

English

TEST INSTRUCTIONS

FILL IN YOUR DETAILS

Turn to your ANSWER SHEET and fill in your name, school, grade, section, today's date, your date of birth and gender.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Go to the ENGLISH ANSWER SHEET.

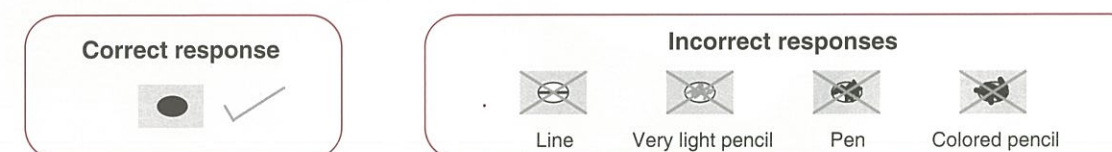
This test has **40 QUESTIONS**. Each question has four possible options.

Choose the **BEST** answer from the four options, **A, B, C** or **D**.

FILL in **ONE** circle on your answer sheet with a pencil.

If you make a mistake, erase the pencil mark and fill in a different circle.

You must colour the entire circle as shown below:



Marks are NOT deducted for incorrect answers.

ALL ANSWERS SHOULD BE MARKED ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET ONLY.

EQUIPMENT ALLOWED IN THIS TEST

You may use a 2B or B pencil for this test. You may NOT use a dictionary for this test.

TIME ALLOWED FOR TEST

The time allowed to complete this test is **60 minutes**.

Hiding Spot

'Tara, can we play now?' my little cousin begged.

'Alright,' I grumbled, regretting that I'd agreed to look after Dexter while our mothers went to the mall. I looked up from my laptop. 'One, two, three ... Coming, ready or not!'

Dexter never took long to hide. He did his hiding on the basis that if *he* couldn't see *me*, then I couldn't see *him*. I always found him within seconds, usually in full view with his eyes shut tight. This time he was partly under the table, his yellow trousers and bright red socks sticking out.

Usually, I pretended not to see him for a while. 'Where can Dexter be?' I would say. But today I wasn't in the mood. I got out of my chair and gave his leg a nudge with my foot. 'Found you.'

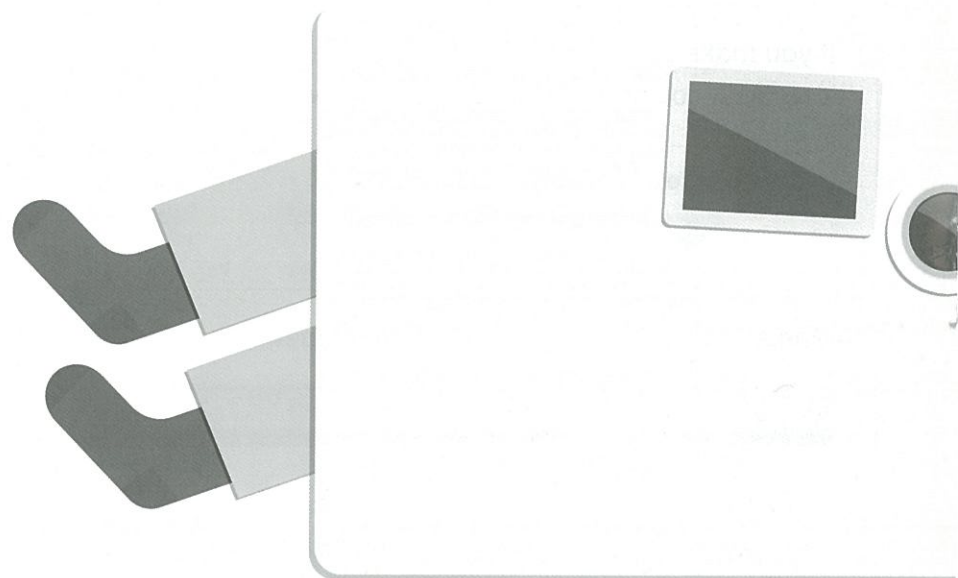
'Again, Tara,' he demanded.

This time I counted to one hundred, very, very slowly, while I played on my laptop. 'Coming, ready or not,' I eventually called.

The house was strangely silent. Dexter wasn't under the table, or behind the chair, or standing in the kitchen. Then I noticed the door to the laundry was wide open, and this led onto the busy street.

I ran outside and looked frantically around, shouting Dexter's name ... but he was nowhere to be seen. I would have to call his mother.

When I rushed back inside the house, a large heap of washing on the laundry floor began to move. And when I saw those red socks wriggling, my heart stopped beating so fast.



This page has been deliberately left blank.

This page has been deliberately left blank.

1 What does Dexter usually do when hiding from Tara?

- A make noises to trick Tara
- B ask Tara to count for a long time
- C close his eyes so that Tara can't see him
- D hide in places that are too small for Tara

2 *I got out of my chair and gave his leg a nudge with my foot.*

How is Tara feeling at this point?

- A furious
- B amused
- C relieved
- D bored

3 Why does Tara count to one hundred?

- A to give her more time for herself
- B to allow Dexter more time to hide
- C to teach Dexter to be more patient
- D to show off her counting skills

4 How does Tara react when she sees that the door is open?

- A She panics.
- B She relaxes.
- C She gets angry.
- D She gets excited.

5 Where is Dexter at the end of the story?





- A in his bedroom
- B on the busy street
- C under a pile of clothes
- D standing in the kitchen

Mimic Octopus

An animal's markings are often very important for survival. Many birds use their bright markings to attract a mate, while leopards take advantage of their spots to hide in the grass while hunting. Other creatures, like the chameleon, can change colour to blend in with the environment when hiding from predators. The mimic octopus, though, has a unique trait – it can change not only its colour, but also its shape and behaviour to disguise itself as several different marine animals.

First discovered in 1998 off the coast of Indonesia, the mimic octopus is now well-recognised around the world as a master of mimicry. Naturally brown in colour, it can change its appearance to resemble crabs, sea snakes, jellyfish and several different species of poisonous fish. Whenever a predator approaches, the octopus transforms itself to scare the predator away. For example, if a damsel fish comes near, the octopus buries its body in the sand leaving just two striped legs on show – the two legs resemble the head and tail of a banded sea snake which is known to eat damsel fish.

Having such a wondrous talent has meant there has been a lot of interest in the octopus since it first came to public attention. Some scientists are worried that this may put the octopus at risk as divers try to catch them for aquariums and collectors.

Animal mimicked	How the octopus changes
lion fish 	It waves its legs around its body to look like the deadly spines of a lion fish.
flounder fish 	It flattens its body with its legs by its side to imitate a flounder moving along the sand.
jellyfish 	It puffs up its head and leaves its arms dangling as it swims close to the water's surface like a jellyfish.
crab 	It squashes its body and uses two legs to mimic crab claws. When another crab comes by looking to mate, the octopus eats it.

36 What did Margarete Steiff base the 55PB design on?

- A a cartoon bear in a newspaper
- B the Michtoms' design of a bear cub
- C her nephew's drawings of real bears
- D a model of a bear in a German toy museum

37 What is one reason the text suggests for the poor early sales of the 55PB?

- A unmoveable limbs
- B an unoriginal design
- C an uncomfortable fabric
- D an unimaginative name

38 Why did Hermann Berg think the 55PB would sell well in America?

- A 55PB was based on an American bear.
- B Americans had never seen a toy bear before.
- C The US president had earlier bought a 55PB.
- D Toy bears had just become popular in America.

39 What does the Steiff Museum claim happened to the bears Berg ordered from Steiff?

- A They disappeared in the Atlantic Ocean.
- B They were sold to another toy company.
- C They were damaged by American children.
- D They were donated to museums around Germany.

40 Why is US President Roosevelt mentioned in this text?

- A He was given a toy bear as a hunting trophy.
- B He created new laws designed to protect bears.
- C His actions led the Michtoms to create a toy bear.
- D He prevented toys being imported from Germany.

Stuffed Bears

Two stuffed bears were created around the same time on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean. This has led to some debate about the exact birthplace of the toy we now refer to as the teddy bear.

While attending art school in Stuttgart, Germany, Richard Steiff, nephew of the famous toymaker Margarete Steiff, would regularly visit the nearby zoo to sketch bears. When working for his aunt in 1902, Richard showed her these sketches. The sketches were used in the design for a toy bear named 55PB: the number indicated the bear's height in cm, P was from the German word for plush, and B was from the German word for moveable limbs.

Perhaps due in part to its matter-of-fact name, sales of 55PB were initially disappointing. But when Richard Steiff exhibited the bear at the Leipzig Toy Fair in March 1903, Hermann Berg, a buyer for a New York toy company, was impressed. Hoping to capitalise on the recently acquired American appetite for stuffed bears, Berg ordered 3000 items.

The American appetite had been whetted the previous year when US President, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt had refused to shoot a captured bear while on a hunting trip, deeming it unsportsmanlike. The event became the subject of a political cartoon that appeared in the *Washington Post* newspaper. Shopkeeper Morris Michtom saw the cartoon and, with his wife, Rose, created a stuffed toy in the design of a bear cub. Michtom put the toy in his shop window with a sign that read *Teddy's Bear*. The bear was an instant success, and this enabled Michtom to start his own toy company.

Although both the 55PB and Michtom bears were manufactured in large numbers, none of these original bears are in existence today; soft toys with protruding limbs do not survive long in the hands of children. But according to the Steiff Museum in Germany, the explanation for the absence of 55PBs is that the shipment for Berg never arrived in America. It is claimed that the boat sank and all 3000 bears were lost. So there is not only debate about the toy bear's origins, there is also some dispute about how some of the first bears met their end.

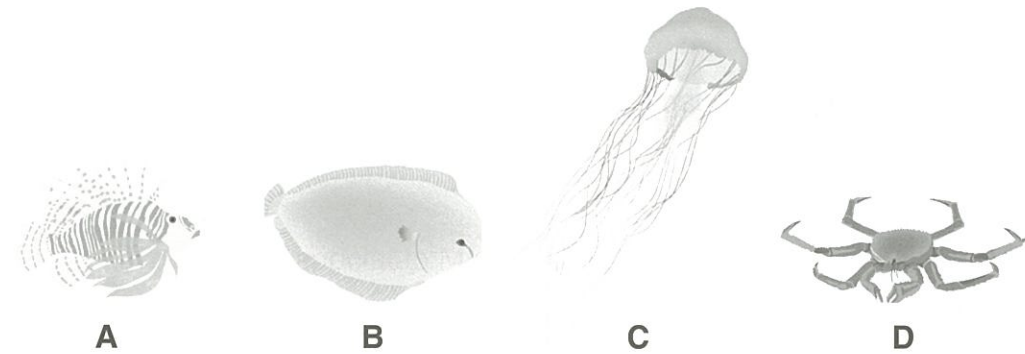


- 6 What makes the mimic octopus special?
- A It can copy many other animals.
 - B It can produce different types of poison.
 - C It can change its appearance to attract mates.
 - D It can make the water around it change colour.

- 7 Why is the damsel fish mentioned in this text?
- A The mimic octopus eats the damsel fish.
 - B The mimic octopus tricks the damsel fish.
 - C The mimic octopus imitates the damsel fish.
 - D The mimic octopus protects the damsel fish.

- 8 What does the table show?
- A animals the mimic octopus eats
 - B animals that eat the mimic octopus
 - C animals the mimic octopus pretends to be
 - D animals that behave like the mimic octopus

- 9 Which animal does the mimic octopus imitate to attract food?



- 10 What does the final paragraph highlight?
- A a global threat
 - B a potential problem
 - C a scientific discovery
 - D an environmental crisis

Choose the best word(s) for each blank space.

Homework

Mr Patel inhaled **11** and opened a window to calm **12** down. His student, Amal, had forgotten to hand in **13** another assignment. The excuse this time was that her cat had **14** birth to kittens. **15** the third time this term!

11 Choose the best option for space 11.

- A deep
- B depth
- C deeply
- D depthly

12 Choose the best option for space 12.

- A his
- B him
- C his-self
- D himself

13 Choose the best option for space 13.

- A yet
- B now
- C just
- D already

14 Choose the best option for space 14.

- A gave
- B given
- C been gave
- D been given

15 Choose the best option for space 15.

- A By
- B For
- C Since
- D Until



Replace the **bolded** words. The meaning of the text should remain the same.

Basketball Rematch

Disregarding my advice, the school council went ahead with the **contentious** basketball rematch with the neighbouring school. Both teams started **apprehensively**, with our neighbours eking out a **slender** lead. But before half-time, the match **inevitably** had to be abandoned due to poor sportsmanship.

31 Select the best word to replace **Disregarding**.

- A Ignoring
- B Following
- C Welcoming
- D Questioning

32 Select the best word to replace **contentious**.

- A confusing
- B concluding
- C confidential
- D controversial

33 Select the best word to replace **apprehensively**.

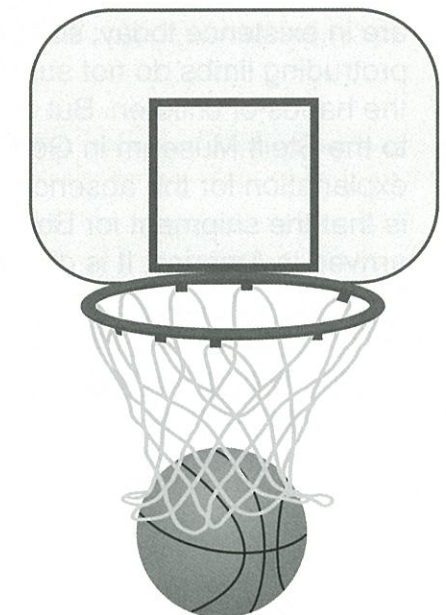
- A carelessly
- B cheerfully
- C cautiously
- D confidently

34 Select the best word to replace **slender**.

- A narrow
- B fortunate
- C significant
- D short-lived

35 Select the best word to replace **inevitably**.

- A bizarrely
- B regrettably
- C predictably
- D embarrassingly



Choose the correctly spelt word for each blank space.

Soldier

My father is a **26** in the army. He is an **27** man who takes great pride in his **28**. Like many soldiers of his **29** he has a well-groomed **30**.

26 Choose the correctly spelt word for space **26**.

- A colnel
- B kernel
- C colonel
- D kolonel

27 Choose the correctly spelt word for space **27**.

- A enormous
- B enourmous
- C enormouse
- D ennourmous

28 Choose the correctly spelt word for space **28**.

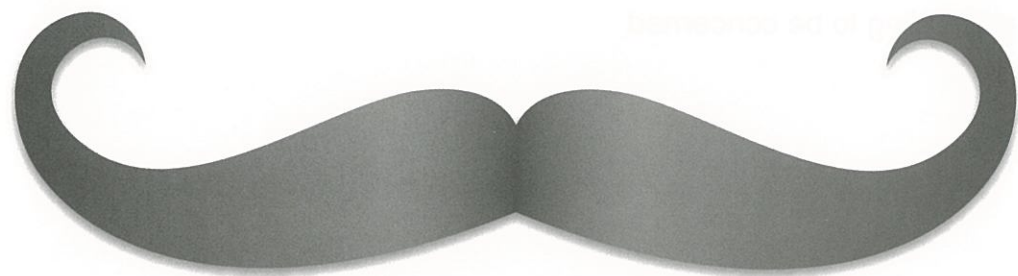
- A aperrance
- B apearance
- C apperance
- D appearance

29 Choose the correctly spelt word for space **29**.

- A genaration
- B generation
- C genaraition
- D jeneraition

30 Choose the correctly spelt word for space **30**.

- A mustach
- B mustashe
- C moustash
- D moustache



Choose the best option for each blank.

Movie Review

Sentinel Rising is the story of two brothers **16** trapped in a broken time machine. Zach **17** is a time machine builder who is prone to forgetting things **18** times, places, keys, etc. It is a predictable story that comes to life when the on-board computer shows an unhealthy interest in the two **19** cooking skills. Cheo, best known for his role of **20** in Judge Street, brings some quality acting to a sometimes flimsy script.

16 Choose the best option for space **16**.

- A Zach and Romeo
- B : Zach and Romeo
- C , Zach and Romeo,
- D - Zach and Romeo,

17 Choose the best option for space **17**.

- A (played by Curt Cheo)
- B played by (Curt Cheo)
- C (played by) Curt Cheo
- D played (by Curt Cheo)

18 Choose the best option for space **18**.

- A , dates ...
- B - dates -
- C , dates,
- D : dates,

19 Choose the best option for space **19**.

- A mens
- B men's
- C mens'
- D men's'

20 Choose the best option for space **20**.

- A "the yes man"
- B (the yes man)
- C - the yes man -
- D , the yes man,



Stuck

What had begun as a simple dare for Tina had somehow become a major problem. It had been easy enough to climb up the tree, but how was she going to get down? There was no shortage of people offering advice: *crawl backwards, drop to the next branch, jump!* But none of these options seemed wise. Any sudden movement ... and the branch would snap.

Everyone from the village was there now, staring up at her, scratching their heads and whispering to each other that it would not end well. Everyone, that is, except Tina's mother who was steadily making her way towards the tree, laundry basket in hand, to see what all the fuss was about.

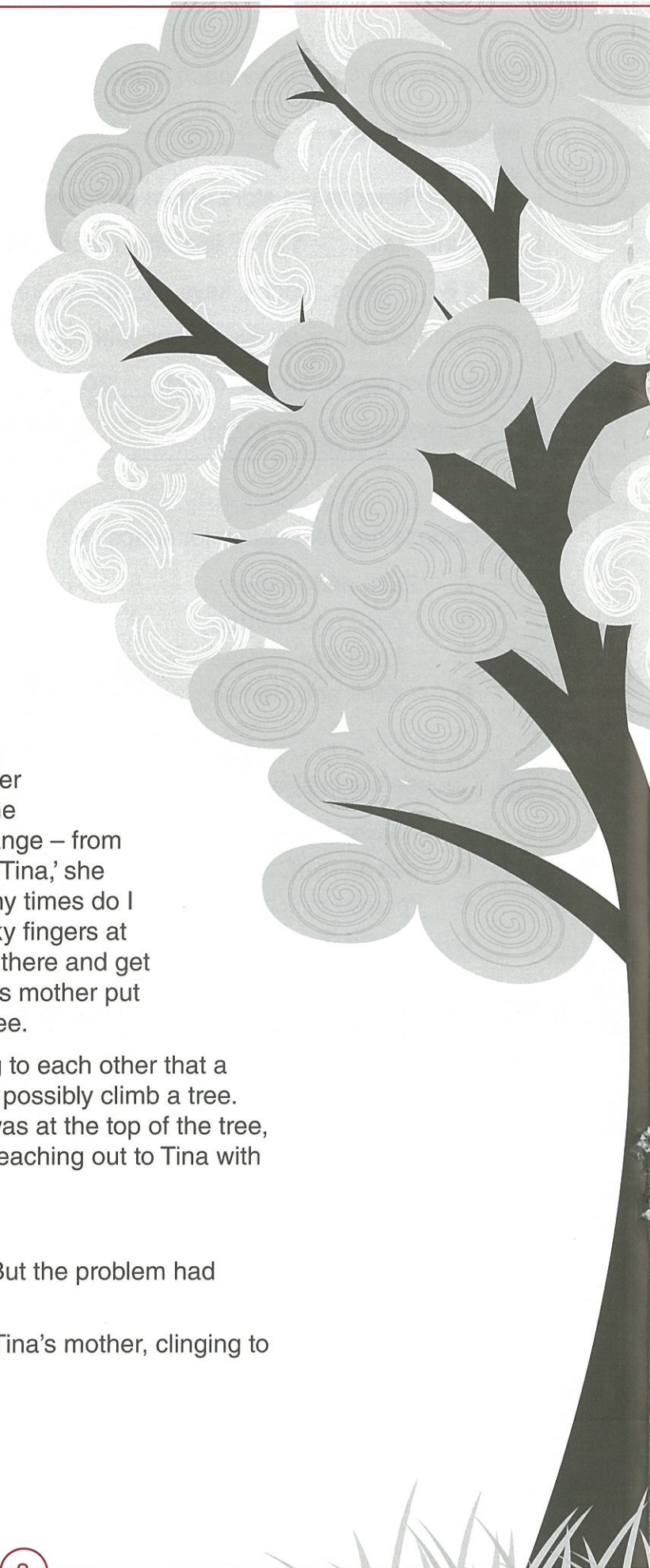
Tina saw the exact moment when her mother realised it was her own daughter causing the commotion. Tina saw her mother's face change – from mild curiosity to raging fury – in an instant. 'Tina,' she bellowed, 'get down here at once! How many times do I have to tell you?' Wagging one of her chunky fingers at Tina, she continued, 'Do I have to come up there and get you? Is that what you want?' And then Tina's mother put down her basket and started to climb the tree.

The crowd began to titter at this, whispering to each other that a woman as huge as Tina's mother could not possibly climb a tree. But they were wrong. In no time at all she was at the top of the tree, holding on to the trunk with one hand and reaching out to Tina with the other.

That's when Tina's branch snapped.

Luckily, Tina landed in the laundry basket. But the problem had suddenly become a lot bigger ...

'Well, what are you waiting for?' screamed Tina's mother, clinging to the trunk for dear life. 'Help me get down!'



21 Why did Tina climb the tree?

- A to hide from her mother
- B to prove that she was brave
- C to make the villagers laugh
- D to escape boys who were chasing her

22 Why did Tina's mother go to the tree?

- A to get Tina out of the tree
- B to find out where Tina was
- C to hang her washing in the tree
- D to see why people had gathered there

23 When did the crowd start laughing?

- A when Tina's branch broke
- B when Tina got stuck up the tree
- C when Tina's mother climbed the tree
- D when Tina landed in the laundry basket

24 How did Tina's mother feel when she realised that the girl in the tree was her daughter?

- A terrified
- B amused
- C curious
- D angry

25 'Do I have to come up there and get you? Is that what you want?'

What was Tina's mother doing when she asked these questions?

- A threatening Tina
- B asking Tina for advice
- C wondering what to do next
- D pretending to be concerned