involving the earth’s magnetic field to return to the same egg-laying site.
- Sea turtles are natural divers – Leatherbacks can dive to a depth of more than 1000m in search of their prey, jellyfish. They are adapted to deep dives.
- Sea turtle can hold their breath for hours – Sea turtles are air-breathing reptiles so they need to surface to breathe. However, they can hold their breath for several hours depending on the level of activity. A resting or sleeping turtle can remain underwater between four to seven hours.
- Sea turtles won’t win any Mother’s Day awards – Once a nest has been completed and the eggs are laid, the female never returns for it. The eggs and resulting hatchlings are left to fend for themselves and locate the water upon emerging.

1. The four species of marine turtles face extinction and are classified as _____.
2. Human demands for parts of turtles like meat, eggs, skin and shells have _____.
3. Turtles are classic travellers as they can swim great distances and come on land only _____.
4. The two sources of threats to the turtle’s survival is natural obstacles and _____.
5. Turtles are known as _____ because they can dive to a depth of more than 1000m depths.
6. Turtles are not potential Mother’s Day winners as they neglect their nests and eggs after laying and hatching and _____.

- Sea turtles can hold their breath for hours but as sea breathing reptiles, they need to surface _____.
- Sea turtles may be great travellers and natural divers but when at rest underwater, they can remain there for _____ hours.

Questions 9 and 10

Complete the table with **a word** from the text.

For each question, write your answer in the space provided.

Meaning	Word
9. calm	
10. recently born offspring	

PRACTICE 3

Read the text and answers the questions that follow. Choose **no more than five words and/or a number** from the text for each answer.

Countryside living

A kampung homestay experience will make you fall in love with a more idyllic pace of life. Having lived in a metropolitan setting for most of my life, I'm not ashamed to admit that I'm a city boy through and through. Weekends are spent at shopping malls and a hot shower in the morning is a basic necessity.

So, just imagine my horror when I found out that I would be staying at a traditional Malay village for three nights for work. As part of a homestay media experience, I was to stay at several Malay villages across Negeri Sembilan. For the uninitiated, a homestay vacation is a form of tourism where visitors stay over at the home of a local family while immersing themselves in the culture of the local community.

At one of the stops in Kampung Batang Nyamor in Rembau, my foster parent was Badziah D. a retiree with an amiable personality. His house doesn't exactly fit the bill of a traditional Malay kampung home. Neither is Badziah's house built on stilts nor was it completely constructed of wood. But we were pretty deep in the countryside surrounded by crowing roosters. Many old-time residents here lived a languorous life. Mobile signals are non-existent and congestion on the road was more likely to be caused by cows than cars. A little shack of a washroom was located behind the house.

It took a bit of getting used to the charming kampung life but in hindsight it was a great experience. We got to observe traditional Javanese culture and heritage and experienced the local delicacies. And over at Kampung Pelegong, our group participated in a cultural performance that included a wedding ceremony that observed the Adat Perpatih (matrilineal system). When we arrived at Kampung Lonek in Jempol, the sight of the golden paddy fields provided a welcome change from tall city buildings.

A Malaysian homestay is a good way to get a better sense of traditional Malay culture.

- To experience an _____ of life, one should go for a kampung homestay.
- The writer, was understandably horrified at the thought of staying in a _____.
- Badziah's house does not give the impression of a traditional Malay house because it is not completely wooden or _____.
- One of the things that the tourist enjoy during the homestay vacation was staying at the home of a local family and immersing in the culture of _____.
- The three aspects of urban life that is absent in a village life are crowing roosters, mobile signals and _____ of motor vehicles.
- The writer had his shower without hot water in a _____ of a washroom located behind the house.

7. The writer and his friends had an enriching experience of observing _____ and heritage and tasting local delicacies.
8. The wedding ceremony was carried out based on _____ or matrilineal system.

Questions 9 and 10

Complete the table with **a word** from the text.
For each question, write your answer in the space provided.

Meaning	Word
9. Slow moving and easy way of life	
10. Understanding of a situation or event only after it has happened or developed	

PART 5 Matching (Gapped Text)

PRACTICE 1

Read the text below. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A – H) to fit each gap (1 – 6).

Table Mountain

The name itself is funnily fascinating. It makes the mind goes riot imagining how does it look like, a mountain that looks like a table or a table in the form of a mountain? Table Mountain is actually one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. **(1)** _____ It dominates the city’s skyline and makes an Instagrammable backdrop to any picture taken.

The mountain was originally named Hoerikwaggo by the indigenous Khoisan people of the Cape which means ‘Mountain in the Sea’. Then in 1503, a Portuguese explorer, Antonio de Saldanha named it Taboa de Cabo meaning Table of the Cape. **(2)** _____

(3) _____ Over time, erosion has shaped the landscape into the flat-topped mountain it is today. It is approximately 1,086 metres tall and the plateau is about 3 kilometres wide. **(4)** _____ It has shrunk due to millions of years of erosion. Its unique shape has made it an important geological landmark.

This iconic landmark is located in Table Mountain National Park (TMNP). **(5)** _____ It is also rich in floral biodiversity with 8,200 plant species making it one of the world’s 18 biodiversity hotspot. **(6)** _____ Despite the magnificent biodiversity, human activity is a major threat to this mountain’s fragile ecosystem.

- A** The mountain got its name because of its flat surface.
- B** It was once three to four times higher.
- C** It is featured on Cape Town’s flag.
- D** This impressive flat mountain overlooks the city of Cape Town in South Africa.
- E** It has unique microclimate.
- F** The park encompasses an area of approximately 25,000 hectares.
- G** Furthermore, many of these plants are endemic to this region.
- H** This was followed by the Dutch settlers who began calling it Tafelberg which translates as Table Mountain around 1652.

PRACTICE 2

Read the text below. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A – H) to fit each gap (1 – 6).

Bicycle touring is becoming more popular and if you are keen to attempt this adventure, here are some useful tips to start off with:

Prepare your bike

Make sure your bicycle is fitted to your body size so that you can ride comfortably for long distances. The bike stem and seat should be adjusted to your height. (1) _____ Almost any bike can be used. However, a touring bike is stronger and more balanced if you have lots of stuff to carry especially if you want to camp. Don't use a brand-new bicycle to avoid niggling mechanical issues. If you anticipate tackling rough roads, a bike with at least a front suspension is recommended.

Train yourself

If you are going to cycle for many days continuously, then you'd better get your body in shape before the trip. (2) _____ Prepare yourself for rain, strong wind or sweltering heat.

Repair skills

If you are in a deserted country road, chances are there isn't anyone you can ask for help. (3) _____

Pack properly

Travel light. (4) _____ Use pannier bags attached to your bicycle.

Plan your stay

If you plan to do camping, make sure of the necessary equipment. (5) _____

Dress appropriately

Wear comfortable, fast-dry attire. Be prepared for both wet and dry weather. For the hot weather, sunglasses and a bike helmet with a visor, bandana or scarf will be good. (6) _____

Last but not least, prepare yourself mentally and stay connected.

- A Train yourself to ride on all kinds of road conditions.
- B Pack appropriately for the weather conditions.
- C Use an umbrella when you are caught in wet weather.
- D Make sure that your bike lights, brakes and bell are in good working condition.
- E Prepare for wet weather with a windbreaker cum raincoat.
- F You might end up on smooth highways.
- G For urban bike touring, you should pre-book hotel rooms.
- H Make sure you learn how to do basic repairs and have the necessary tools.

PRACTICE 3

Read the text below. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A – H) to fit each gap (1 – 6).

Saving the Malayan Tapir

It's easy to fall in love with the tapir, a gentle animal with a shy disposition. Tapirs are not just important to Malaysia. (1) ____ In Japan, the tapir is depicted as a mythical creature that wards off bad dreams. (2) ____

Among the four species of tapir found in the world, the Malayan tapir is the rarest. (3) ____ Sadly, there are estimated to be fewer than 1,500 Malayan tapirs in Peninsular Malaysia and fewer than 2,500 mature tapirs remaining in South-East Asian region.

It has a lifespan of 30 years and is classified as a totally protected species under the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010. (4) ____ Significant steps need to be taken.

(5) ____ This is due to deforestation, forest fragmentation and issues with land use. With the loss of habitats, the tapir is driven to a corner and is a victim of road accidents. (6) ____ We need to increase public awareness. Enforcement particularly in destroying snares hidden in the jungle must be stepped up.

Malaysia is currently conducting specialised tapir conservation programmes at centres like the Sungai Dusun Wildlife Conservation Centre.

- A It is even immortalised as a Pokemon with the power of hypnosis.
- B The main threat facing Malayan tapirs is habitat loss.
- C It is not welcomed in many other cultures.
- D In fact, it holds significant value in other cultures, too.
- E Once lost, the habitats cannot be revived.
- F It is the only one with a distinct black and white colouring.
- G So, the most important step is to preserve tapir habitats.
- H The good news is - it is possible to reverse the decline of the Malayan tapir.