

WEEK 1 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

VELOCIRAPTOR SNEAKERS

Designed by leading ^Polish ⁱnventor ^Sonya Dabrowski, Velociraptor Sneakers are the best all-purpose sneakers since the ^Nike Air Max. Whether you're going for a run at your local park, climbing Mount ^Everest or competing in the ^Olympics, the Velociraptor Sneakers are the shoes for you.

Inspired by the small and fast ^dinosaur after which they are named, these sneakers are covered in glistening feathers. ^This not only makes them incredibly soft, but also increases speed for the wearer. The all-purpose sneakers also have ^retractable ^talons that grip hard surfaces such as paving.

DAY 2

- a Although they are somewhat expensive, Velociraptor Sneakers are durable and worth investing in.
- b Velociraptor Sneakers are light, making them perfect for cross-country sprinters.
- c New technology means that Velociraptor Sneakers stay spotless even after running through mud.
- d Velociraptor Sneakers are so comfortable, you could even wear them in place of slippers.
- e There are no other sneakers on the market that are as dynamic as Velociraptor Sneakers.

DAY 3

MARSHMALLOW SNEAKERS

If you've ever wanted to ^{know} ~~no~~ what it feels like to walk on air, then the brand-new Marshmallow Sneaker was ^{made} ~~made~~ just ^{for} ~~for~~ you! Manufactured from a special synthetic fabric, Marshmallow Sneakers are as ^{light} ~~light~~ as air. It's been said that they are so delicate that they appear to ^{carry} ~~carry~~ the wearer, as if by ^{magic} ~~magic~~. Marshmallow Sneakers are the top ^{choice} ~~choice~~ for fashion-forward athletes, ^{from} ~~from~~ Serena Williams to DeAndre Jordan.

Marshmallow Sneakers have another attribute that no other sneaker in the world has: a sweet ^{scent} ~~scent~~. Just like marshmallows, the sneakers always smell nice and fragrant (even after a two-hour ^{jog} ~~jog~~!).

DAY 4

- a Make Marshmallow Sneakers your choice of sneaker today.
- b Purchase one pair and get the second free!
- c Marshmallow Sneakers are as sturdy as rocks, and as soft as marshmallows.
- d Replace your worn-out old sneakers with Marshmallow Sneakers and you'll notice the difference instantly.
- e While some sneakers slip on hardwood floors, Marshmallow Sneakers simply glide.

1

ROBOT SNEAKERS

Robot Sneakers are the future of footwear! Using the most advanced technology known to humankind, the designers of this game-changing sneaker have pulled out all the stops. Now you can use the autopilot function to have the sneakers move your feet, play your music through the speakers in the laces and even levitate several centimetres above the ground. What can't this sneaker do? Other than fly you to China, the Robot Sneaker can do it all!

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Shoe type: sandal
- b Material: leather
- c Primary purpose: fashion

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

colourful, firm, unique

4 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

People should buy this shoe because it is not only very fashionable and colourful but also comfortable and inexpensive.

WEEK 2 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

DRAGON FIRE BACKPACK

The Dragon Fire Backpack is the new craze taking schoolyards by storm! Is it worth the hype? It absolutely is, and I'm going to tell you why! Firstly, the backpack is covered in faux dragon scales that protect your valuable possessions (like your homework) from fire. Secondly, when the zips are opened by anyone other than the owner of the backpack, an almighty roar will sound. Thirdly, each Dragon Fire Backpack comes with expandable dragon wings! Think it can't be done? Think again! The incredibly convincing wings spring out of the sides of the backpack with the push of a button. Well, what are you waiting for?

DAY 2

'The new Dragon Fire Backpack will make you gasp,' the television presenter exclaimed. 'It is a product like no other – it is unique in the truest sense of the word. No other backpack protects itself from fire and thieves, and few look as stylish and trendy. While there are many exciting features of this backpack, it is the expandable dragon wings that will leave you speechless. I know what my children will be getting for their birthdays this year!'

DAY 3

INVISIBLE CRAYONS

Already the number-one stationery product in the United States, Australia and Great Britain, the Invisible Crayon now looks set to take over the rest of the world. Business analyst Ethan Lane calls the Invisible Crayon the ultimate stationery item. Unlike ordinary crayons, the Invisible Crayon makes markings that can only be seen using an Ultraviolet Light. When you write using the specially designed felt tip, your words turn invisible within seconds. Nobody can see what you've written, unless you want them to! This makes it the perfect tool for writing secret messages.

Before long, Invisible Crayons will be in every classroom and home. Get yours today, before stock runs out!

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Invisible Crayons are original.
- b Invisible Crayons are amazing.
- c No other crayon has achieved what the Invisible Crayon has.
- d Students from all over the world worship the Invisible Crayon.
- e Perfect for aspiring spies, the Invisible Crayon is an essential tool.
- f Remember to recommend the Invisible Crayon to all your friends!

1

TELEPATHIC DIGITAL NOTEBOOK

Are you tired of having to write down your every thought? (I sure am!) Does your hand get tired from the weight of communicating all these thoughts? (mine sure does!) Then you need the advanced technology of the Telepathic Digital Notebook. This remarkable invention is able to read your brainwaves and transmit your thoughts straight onto the page. No longer will you need to worry about buying hundreds of pens (and losing half of them) or about perfecting the outdated notion of clear handwriting. The future is here.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Stationery item: pencil case
- b Unique characteristic: glows in the dark
- c Classroom use: storage

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

small, stylish, hi-tech

4 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

People should buy this item because while it looks small, it has a surprising amount of space to store all your writing utensils.

WEEK 3 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

CAMILA CABELLO

Karla Camila Cabello Estrabao known professionally as Camila Cabello is a Cuban American singer songwriter and actress. Camila was born in Havana, Cuba, but moved to Miami Florida, with her family when she was six years old. She expressed an interest in music from an early age listening primarily to Latin artists such as Celia Cruz and Alejandro Fernández. Camila rose to prominence as a member of the girl group Fifth Harmony, which formed on *The X Factor* (US) in 2012. They had a number of hit songs, including 'Sledgehammer' 'Work from Home' and 'Worth It' before Camila left to pursue a solo career. As a solo artist, she found success with the number-one songs 'Havana' and 'Señorita'.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| a | <u>Ariana Grande</u> hits high notes in her songs. | e | <u>Jennifer Lopez</u> performs complex choreography. |
| b | <u>Adele</u> sings beautiful ballads. | f | <u>Pink</u> does crazy stunts. |
| c | <u>Alicia Keys</u> plays the piano. | g | <u>Lady Gaga</u> wears inventive costumes. |
| d | <u>Dua Lipa</u> has very catchy songs. | | |

DAY 3

NAOMI OSAKA

The daughter of a Japanese mother and a Haitian American father, Naomi Osaka is a professional tennis player and Grand Slam champion. Osaka was born in Japan but moved to the United States with her parents and her older sister Mari, who is also a tennis player, when she was three years old. Osaka's father was inspired to teach his two children how to play tennis after seeing Venus and Serena Williams playing at the 1999 French Open.

Osaka won the US Open in 2018, becoming the first Japanese player, male or female, to win a Grand Slam. She followed this with victory at the 2019 Australian Open and became the first Japanese player to be ranked number one in the world.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Tennis players hit serves, forehands, backhands, volleys and smashes.
- b Popular sports in my country include football, tennis, cricket, rugby and swimming.
- c Swimmers swim freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke.
- d Countries in Asia include Japan, China, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.
- e Members of my family include my mum, my dad and my older brother.

DAY 5

1

JESSICA MAUBOY

Jessica Mauboy is an Australian R & B and pop singer who rose to prominence after finishing as runner-up in the ^{fourth}~~forth~~ season of *Australian Idol* in 2006. Although Mauboy was born in Darwin Northern Territory, her mother's family is from the Indigenous Kuku Yalanji tribe of Far North Queensland. Mauboy is actively involved in many organisations that help the Indigenous community, and she is ^{often}~~ofen~~ recognised as a positive ^{role}~~roll~~ model for young Indigenous girls.

Mauboy's other ^{achievements}~~achiefments~~ include, selling over 2.5 million units in Australia, having multiple number-one singles and albums representing Australia in the Eurovision Song Contest, acting and receiving numerous awards.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

- a Celebrity: Ellen DeGeneres
- b Main profession: TV show host
- c Key attribute: funny

3 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

- a This celebrity lives in California, United States.
- b This celebrity is known for her funny stand-up and her hosting abilities.
- c This celebrity inspires people to be kind to one another.
- d This celebrity's achievements include hosting the Academy Awards, the Primetime Emmys and the Grammys, writing four books and her charitable work.

WEEK 4 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR

William the Conqueror was born in Normandy (a region in modern-day France) in 1028. When his father, Duke Robert I died in 1035, William became the Duke of Normandy. As William was only eight years old at the time, Gilbert of Brionne ruled in his name (until Gilbert was murdered three years later). William was able to maintain rule of Normandy through his alignment with powerful friends, and the power of the dukedom increased over the next twenty years.

William would eventually lead the Norman conquest of England in 1066 defeating his rival Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings. He was crowned King of England on Christmas Day 1066 and ruled until his death in 1087.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a The first states were mostly monarchies but few countries today are ruled by a king or queen.
- b There have been many more men in power than women but there have always been female rulers too.
- c Many monarchies have been dismantled by revolution and republics have emerged in their place.
- d Monarchs today are often ceremonial heads of state but they still wield considerable influence.

DAY 3

SOJOURNER TRUTH

Born Isabella Baumfree, Sojourner Truth was an African American abolitionist and women's rights activist in nineteenth-century America. She was born into slavery in the state of New York in 1797. Throughout the first twenty years of her life she was bought and sold four times, and endured harsh physical treatment by her owners. Baumfree escaped to freedom with her infant daughter in 1826. She converted to Christianity and renamed herself Sojourner Truth, believing that a spirit called her to preach the truth.

After gaining her freedom, Truth devoted much of her life to the abolition of slavery. She used her growing reputation in this field to help recruit black troops for the Union Army, and her work led her to meet President Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

DAY 4

- a Sojourner Truth could not read or write, so she dictated her recollections to a friend who helped to publish her memoirs.
- b Sojourner Truth's five-year-old son was illegally sold into slavery, so she sued for his return and won her case.
- c Sojourner Truth stayed with a nearby abolitionist family after fleeing, and they bought her freedom for twenty dollars.

DAY 5

1

MAE JEMISON

Over the course of her life, Mae Jemison has been a doctor, an engineer and a teacher, but she is perhaps best known as the first African American woman to travel in ^Sspace. She was born in Alabama in 1956 and displayed a love of science, from an early age. She obtained several ^ddegrees at a number of prestigious ^uuniversities, in the United States before working as a general practitioner.

Pursuing her childhood dream, Jemison applied to NASA's astronaut program in 1987. ^FFive years later she joined six other astronauts on the space shuttle *Endeavour*, which completed 126 orbits, around the world.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

- a Historical figure: Eleanor of Aquitaine
- b Area of speciality: leadership
- c Key attribute: charming

3 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

- a This historical figure achieved incredible things while alive, and helped to promote the arts by serving as a patron to several literary figures.
- b This historical figure faced obstacles such as being imprisoned by her husband, King Henry II of England, but overcame this when Henry died and her son, Richard the Lionheart, ascended to the throne.

4 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

Eleanor of Aquitaine is still remembered today because she was one of the wealthiest and most powerful women in western Europe during the Middle Ages, serving as queen regent of both France and England.

WEEK 5 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

A THOUSAND STARS

A Thousand Stars is a drama directed by Lindsay Maxwell that will appeal to viewers of a wide range of ages. The film follows the story of brothers Jake and Josh. Fascinated by their uncle's collection of science-fiction movies, the boys dream of escaping their small town and exploring outer space. However, first they must find a way to get there! Not to be put off by their lack of expertise, the brothers decide to build their own rocket ship – with hilarious results.

A tender portrait of childhood and a tribute to the power of imagination, this film will make you both laugh and cry. I'm giving it one thousand stars out of five!

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a When people watch *A Thousand Stars*, they will be amazed by the special effects.
- b If you only see one film this year, let it be *A Thousand Stars*.
- c You will want to go and build your own rocket ship after you see *A Thousand Stars*.
- d Even though Jake is the older brother, Josh plays a very important role in helping to make the rocket ship.
- e Because *A Thousand Stars* appeals to a wide range of ages, the film can be enjoyed by the whole family.

DAY 3

VOLCANO HUNTER

A documentary film directed by Charles Carrasco, *Volcano Hunter* is a ^{thrilling experience} ~~thrilling experience~~ with enough ^{real} ~~real~~-life action to keep viewers watching till the end. Carrasco's debut film takes us into the world of mysterious Tom Lanyon, a ^{professional} ~~professional~~ 'volcano hunter' who spends his time filming and exploring ^{active} ~~active~~ volcanoes. With the best of his ^{career} ~~career~~ behind him, Lanyon decides to embark on one last adventure before he ^{retires} ~~retires~~. A nail-biting insight into the life of a real modern-day explorer, *Volcano Hunter* is not your ^{average} ~~average~~ boring documentary. The stunning visual depictions of exploding volcanoes alone will leave you gasping for air. Four and a half stars out of five.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Before you watch *Volcano Hunter*, do some preliminary research about volcanoes.
- b Just like a volcano, this film is full of fire.
- c If you liked *Mystery of Mount Vesuvius*, then you'll love *Volcano Hunter*.
- d While you may not usually like documentaries, you will enjoy *this* documentary.
- e Although there are some scientific explanations in *Volcano Hunter*, the film is still easy to understand.

DAY 5

1

THE DALMATIAN CONUNDRUM

Svetlana Milic's newest film, *The Dalmatian Conundrum*, is an ^{enjoyable} ~~enjoyable~~ twist on the mystery genre that will keep the audience guessing. When the mayor's prized Dalmatian goes missing, ^{private detective} ~~privat detektive~~ Morgan Reed is called in to solve the mystery and recover the pooch. Things aren't as they seem in this small town, however, and Reed soon discovers that many people ^{would} ~~woud~~ prefer she let sleeping dogs lie – including the mayor himself. Fans of Agatha Christie will delight in this new crime movie. Four stars out of five.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Film title: Incredibles 2
- b Director: Brad Bird
- c Genre: superhero film
- d Your rating: five out of five stars

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Although the narrative begins where the first film left off, the overall storyline is original and fun.
- b Even though the characters find themselves in tricky situations, they are able to come together as a family to save the day.

4 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

People should see this film because it is jam-packed with twists and turns, but still manages to shine a light on the family connection at the heart of the film.

WEEK 6 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

KILIMANJARO BLUES

Kilimanjaro Blues is a heart-wrenching ^yYoung ^aAdult novel written by Ella ^Mmae Nnadi. The story follows the journey of Bobby, an antisocial blind fifteen-year-old who dreams of becoming the first blind person to climb ^MMount Kilimanjaro. The book details the struggles he must overcome, from finding his way to the Kilimanjaro National Park in Tanzania to convincing his widowed father to believe in him.

^NNnadi is an ^eExpert ^sStoryteller who is able to draw a portrait of a complex character. Despite the character's flaws, we feel empathy for him and want him to succeed. Five stars out of ^fFive!

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Ella Mae Nnadi, who worked as a psychologist for twelve years, creates fascinating and multifaceted characters.
- b Tanzania, where the story is set, is described in vivid detail.
- c Bobby's father, who doesn't want his son to risk his life, helps to reveal the difficulties of raising a blind child.
- d The use of the first person (that is, using personal pronouns such as 'I' and 'me'), which is common in young adult novels, allows the reader to better understand the main character.

DAY 3

HOW TO PROTECT THE EARTH

How to Protect the Earth is a nonfiction book written by well-known [,]sustainability activist Lilitiana Jenkins. The book [,]which is based on years of research conducted by Jenkins [,]gives readers simple steps to follow [,]that will help to save the planet. These include using public transport to limit carbon emissions [,]recycling [,]taking shorter showers in summer and planting trees.

While the message of the book is positive, Jenkins' writing style is, at times, boring and repetitive. The inclusion of images [,]and graphs [,]helps to add variety and colour to the text, and overall the book succeeds in getting its message across. Three and a half stars out of five.

DAY 4

- a Nonfiction books, which inform readers about the real world, are sometimes just as exciting as fiction books.
- b Lilitiana Jenkins' career achievements, which include founding a recycling plant, have helped her to write this book.
- c *How to Protect the Earth*, which contains helpful and achievable tips, is that rare book that can inspire change.

1

MAGES VS MERMAIDS

Set in a fictional world, where magical creatures battle one another for supremacy, *Mages vs Mermaids* is a thrilling fantasy novel by Scottish writer Woodrow Zverev. The book follows Merman 854, a disgruntled former member of the ruling mermaid family, who betrays his people to help the mages ascend to the throne. But there are other forces at work, too. The werewolves and centaurs have formed an unlikely alliance and are threatening to destroy everything and everyone. A fascinating tale of loyalty, treachery and ambition, *Mages vs Mermaids* will keep you up all night. Five stars out of five.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Book title: Twilight
- b Author: Stephenie Meyer
- c Genre: young adult / romance / fantasy
- d Rating: two out of five stars

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a The main character, who is depicted as a timid young girl, is unlikeable because she seems to do things simply to make her love interest happy.
- b The climax of the book, which occurs after Bella and Edward fall in love, is thrilling and makes readers want to read more to find out what happens next.

4 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

People should not read this book because it depicts women as weak and passive.

WEEK 7 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

IN THE FOREST

Abdullah was ~~runing~~ ^{running} as fast as his legs could carry him. He ~~stumbeld~~ ^{stumbled} over vines and shrubs, but kept pushing forward, desperate to find his sister.

‘Padma!’ he screamed into the void. ‘Padma!’

As he made his way further and further into the ~~thie~~ ^{thick} undergrowth, the rays of sunshine that had filled him with ~~confidence~~ ^{confidence} began to disappear. All that was left was an eerie darkness that extended as far as the eye could see. Using the trunks of trees to guide his ~~steep~~ ^{step}, Abdullah ~~shuffled~~ ^{shuffled} slowly forward. He kept screaming out his sister’s name, hoping that she would ~~here~~ ^{hear} him, when suddenly the sound of a wolf howling punctured the ~~silence~~ ^{silence} of the forest.

DAY 2

Padma hugged herself tightly. Without a doubt, this was the most scared she had ever felt. Fumbling with her shoelaces in the darkness of the cave, she tried to distract herself. But all she could think about was how hungry she was. As time went by, her hunger had become unbearable.

All of a sudden she got up. She couldn’t stand it any longer; she needed to get out of there! Hesitantly, she stepped out of the cave, looking out into the darkness of the forest for the first time in days. What she saw filled her with horror. Unbelievably, it was her brother Abdullah, and he was surrounded by a pack of snarling wolves.

DAY 3

CAT AND MOUSE

Im motoring down the freeway, swerving between trucks and cars with total abandon. There’s a police car right on my tail! Kensington Avenues just a few minutes away. If I can get there quickly enough I can go through the secret underground tunnel and lose them. Its the perfect plan. It cant fail!

I drive as fast as my little Honda Civic can go. When there’s just enough distance between me and the police car I veer into Kensington Avenue, primed to escape as Ive done so many times before. Thats when I see them. A line of police cars waiting just for me ...

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Looking around my prison cell, I search for a way to escape.
- b By speaking to the other prisoners, he learned that the guards were very vigilant.
- c Sitting silently, I fumble with my shoelaces.
- d Thinking about his family, he begins to cry.
- e Trying to forget where he is, he goes to sleep.

1

DETECTIVE MEURSAULT

It's the dead of ^{night} ~~nite~~ when Detective Meursault arrives at the ^{scene} ~~seen~~ of the crime. He walks into the locked-down shopping centre and sees three people gathered around a dead body. There's the security ^{guard} ~~gard~~ who called him, a woman with a dog and a moody-looking teenager.

The detective begins as he always does, looking around for any evidence that could point to the killer, but there's nothing out of the ^{ordinary} ~~ordinery~~. This is going to be a ^{tricky} ~~trieky~~ one, he thinks to himself.

'Everyone in this room is a suspect,' he says loudly, with menace in his voice. 'We're not leaving here until I discover who committed this murder.'

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

The creature is still following me. Running as fast as I can, I find a cave hidden by some bushes and creep inside to hide. I think I'm safe, at least for now. But the creature discovers my hiding place and begins chasing me out towards the river. Using all my force, I jump. I look back and see the creature, who is afraid of water, using the rickety bridge to cross to my side of the river. There's only one way for me to get out of here alive! Tossing aside my backpack, I jump into the river, knowing that the creature will be too afraid to jump in after me.

WEEK 8 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

TORPEDO TANYA

Tanya steeled herself. Out in the distance, the villainous Wicked Moon Princess was speeding across the wide expanse of water in her high-powered jet boat. If Tanya didn't act fast, the Wicked Moon Princess would escape. Not only would she escape, but she would get away with the weapons of mass destruction. Tanya closed her eyes, took one giant leap and crashed into the icy water below. As soon as she felt the water surrounding her, Tanya's shark-like instincts kicked into gear and her eyes narrowed, focusing on her prey. She began swimming, her legs slowly morphing into fins and scales. Now she was rocketing towards the Wicked Moon Princess at a tremendous speed ... she wasn't getting away this time.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- 1 Torpedo Tanya was here!
- 2 She had a secret plan.
- 3 'Release the shark,' she ordered.

DAY 3

INTO THE VAMPIRE CAVE

'Listen up, everybody, the commander yelled above the din. Tomorrow morning we begin our expedition to find our lost brother.

The commander looked out at the soldiers assembled before him. They stood proud and tall, as they always did. But where there would usually be determination and resolve in their eyes, there was only fear.

I won't lie, he said. This will be our most difficult mission yet. Our brother was last seen in the Vampire Cave. We don't know what he was doing in this forbidden place, but it is clear that the terrible creatures who live there have taken him prisoner. We must be ready to defeat these creatures in order to save our brother!

DAY 4

The soldiers crept into the dark cave. As soon as they entered, a cloud of bats flew towards them and began biting them. The soldiers pushed on, ignoring the pain. Venturing further into the cave, they began to see objects that belonged to their friend.

'There he is!' they screamed, horrified at the pale man in the cage.

DAY 5

1

THE END

‘Wake up, wake up!’ Dad was standing above me, shaking me vigorously.

‘What are you doing?’ I stammered.

‘You were having another nightmare,’ he replied, a worried look on his face.

I realised that I was drenched in sweat. It had happened again. One of those terrible nightmares. No, not a nightmare, a vision. The things I was seeing in my dreams were coming true.

‘It was terrible,’ I whispered, tears streaming down my face. ‘The police were taking you away from me again.’

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

‘What have you done?’ Helen screamed. Her face was red and she was about to throw the hairbrush at me. If I hadn’t held the mirror up behind her, maybe I could have got out of the house before she realised. It’s hard to cut in a completely horizontal line. By the time I’d straightened out my mistakes, she’d lost about ten centimetres. She only wanted a light trim.

WEEK 9 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

LET'S VISIT SRI LANKA

Located in the south of ^AAsia, Sri Lanka is known as 'the Pearl of the ^Indian ^Ocean'. With a year-round tropical climate, pristine sandy beaches and delicious food, Sri Lanka is the perfect travel destination. Must-^dos include tasting an authentic lentil and chicken curry and marvelling at the ^Buddhist-inspired Temple of the Tooth.

Other highlights include the town of Nuwara Eliya, which is referred to as 'little England' because of its colonial-era buildings and Tudor-style ^hotels, and the Minneriya National Park. ^Dduring the Sri Lankan dry season, hundreds of ^elephants gather at this site to feed, socialise and frolic in the water.

DAY 2

Addition	Contrast	Cause/effect
also	even though	as a result
moreover	despite	for this reason
furthermore	on the other hand	therefore

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a The most popular sport in Sri Lanka is cricket. Rugby union, volleyball and athletics are also very popular.
- b Sri Lanka has a very warm climate. As a result beaches are a popular tourist attraction.

DAY 3

LET'S VISIT JORDAN

The Middle Eastern country of Jordan is known not only as the land of lost cities and epic adventures, but also as a site of natural beauty. There are many historical sites ⁱⁿ Jordan ^{the} best-known of which is the archaeological city of Petra. Located in the south of the country ^{Petra} is estimated to have existed for more than 9000 years.

The capital city of Amman ^{with} its many Greek and Roman ruins ^{is} another highlight of Jordan. It is a centre for the arts, with many exhibitions from Iraqi ^{Syrian} ^{Palestinian} and Jordanian artists. This makes it the perfect place to go ^{and} experience some authentic Middle Eastern culture.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a The Dana Biosphere Reserve in Jordan is home to many plants and animals. It is also one of the best places to stargaze at night.
- b Despite being surrounded by warring countries, Jordan is a safe place to travel.
- c There are many archaeological sites in Jordan. For this reason, history fans will love visiting this country.

DAY 5

1

LET'S VISIT SERBIA

The Balkan nation of Serbia is full of attractions that will appeal to both adrenaline seekers and those looking for a relaxing break. Notably, Serbia's capital, Belgrade, is sure to charm. With music, art, history, parks and lakes, the city is full of wonder; however, Belgrade is perhaps best known for its wild nightlife. There are party boats all along the Sava and Danube rivers, and a diverse mix of bars and clubs.

Serbia is also home to many monasteries. These stately buildings are calm places of worship and are perfect for viewing frescoes (mural paintings) and enjoying Serbia's softer side.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Country: France
- b Capital city: Paris

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

The country of France is an amazing place to visit. Firstly, there are lots of amazing art galleries, museums and gardens to see. In addition, French cuisine is the most delicious in the world. Even though you may not speak the language, many French people can speak English. On the whole, this country is full of wonder, has a rich culture and will leave you wanting to come back year after year.

WEEK 10 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

ALL ABOUT ULURU

Uluru is one of the ~~greatest natural~~ ^{greatest natural} wonders of the world. It is located in Australia, in the Northern Territory's 'Red Centre', and is thought to have been formed more than 550 million years ago. ~~Hundreds~~ ^{Hundreds} of thousands of tourists visit the ~~landmark~~ ^{landmark} every year.

While it is a tourist attraction ~~to~~ ^{to} many people, Uluru is also considered a ~~deeply~~ ^{deeply} spiritual and ~~sacred~~ ^{sacred} place to Indigenous Australians. To the Anangu people of central Australia, Uluru holds a special cultural significance: they believe that it was created at the beginning of time ~~by~~ ^{by} their ancestral spirits.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

There are a number of Indigenous landmarks in Australia. Although Uluru is the best-known of these, each landmark is unique its own way. For example, the Grampians in Victoria is home to rare Aboriginal rock art paintings. In addition, there are hiking trails, wildflower displays and many other natural wonders. For this reason, the Grampians National Park, which is part of the Gariwerd Aboriginal cultural landscape, is one of Australia's most recognisable nature reserves.

DAY 3

ALL ABOUT THE TAJ MAHAL

India's Taj Mahal is a mausoleum (a building that houses ^{tombs}) located in the city of Agra. Shah Jahan, ruler of the Mughal Empire (covering modern-day ^{India}, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh), ordered the mausoleum's construction to house the tomb of his deceased wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

It isn't hard to see why this landmark's so popular. The main building was built between 1631 and 1653 using white marble, and its exterior design incorporates Islamic, Iranian, Persian and Indian style's. However, that's not all there is to the Taj Mahal. In addition to the mausoleum, it has an inner courtyard, a mosque and gardens.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Landmarks often represent the cultural heritage of a country. In addition, they bring tourists into the country and help the economy.
- b Even though there are many well-known landmarks, there are other remarkable places, such as Trentham Falls, that are less well known.
- c Some notable landmarks, such as the Sydney Opera House and Burj Khalifa, were built by people, but there are also many natural landmarks, such as the Grand Canyon in the United States.
- d Landmarks provide a point of reference for tourists who are unfamiliar with the city. For this reason tourists often choose a landmark as a place to meet their companions if they get separated while exploring.

DAY 5

1

ALL ABOUT VICTORIA FALLS

Its official: Victoria Falls is travel enthusiasts next big thing! Found on the Zambezi River, at the ~~border~~ ^{border} between Zambia and Zimbabwe, this natural wonder is approximately twice as wide and twice as deep as Niagara Falls. At the ~~high~~ ^{height} of the rainy season, there's ~~more~~ ^{more} than five hundred million cubic metres of water per minute falling over the edge. ~~Columns~~ ^{Columns} of spray and mist from the waterfall can be ~~seen~~ ^{seen} from far away, which led the Kalolo-Lozi people to name the falls Mosi-oa-Tunya ('The Smoke That Thunders') in the 1800s.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Landmark: Yellowstone National Park
- b Location: Wyoming, United States

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

To begin with, Yellowstone National Park is believed to be the first national park in the world. In addition, Native Americans have lived in the Yellowstone region for over 11 000 years. Although it is known for its wildlife, Yellowstone is also home to the largest supervolcano on the continent. As a result of the ongoing volcanic activity, there are many geysers in the area, the most popular of which is called Old Faithful.

WEEK 11 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE IMPORTANCE OF HOMEWORK

Doing schoolwork at home is a valuable part of the ^{learning} ~~learn~~ process. It gives students the ^{opportunity} ~~opportunit~~ to practise what they have learnt in class and consolidate their ^{knowledge} ~~knowlege~~. At home, students can ^{review} ~~review~~ the content of a lesson away from the ^{distractions} ~~distractions~~ of the schoolyard and practise the things they might find difficult.

Homework is also an ^{important} ~~important~~ tool for teachers and parents. Reviewing homework gives teachers a good indication of a student's ^{progress} ~~progres~~. For parents, homework is an opportunity to get involved with their child's learning by ^{answering} ~~answring~~ their questions or lending ^{assistance} ~~asistance~~.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a **Reading helps students.** Regular reading can improve the ability to communicate, write and memorise information. These are all key skills that can help students succeed.
More specific topic sentence: Reading helps students develop important skills.
- b **Reading is beneficial.** Some studies suggest that reading can reduce stress. It has also been shown to be more effective than other relaxation methods.
More specific topic sentence: Reading has a number of health benefits.
- c **Reading books is good.** When you read a book, all of your attention is focused on the story. This helps to avoid distractions.
More specific topic sentence: Reading helps to increase focus.

DAY 3

WHY STUDY A FOREIGN LANGUAGE?

Studying a foreign language can significantly improve brain function. Research shows that children who learn a foreign language are better at multi-tasking problem-solving and creative thinking. They also perform better than their classmates in subjects like maths science and, even English, and are less likely to suffer dementia in old age.

Speaking a foreign language broadens a student's career options. Having another language under your belt means you can take advantage of opportunities to live study and work overseas. Many multinational companies favour candidates who can speak another language over those who, can't for example. Bilingual workers have also been shown to earn higher salaries, than their monolingual colleagues.

DAY 4

Playing team sports has a range of health benefits. Students who play team sports are more easily able to make friends. This is important, as social contact reduces the likelihood of depression. Team sports also encourage regular exercise. Exercising regularly improves both physical and mental health.

1

IT'S TIME TO BAN THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

Being forced to wear a school uniform prevents students from expressing themselves. Clothing is a major part of students' identity. It allows them to share how they feel about ^{certain} ~~certin~~ issues, ^{able} ~~abel~~ that they may not be ^{allowing} ~~allowing~~ to express in words. By not ^{allowing} ~~allowing~~ students to do this schools are restricting the development of children's personalities.

The cost of uniforms can ^{be} ~~bee~~ very high, ^{for} ~~for~~ some parents. Sending a child to school five days a ^{week} ~~week~~ means at least two or three outfits, as well as a hat a backpack and a special pair of shoes. Paying for these on top of the cost of textbooks ^{stationery} ~~stationery~~ and school fees can quickly add up.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Issue: length of school holidays

Position on the issue: school holidays are too long

Topic sentence about how the issue affects students: Long school holidays give students less time to learn in the classroom.

Topic sentence about how the issue affects parents: Long school holidays force parents to take time off work or pay for babysitters.

WEEK 12 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

FLYING CARS: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION?

Electric flying cars can help us reduce traffic and air pollution. As our cities grow, so does the number of cars on the roads. This has led to traffic congestion as well as an increase in the level of air pollution. As flying cars became more popular, fewer people would drive, leaving our roads less congested and our air less polluted.

The flying car is also very efficient. For one, flying in a direct line, rather than following roads, can get you to your destination more quickly. Research shows that, on average, an electric flying car with four people inside produces almost half the greenhouse gas emissions of a car with a conventional engine.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Topic sentence: E-bikes are one of the cheaper transport options on the market.
- b Topic sentence: E-bikes are much faster than normal bicycles.

DAY 3

VIRTUAL: THE REALITY OF THE FUTURE

Virtual reality allows you to see and do things you simply can't in real life. Perhaps you've always wanted to visit Tokyo, Japan? Or maybe you'd like to know what it feels like to be a billionaire's son or daughter for a couple of hours? Virtual reality gives you the chance to do all of these – and from the comfort of your own home.

More than just entertainment, however, virtual reality can also be a powerful educational tool. It's particularly useful for people who work in dangerous environments. Police officers, soldiers and firefighters, for example, can use virtual reality to practise their skills in a simulated situation.

DAY 4

Topic sentence: Virtual reality can save organisations time and money.

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Explanation: This topic sentence references the points being made in the rest of the paragraph (i.e. how workers can save time and money by working remotely through VR).

1

MUSIC STREAMING SERVICES

THE GOOD: Music streaming services make music easier to access. Spotify's premium service, for example, gives customers the ability to listen to music on multiple devices from anywhere in the world. Streaming services also offer a wide selection of music catering to a variety of tastes.

THE BAD: While streaming companies make good profits from their subscription services, it's a different story for most musicians. Unless you're a famous artist, earning a decent amount of money through streaming services is difficult. The average Australian musician earns just 0.7 cents per song streamed!

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Issue: mobile phone use in the classroom

a THE GOOD:

Topic sentence: Using mobile phones in the classroom allows students to look up facts quickly.

b THE BAD:

Topic sentence: Mobile phones can easily distract students when they should be learning.

WEEK 13 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE SUPER SOAKER

Like many inventions, the Super Soaker was the result of an accident. The original version was invented in 1982 by Lonnie Johnson, an inventor and engineer from Alabama. Johnson was trying to build a heat pump, a device that mechanically transfers heat to another source when the pump began to shoot water across the room. Applying the same idea, Johnson built a model of a water pistol using glass, a pipe and a soft-drink bottle. His invention was purchased by a toy company in 1990 and went on to become one of the top selling toys in the world.

DAY 2

THE SLINKY

While most people know what a Slinky is, not many know the story behind it. The Slinky was invented by naval engineer Richard James in 1943. James had been working on a device to secure equipment to ships in rough seas when he accidentally knocked over a coiled spring. Watching the spring move in a series of arcs, he decided it would make a good toy. Today, more than 250 million Slinkys have been sold around the world.

DAY 3

THE TREADMILL

Contrary to what you might think, the treadmill is not a recent invention. It was originally created in 1818 by Englishman Sir William Cubitt as a form of punishment for prisoners. Convicts would spend hours stepping on the spokes of a giant paddlewheel, which was used to pump water or power mills. Cubitt's invention spread through the prison system in England and was even exported to America. But use of the early treadmill also led to a high number of injuries among prisoners, and the practice was finally banned in 1898 for being excessively cruel. It wasn't until the 1970s that the modern treadmill would appear – this time, however, as a tool for exercise, rather than labour.

DAY 4

The invention of the Band-Aid is a great example of the power of a simple idea. Ideas can be either simple or complex. The original concept was developed in 1920 by Earle Dickson, an employee at the American pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson. Johnson & Johnson was founded in 1886. Dickson's wife would often cut or burn herself while cooking, and dressing her wounds was time-consuming. To save time, Dickson created a series of ready-made bandages by placing squares of cotton gauze along a strip of tape, which could then be quickly cut and applied to a wound. Dickson lived in New Jersey, United States, for most of his life. Today, the name Band-Aid is known throughout America and Australia, with more than 1 billion sold worldwide.

1

MONOPOLY

Monopoly is based on an ^{original} ~~original~~ idea by Elizabeth Magie, a ^{writer} ~~actor~~ and part-time game designer. Magie's ^{version} ~~version~~ entitled The Landlord's Game was intended to show how one person owning all the land was a bad thing. It had two sets of rules: one in which players tried to ^{bankrupt} ~~bankrupt~~ their competitors and another in which players shared the wealth they made from acquiring property. After coming across her game, Philadelphia man Charles Darrow dropped the second set of rules and repackaged it as Monopoly. He ^{eventually} ~~eventually~~ sold his ^{version} ~~version~~ to Parker Brothers, becoming the first ^{millionaire} ~~millionaire~~ game designer in history. Magie, however, received just \$500 from the company for her idea.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Topic sentence: Monopoly is a popular board game invented in the twentieth century.

- a Question 1: Who invented it?
- b Question 2: Who plays it?
- c Question 3: What are the rules of the game?

3 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Invention: Plastic

Topic sentence: Plastic was invented by Leo Baekeland by accident.

- a Question 1: Who was Leo Baekeland?
- b Question 2: What was the accident?
- c Question 3: When did he invent plastic?

WEEK 14 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE DISCOVERY OF CORNFLAKES

Today, cornflakes are one of the best-known breakfast cereals in the world, but if it wasn't for a happy accident we might not have had them to enjoy every morning. At the end of the nineteenth century, Dr John Harvey Kellogg and his brother Will Keith Kellogg made a game-changing discovery. One day, the brothers accidentally left some boiled wheat sitting out in a field. The wheat went stale, but rather than throwing it away they tried to roll it into dough. They got flakes instead, and once the flakes were toasted they knew they had something delicious on their hands. The brothers experimented with other grains, including corn, and that is how cornflakes came to be.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a | Discovery | 1 How was it discovered? | 2 Who discovered it? |
| b | World record | 1 For what achievement? | 2 Who holds the record? |
| c | Recipe | 1 What are the ingredients? | 2 How long does it take to make? |
| d | Film review | 1 Who directed the film? | 2 Is it well acted? |
| e | Crime report | 1 Who committed the crime? | 2 Were they caught? |

DAY 3

PROXIMA CENTAURI b

Proxima Centauri b, a planet in the Alpha Centauri system, was discovered by scientists in 2016. Estimated to be 1.3 times the mass of Earth, the planet takes 11.2 days to circle its star. The planet's star is highly unpredictable and emits harmful amounts of radiation. Scientists are still trying to determine whether Proxima Centauri b is a planet that could support human life one day. If there's one thing we know, however, it's that humans won't be visiting that part of the galaxy anytime soon. Proxima Centauri b is located approximately 4.2 light-years (40 trillion kilometres) from Earth – a long trip in anyone's book.

DAY 4

- a Percy Spencer realised that the microwave beams used for radar systems could warm up food when a chocolate bar in his pocket melted as a result of the beam. SS
The invention of the microwave oven is an interesting story. TS

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Explanation: The SS follows from the TS, explaining the interesting story of the invention.

- b** The colour mauve was an accidental discovery by William Perkin. TS
Perkin had been researching a cure for the deadly disease malaria
when he discovered a new colour instead. SS

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Explanation: The TS specifically names the discovery and the person who discovered it,
before the SS explains the discovery in more detail.

DAY 5

1

OBSESSED WITH OBSESSION

^Calvin Klein's Obsession is one of the most popular perfumes among humans, but apparently ^Tits also a hit with big cats. This discovery was made in 1998 when a zookeeper from Dallas, ^Texas, sprayed the perfume into an ^enclosure holding wild cats. She found that the cats spent a lot more time sniffing the perfume than other smells. The reason for this is simple, if a little strange. Obsession perfume contains a chemical compound made from the scent produced by civets (small nocturnal mammals ^T similar to weasels and raccoons). The smell of the perfume makes cat's ^T curious and they want to overpower the scent with their own.

- 2** **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Discovery: a chemical element

Supporting point 1: This sentence will give details of the person who made the discovery.

Supporting point 2: This sentence will describe how the chemical element was discovered.

Supporting point 3: This sentence will describe how this discovery differed from the ways in which other chemical elements were discovered.

Supporting point 4: This sentence will discuss the importance of the discovery in science.

WEEK 15 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE CLEVER COYOTE

When it comes to exploration, the coyote would give any explorer in history a run for their money. Originally native to two-thirds of the United States and a small area of Mexico, this ^{tough} ~~uff~~ canine can now be found in every state except Hawaii. The coyote's rise is due to a number of ^{factors} ~~factors~~. These include its ability to adapt to different climates and landscapes, and the decline of the wolf – the coyote's natural ^{enemy} ~~enemie~~. However, it's not just rural areas ^{where} ~~were~~ coyotes are appearing. They have also been spotted in many ^{cities} ~~citys~~ around North America. One even recently found ^{itself} ~~itself~~ on the roof of a bar in Queens, New York!

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Topic sentence: Sloths are the world's slowest animals.
Supporting point 1: why sloths are so slow
Supporting point 2: the advantages of being slow
Supporting point 3: the disadvantages of being slow
- b Topic sentence: Animals can become extinct because of natural or human-made causes.
Supporting point 1: outline of natural causes of extinction
Supporting point 2: outline of human-made causes of extinction
Supporting point 3: which is more common – natural or human-made causes?

DAY 3

WICKED WEB-SLINGERS

Forget plastic, steel or concrete – it turns out that the humble spider creates the most versatile material on Earth. The spider's web is strong, flexible and sticky, with a range of applications. In fact, doing 'whatever a spider can' means a whole lot more than catching flies in cobwebs. *Hyptiotes cavatus*, or the triangle weaver spider, uses its special stretchy silk as a slingshot to propel itself towards its prey. The diving bell spider, *Argyroneta aquatica*, constructs special web vessels in which it can spend long periods of time underwater. Scientists have even observed spiders using their webs to create silken balloons that allow them to 'fly'.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

WHY BEES ARE IMPORTANT

Bees perform many important functions. The greatest contribution bees make is pollinating plants that produce fruits and vegetables. Bees also pollinate plants that are fed to cattle, meaning they are important for the meat and dairy industries. In addition, bees help to produce resources, such as beeswax, that are used in other products.

1

KOALA PRINTS

Detectives looking into crimes in Australia will now need to eliminate a new suspect during the ^{course}~~coarse~~ of their investigations: the koala. According to recent research, Australia's beloved marsupial has fingerprints that are almost identical to that ^{of}~~off~~ humans. Scientists say that the spirals and ridges on both the koala and the human fingerprint are almost ^{impossible}~~impossible~~ to distinguish, even under a microscope. Although koalas aren't the only animals with fingerprints, they are one of the more mischievous creatures out there. Ask any Australian and they'll tell you to ^{regard}~~regard~~ koalas with caution and suspicion at all times.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Animal: hamster

- a This animal is found in many countries around the world.
- b The physical appearance of this animal is best described as small and furry.
- c This animal's diet consists of seeds and insects.
- d This animal's relationship with humans is positive – they are often kept as pets.
- e Another interesting fact about this animal is that they are solitary creatures, and being forced to live with other hamsters can cause them stress.

WEEK 16 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE GIANT WATER LILY

From ^aAnacondas to ^jJaguars, things are big in the Amazon rainforest, and the giant water lily is no exception. ^AA flowering plant found in the shallow waters of the Amazon basin, the *Victoria amazonica* can produce up to ten flowers at a time. Each flower can grow to almost three metres wide. In addition to its incredible size, the giant lily is also very strong. Its flat leaves are supported by a long stalk that can hold the weight of an average-sized person. The plant's size caused a sensation when it was brought to ^EEurope in the ⁿNineteenth century, where it is still grown in specially designed ^hhothouses today.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a A large number of plants are in danger of becoming extinct.
Because plants can't flee when their habitats are being destroyed, they are more vulnerable than animals.
- b Many medicines come from plant extracts.
Losing plant species will mean lost opportunities to find cures or treatments for illness.
- c Plants absorb sunlight to produce energy and release oxygen into the air.
This process is essential for human life because people need oxygen to live.

DAY 3

THE CORPSE FLOWER

Despite its name the corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) isn't deadly – it just smells dead. This large flowering plant from Sumatra in Indonesia [^]takes its unusual title from the unpleasant odour it releases [^]during bloom. The stench is often compared to the smell of rotting meat (or, more precisely, a rotting dead body). It is designed to attract insects such as dung beetles [^]flesh-eating flies and other carnivorous bugs so that they will pollinate the plant. But those brave enough to approach this beautiful plant [^]will need to be quick. The corpse flower blooms rarely and only under specific conditions. On average, a mature plant will come into flower for just two to three days [^]every thirty to forty years before shedding its leaves and collapsing.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Flowers are important because they have a positive psychological effect on people. The most pleasant aspect of a flower is its mix of colours and greenery. Seeing these colours at home or in the office can help reduce stress. Studies have confirmed that having flowers around makes people happier. This is especially true when they are given as a gift. Giving someone the gift of flowers shows how much you care for them. The simple act of caring for flowers can also make people feel positive. Keeping plants alive makes one feel a sense of pride and accomplishment.

DAY 5

1

THE STRANGLER FIG

The strangler fig is the kind of guest that always overstays its welcome. ^Native to tropical rainforests, ^Ain Asia, ^AAustralasia and the ^AAmericas, this species of plant is dropped onto unsuspecting trees as a sticky seed. It then grows long roots around its host to 'strangle' it to death and take its place. Despite this gruesome fact, ^Tstrangler figs play an important role in the rainforest ecosystem. ^The spaces between the strangler figs' root systems provide shelter ^Tfor many animals, including bats and birds.

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

Trees are important because they benefit the environment and help to maintain our health. The main way they achieve this is through their ability to absorb carbon dioxide, which can help slow the rate of global warming. This benefits both the natural world and humans. Trees serve several other important purposes for humans, including providing shade that protects people, buildings and plants from the sun's heat and UV rays.

WEEK 17 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE LOCH NESS MONSTER

The Loch Ness monster (or Nessie) is a ^{mythical} ~~mythical~~ creature believed to ^{inhabit} ~~inhabit~~ Loch Ness, a large lake near Inverness, Scotland. References to an ^{enormous} ~~enormous~~ beast living in the lake are found in early Scottish history, with many sightings of the creature being reported since that time. ^{According} ~~According~~ to those who ^{claim} ~~claim~~ to have seen it, Nessie is said to ^{resemble} ~~resemble~~ a dinosaur with a long neck. One theory is that the creature could be the last survivor of a marine reptile species that is thought to have become ^{extinct} ~~extinct~~ around 65.5 million years ago. However, there is no definitive ^{proof} ~~proof~~ that the Loch Ness monster exists. In the end, it remains a mystery to us all.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Given these points, the Egyptian myth of the sun god Ra can be interpreted as a reflection on how people use power.
- b The Japanese myth of Izanagi and Izanami, interestingly, would have been used to explain the beginning of the universe.
- c To summarise, the Roman myth of Cupid poses thoughtful questions about love and attraction.
- d On the whole, stories of the Greek hero Odysseus often fail to take into account the role of his wife, Penelope.

DAY 3

THE BUNYIP

The bunyip is a mythical water-dwelling creature from Aboriginal Australian folklore. While the creature's name and characteristics differ according to different communities, it has been variously described as both ox-like and human in appearance, with webbed feet and claws. It is said to inhabit rivers and billabongs, and is rumoured to prey on unsuspecting women and children when they get too close to the water's edge. The Europeans who arrived in Australia were unsure whether the bunyip was real or a myth, and they eventually came to fear the creature. This ultimately led to the bunyip cementing its place in Australian mythology.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a One purpose of myths is to explain facts. These facts can be about the natural world or about human history. They are often explained in story form, rather than as a simple statement. Because of this, myths are often used to pass knowledge from one generation to the next.
- b Although myths often refer to old stories and people from the past, today's leaders also create myths about themselves. They exaggerate their achievements in order to impress people. For the most part, these myths benefit the people who tell the stories, not the community as a whole.

1

THE LEGEND OF NIAN

There's a mythical monster from Chinese mythology called Nian that you may not have ^{heard} ~~heard~~ about. According to the original legend, the creature – described as half lion, half bull – lived in the mountains of China. Every year, it would ^{descend} ~~descend~~ to terrorise and hunt people in the villages below. One day, after banding together, the villagers confronted the monster. They dressed in red, beating their drums loudly and setting off fireworks to scare it away. That's widely thought to be the ^{origin} ~~origin~~ of the Chinese New Year celebrations as they are practised around the world today.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Myth: Hercules
- b Hercules killed his family while under a spell, and had to complete twelve challenges as punishment.
- c His inner strength and endurance make him an inspirational figure. He had many great adventures, including killing the Hydra, a nine-headed serpent.

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

In summary, Hercules was a hero because he didn't let hardships bring him down, but instead used them to show others the importance of facing up to challenges.

WEEK 18 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

MAMI WATA

The water spirit Mami Wata is celebrated in many parts of Africa. Her name means 'water mother', although in most traditions she has no children of her own. In paintings and sculptures she often has the head and upper body of a woman, and the tail of a fish – like a mermaid. She is a very complicated spirit, with both good and bad qualities. Sometimes she captures people who are swimming or in a boat and drags them away underwater. If they are lucky, she might let them return safely to dry land; after this they receive good fortune, becoming wealthier and happier. However, her scary qualities are never far away: Mami Wata can be blamed for all kinds of illness and bad luck.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Body paragraph 1: In some African mythologies evil spirits are believed to cause misfortune and illness to people. They are thought to play cruel tricks that cause harm and can even possess the bodies of people to do their bidding. There are many people who believe that these spirits actually exist. As a result, they seek ways to either protect themselves or get rid of the evil spirits.

DAY 3

THE FATES

The Fates are three goddesses who weave the destinies of all beings. They ^{are} ~~our~~ part of many mythological traditions: the best known are the Moirai of ^{ancient} ~~ancient~~ Greek mythology. Together they create a tapestry that controls the lives of humans and of the many Greek gods. The three goddesses have different roles: one spins the thread of life, another ^{measures} ~~measures~~ the amount of thread for each person and the third cuts the thread, ^{determining} ~~determining~~ when and how that person will ^{die} ~~die~~. Although most people like to think they have control over ^{their} ~~there~~ lives, we can still see the influence of the Fates in ^{phrases} ~~phrases~~ such as 'the tapestry of life' and 'weaving your destiny'.

DAY 4

- a** In the end, the story of Jupiter and the bee reveals the negative consequences of revenge.

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Explanation: This concluding statement summarises what the myth is really about.

- b** On the whole, Durga's defeat of Mahisha, the fierce buffalo demon, represents the idea of destruction.

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Explanation: This concluding statement not only says what happens but also suggests a wider meaning.

1

ROBIN HOOD

The stories about Robin Hood, the ~~legendary~~^{legendary} figure who stole from the rich and gave to the poor, are hundreds of years old. He lived in the 1200s, in Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire, England. Robin Hood was an outlaw, meaning he committed crimes and had to avoid being captured – which is why he lived in the forest. Helping him were his band of Merry Men, especially Little John (who was ~~actually~~^{actually} very tall). However, he was on the side of the common people and was the enemy of the Sheriff, who forced them to pay high taxes. So, although Robin Hood was a criminal, he is regarded as brave, ~~heroic~~^{heroic} and a champion of the people.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Prometheus, one of the best-known figures in Greek mythology, is remembered for his tenacity. He is the only Titan to side with Zeus against Cronus and he helps humans by giving them fire from Olympus. When Zeus chains him to a rock where an eagle comes to attack him every day, Prometheus never surrenders. Importantly, his resolve in the face of hardship inspires others to do the same in difficult situations.

WEEK 19 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

WHAT'S THE BEST SCHOOL SUBJECT?

In my opinion, the best school subject is Physical Education (PE) because it is not confined to the classroom and it is good for your health. Unlike most other subjects, where you have to sit and listen to the teacher for the whole class, PE allows you to go outside, breathe in some fresh air and stretch your muscles. Furthermore, PE teaches the importance of physical health – an important life lesson that all children should learn. Studies have shown that performing physical activities helps people to concentrate better and maintain focus for longer. So the exercises done in PE classes, from push-ups to playing basketball, actually help students perform better in academic subjects.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Topic sentence: With so many great books to read and the chance to write creatively, the best school subject has to be English.

Supporting point 1: In English, you can enjoy reading books and then spend hours talking about the characters and the exciting events that happened.

Supporting point 2: English isn't just about thinking about books other people have written, but also writing stories that interest you.

Concluding statement: English is a varied subject that appeals to both the analytical and creative aspects of the mind.

DAY 3

WHAT'S THE BEST SPORT?

I ~~will~~ believe that the best sport is target archery because it ~~improved~~ ^{improves} hand-eye coordination and helps increase focus. Archery ~~required~~ ^{requires} you to perform two functions at once: holding a bow and arrow using the correct technique and using your sight to ~~aimed~~ ^{aim} at the target. Repeatedly shooting arrows at the target trains your hands and eyes to work together. Practising this skill also ~~helped~~ ^{helps} improve concentration, as target archery requires your full attention in order to succeed. You ~~needed~~ ^{need} to tune out your surroundings in order to focus on standing in the correct position and hitting the target. Although target archery is not the most physically gruelling sport, it requires both strength and precision.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Topic sentence: In my opinion, the best sport is swimming because it is something you can do at the beach and it's good for the body.

Supporting point 1: Whereas some other sports can only be played at a specific location, swimming can be done anywhere in the world where there is water.

Supporting point 2: Swimming is a good way to exercise without hurting your joints.

Concluding statement: Swimming is the perfect sport to improve your health and to enjoy places like the beach.

DAY 5

1

WHAT'S THE BEST GENRE OF MUSIC?

The lasting influence and funky dance feel of disco music ^{is} make this genre of music the best. Although disco music ^{was} not as popular as it once was ^{is} its influence can still be heard in popular music today. Used by artists such as Lady Gaga and heard in songs like Dua Lipa's 'Don't Start Now', the trademark sounds of disco music (for example reverberated vocals) ^{is} was alive and well. And disco music is so much fun to dance to! Before disco ^{exploded} ^{exploding} onto the New York City scene in the late 1960s, social dancing was only ^{performed} ^{performs} by couples. Disco dancing was the first time people could go on the dance floor ^{as} individuals and dance in crowds. Disco was a game-changer, and for this reason it is the best genre of music.

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

Rock music is the best genre because it involves musical talent and it amps you up more than any other genre of music. It's the perfect sort of music to motivate you when you're out for a run or in the gym. Importantly, rock artists play their own instruments. Rather than relying on autotune and computer technology to distort sounds, rock artists believe in letting their voices and instruments do the talking. Rock music is the most authentic music genre, and it deserves much more recognition in today's musical landscape.

WEEK 20 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

WHY DOGS ARE BETTER THAN CATS

It's simply a fact, one that cannot be argued against by any logical person: dogs are fun to play with, they promote an active lifestyle and, for these reasons, they are undeniably superior to cats. Cats can sometimes be fun. They'll play with string and bat their cat toys around. But dogs absolutely love to play. There's fetch, chase, tug-of-war and even doggie play dates! Cats just don't have the same mindset. They're solitary creatures who like their alone time. They'd much rather stay at home and do their own thing, whereas dogs love to be outside running with their humans. Dogs put smiles on people's faces and are an integral part of the family unit.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO CHOOSE THEIR TEACHERS

Main idea 1: Allowing students to choose their teacher is not preparing them well for the future. In the real world, people are not allowed to choose their boss or their colleagues. People need to learn how to get along with others, and this starts at school.

Main idea 2: Some students might choose the same teacher as their friends have, just so they can stay in the same class, rather than choosing the option that's best for their education.

Main idea 3: If everyone picks the same teacher, there won't be enough space in that class for them all. Those students who are forced to go in another class will think this is unfair because others got the teacher they chose.

DAY 3

WHY PINEAPPLE DOES NOT BELONG ON PIZZA

No self-respecting pizza lover – or at least one who values tradition, good cuisine and being on the right side of history – could possibly enjoy pineapple on pizza. Pizza is defined in the Oxford English Dictionary as 'a dish of Italian origin consisting of a flat round base of dough baked with a topping of tomatoes and cheese, typically with added meat, fish or vegetables'. Pineapple is not a meat, fish or vegetable and therefore should not technically be used as a pizza topping. But leaving accuracy and logic aside, the mere taste of sweet pineapple chunks (and their juice!) mixed with savoury ingredients, should be enough to ward against this foul concoction.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

MINDREADING IS THE BEST SUPERPOWER

Main idea 1: Being able to read minds could come in handy at school. You would know what your classmates truly thought about you, and if you read your teacher's mind you could predict the questions they planned to ask in a quiz.

Main idea 2: Mindreading can be used to solve mysteries, so you could be the person who reveals the truth about all the local unsolved crimes and questions.

Main idea 3: Mindreading could improve your sports results. For example, in tennis you would know where in the court your opponent was going to aim their serve, or in football you could intercept passes.

DAY 5

1

WHY HANDWRITING IS STILL IMPORTANT

Many people think that handwriting is outdated in today's digital age, but these people fail to take into account the many benefits of writing by hand. First, handwriting reinforces reading and language-processing skills. When we write by hand, we have more time to think about the words that are being written how they are spelt and how we are constructing meaning for readers. Second, using pen and paper allows more freedom when doing things such as brainstorming. There are no restrictions: you have the whole page to make links between points add side notes and be as creative as you like. There'll always be a place for handwriting in our modern world.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

YOUNGER SIBLINGS SHOULD NOT BE FORCED TO LISTEN TO THEIR OLDER SIBLINGS

Younger siblings should not be forced to listen to their older siblings because age is not always a sign of maturity. Older siblings are often asked to look after younger brothers or sisters just because they are older. This fails to take into account the actual children involved. Sometimes older siblings can be sillier than their younger siblings, so the most responsible sibling should be the one put in charge. Furthermore, older siblings often try to trick their younger siblings by telling them lies, so younger siblings should not always believe what their older siblings say. Everyone should remember that being older does not always equal being more responsible or cleverer.

WEEK 21 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

POKÉMON VS DIGIMON

One of the most popular anime shows of the 1990s was *Pokémon*. ^{Initially} ~~Initially~~ designed as a video game, *Pokémon* has expanded into many other areas, including television, film and ^{trading} ~~trading~~ cards. Pokémon (or Pocket Monsters) refers to the cartoon monsters that are caught and used in ^{battle} ~~battle~~ by Pokémon trainers. In the television series, the main character, Ash Ketchum, ^{travels} ~~travels~~ the world with his best friend, Pikachu, trying to 'catch 'em all'.

Another popular anime show during the 1990s was *Digimon*. It is ^{similar} ~~similar~~ to *Pokémon* in that it also began as a video game and features stories about children and strange creatures. Unlike *Pokémon*, which follows the journey of Ash without end, *Digimon* had a story ^{arc} ~~arc~~ that would finish after each season, usually with the defeat of the main villain.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Another social networking platform is TikTok. Unlike Facebook, which is used by people of all ages, TikTok is aimed at younger users. The platform allows users to post short videos, such as popular memes backed by music and other sound clips. TikTok encourages users to share their passions and express their creativity through short, funny videos that can go viral.

DAY 3

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE PARALYMPICS

Before the Paralympics existed, sporting clubs in Berlin ^{held} ~~will hold~~ competitions for hearing-impaired athletes as far back as 1888. Following the end of World War II in 1945, Dr Ludwig Guttman ^{noticed} ~~notice~~ a large number of injured soldiers and civilians, and he ^{proposed} ~~will propose~~ the idea of holding wheelchair competitions to make their rehabilitation more enjoyable. The first ^{was} ~~is~~ held during the London Olympics in England in 1948 and was named the Stoke Mandeville Games. Sixteen war veterans competed for victory. The Netherlands also ^{took} ~~take~~ part in the games in 1952, and by 1960 in Rome 400 athletes from 23 countries competed. The games in Rome were considered the first official Paralympic Games in history.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Fairytales are traditional stories that have been passed down for centuries. The exact date of the first recorded fairytale is unknown. However, there are several stories that are often recognised as the first Western fairytales. For example, in 1697, Charles Perrault published *Cinderella* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. More than a hundred years later, Hans Christian Andersen published the popular *Fairy Tales for Children*.

1

SO YOU WANT TO MAKE A PODCAST?

In order to make a chart-topping podcast, you have to start with a catchy name. ^{Think} ~~Thought~~ of something funny, ^{mysterious} ~~mysterious~~ or clever to make potential listeners want to listen to your podcast immediately. Next, choose attractive cover artwork, and ^{write} ~~writing~~ an enticing description that tells listeners why they should tune in. Depending on your style, you can write talking points or a script to follow so that your show stays focused. Now that you're ready to record, ^{find} ~~found~~ a quiet place without noise or ^{interruptions} ~~interruptions~~! Next, edit your recording and upload it to a hosting service. Finally, promote your podcast through popular streaming platforms such as Spotify, so that everyone can ^{hear} ~~here~~ what you have to say.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Structure: chronological
Explanation: A biography describes the events in a person's life, so it makes sense to use a chronological approach and list these events in the order in which they happened.
- b Structure: sequential/step-by-step
Explanation: A how-to often includes steps that need to be completed in a logical order, so a sequential approach outlining these steps make the most sense.
- c Structure: block
Explanation: Since there are two separate topics to be discussed (primary vs secondary), a block approach, with one paragraph for each, would work best.

WEEK 22 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

AUSTRALIA'S POLITICAL PARTIES

The Australian Labor Party (also known as the ALP) is one of the two main political parties in Australia. It is the oldest Australian political party and operates on federal, state and local government levels. Its main concerns include healthcare, the environment and education. The ALP is known for having the country's first and only female Prime Minister: Julia Gillard.

The Liberal Party of Australia was founded in 1944 and is the other main political party in Australia. The Liberal Party also operates at all three levels of government. Its main concerns include the economy, defence, and law and order. The Liberal Party is known for having the country's longest-serving Prime Minister: Robert Menzies.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

a Australia and England

Similarity: Cricket, rugby and tennis are popular sports in both countries.

Difference: The weather in Australia is usually warmer than it is in England.

b Christmas and birthdays

Similarity: Presents are given for both events.

Difference: Every day of the year it is somebody's birthday, whereas Christmas is only celebrated on 25 December.

DAY 3

A SHORT HISTORY OF EMOJIS

Emojis ~~will start~~ ^{started} off as emoticons (emotion icons), simple faces created using punctuation marks such as brackets and colons. Their first known use was in 1881 in *Puck* magazine, which ~~introduce~~ ^{introduced} emoticons for the feelings of joy, sadness and surprise. In 1982, emoticons ~~become~~ ^{became} popular on an online bulletin board, where a smiling or frowning emoticon was used to ~~indicating~~ ^{indicate} whether a post was serious or a joke. Emoticons became emojis ('picture characters' in Japanese) in the 1990s after Shigetaka Kurita, an engineer at a Japanese phone company, developed 176 characters to be used in text messages. Since then, the popularity of emojis ~~will continue~~ ^{has continued} to rise, and in 2015 the Oxford English Dictionary ~~name~~ ^{named} the 'face with tears of joy' emoji as the word of the year.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

By the end of this year: I will have finished Year 7 and made heaps of new friends. I will also have started to play the violin.

Next year: I will start playing soccer and join the school soccer team as the goalkeeper. I will also start to learn Hindi with my grandma.

In five years: I will be in Year 11. I will have my learner's permit and a brand-new car to drive my friends around to all the big parties.

In ten years: I will have graduated from university, having studied musical theatre. I will get a job performing in a major Broadway theatre in New York.

DAY 5

1

RECYCLING

Recycling is an important part of taking care of the environment. It ^{refers} ~~referred~~ to the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash, and turning them into new products. There ^{are} ~~were~~ three steps involved in recycling, and these steps form a loop. Step one is to collect. ^{Methods of collection} vary from community to community, but usually include kerbside collection and drop-off centres. Step two is manufacturing. ^{The cleaned and sorted recyclables are processed and used to produce items such as paper towels and plastic containers.} Step three is purchasing. The recycling loop continues by people ^{purchasing} ~~purchase~~ new products made from recycled materials, which can then be recycled again.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Topic: history of my school

Structure: chronological

My school was founded in 1973 by a woman named Francesca Pennetta. At that time, there was only one campus and it was located in Pakenham. In 1988, the school moved to Brunswick to accommodate the growing number of students. One campus was for primary students and the other for secondary students. In 2005, a student from the school won the national spelling bee. The most important year in the school's history was 2021 – the year that I started going there.

WEEK 23 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

STREAMING SERVICES VERSUS FREE-TO-AIR TV

Television streaming services have become very popular in many households. No longer does the family sit in the lounge room each evening watching the nightly news, followed by a drama series. These days, people like to watch what they want, when they want. Free-to-air channels simply cannot compete with the number and variety of programs provided by streaming services. Additionally, companies like Netflix and Amazon create their own high-quality drama series. Best of all, streaming services don't interrupt your favourite programs and movies with ads every five minutes. In any comparison of the two, streaming is clearly far superior.

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

In any comparison of the two, streaming is clearly far superior.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Supporting reason 1: Streaming TV provides more options than free-to-air TV.

Supporting reason 2: The quality of programs is better on streaming services than on free-to-air TV.

Supporting reason 3: There are no ads on streaming services that interrupt what you are watching.

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Streaming services are better than free-to-air TV because there are more options and higher-quality programs on offer.

DAY 3

SUMMER VERSUS WINTER

There are four seasons in the year but spring and autumn are fairly similar. They have moderate temperatures and the lengths of days and nights are about the same. It is summer and winter that divide opinions. Some people like the blazing heat the ice-cool drinks and the long hours of sunlight that summer brings. Others though prefer winter, snuggling up indoors in front of the heater with something warm to eat and drink. Both summer and winter offer much to enjoy – it is the balance of these two seasons that makes the journey through the year so rich and varied.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Comedy versus drama: These two genres are completely different but their individual strengths make each of them enjoyable to watch, depending on your mood.
- b Land versus sea: Although there are many more things to do on land, nothing beats the beauty of the sea and the sense of freedom it inspires.
- c City versus country: The city is bustling with activity while the country is quieter and more peaceful; both have their own charms that appeal to different people.

- d Childhood versus adulthood: Adulthood is much better than childhood because you are free to do what you want when you want.
- e Human versus machine: While machines can do some tasks better than humans, they do not have the special human ability to feel and empathise.

DAY 5

1

THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA USE

In our increasingly connected digital world, social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pose enormous risks to users of all ages. One of these risks is cyberbullying, a form of harassment using electronic means. Another risk of using social media is the effect of negative thoughts that users can have when they compare themselves to the supposedly perfect online personas of social media influencers. While there are many positive aspects of social media, such as keeping friends and family connected and providing useful information, these risks need to be taken seriously.

2 **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

Supporting reason 1: Adults make their own decisions.

Supporting reason 2: Adults can earn and spend more money.

Supporting reason 3: Children are told who to play with.

3 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

While many people have fond memories of childhood, nothing beats the freedom that comes with being an adult. Children are forced to listen to adults all day long, and to play with children they don't like. Adults only have themselves to listen to and can decide who they make friends with. Furthermore, adults can work and earn money, giving them the freedom to buy things they want and do activities that interest them. Thankfully childhood isn't too long, and there's lots of time to enjoy being an adult.

WEEK 24 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE TEST

Tristan and Flora crept to the edge of the farm and shuffled quietly into the abandoned shed. The whistling wind continued to blow outside. Flora nestled her nose deeper into her scarf to stop herself from shivering.

‘Hurry up, Tristan! It’s freezing. Just tell me what you have to tell me and let’s get out of here.’ Old McDougall’s farm at night gives me the heebie-jeebies.’

Tristan held out his hands and clumsily removed his thick gloves. You’re not going to believe this. I’m not sure I believe it myself yet ... Just promise you won’t scream.

Flora nodded, sure that there was nothing her best friend could show her that would scare her. Suddenly Tristan’s hands erupted into scorching orange flames.

‘OMG! Flora looked at her friend in shock. What ... are you?’

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

	THE TEST	YOUR STORY
When?	At night	<u>In the future</u>
Where?	Old McDougall’s farm	<u>Secret laboratory</u>
Who?	Tristan and Flora (best friends)	<u>Martha, twelve years old</u>
What?	Tristan reveals to Flora that he has developed powers that allow him to produce flames from his hands.	<u>Martha accidentally steps into a time machine at a secret laboratory and is transported fifty years into the future.</u>

DAY 3

TO THE CIRCUS WE GO: SCENE I

Deni, 15, and her older sister Olga, 17, sneak out of the house.

Deni: Are you sure about this, Olga? What if Mum and Dad catch us? We’ll be grounded forever.

Olga: Stop being such a baby, Deni! You’re the one who wanted to do this, remember. You kept saying it was your dream to become an acrobat in the circus! Well, if you don’t go for this audition, you’ll be stuck in this town for the rest of your life. Stuck doing something boring that you hate and wasting all your talent.

Deni: Wow ... I had no idea you believed in me so much ... Okay, then. Let’s do it!

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

This story is set in the future. It follows Martha as she tries to find someone to help her get home. The main character can be described as quietly confident and friendly. The most interesting aspect of the main character is that she is fluent in seven languages and has travelled to more than thirty countries. The orientation of the story will draw readers in because they will want to know about how the world has changed in fifty years' time, as well as how Martha responds to a new environment.

DAY 5

1

TREASURE ADVENTURE

The dinghy smashes into the sand with a thud. Mahesh and Bjorn fling themselves out of the boat and crumple to the ground.

'We are never doing that again,' Mahesh spits at Bjorn. Ever!

'It's not my fault it took so long,' Bjorn replies, breathing hard. 'Who knew that this stupid island is so big?'

The two friends remain motionless on the sand for several minutes before Bjorn finally pushes himself up, shaking the sand out of his pants.

'Well, were here now,' he says. 'I've got the map and our supplies, so what are we waiting for? Let's find some treasure!'

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING HOMEWORK

'My homework has gone!'

The day had started like any other Friday. Isabel and Louise had dragged their feet down the hall, rubbing their eyes and grumbling that there was nothing for breakfast that they liked. Suddenly Louise remembered that her assignment was due that day. But when she looked on the table, where she had left the assignment after working on it for half the night, it was nowhere to be seen.

'This is a disaster! I'm going to fail!' she wailed.

'Now calm down,' her younger sister advised. She was always the cool head in a crisis. 'Let's retrace everything you did before you went to bed.'

WEEK 25 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

STREAMING SERVICES VERSUS FREE-TO-AIR TV

There ^{is} ~~was~~ an astonishingly large number and variety of programs you can watch on any streaming service. These ~~will~~ include sitcoms, drama series and lifestyle shows, as well as movies and documentaries. Although this isn't too different from traditional TV, streaming services provided ^{ed} much more choice. In 2018, Business Insider Australia reported that there were 5579 movies and TV shows available on Netflix. Also, a lot of international sport is now only available on streaming services such as Foxtel Now, while just a few of the new TV series and movies created by the streaming companies ^{are} ~~were~~ on free-to-air networks. For the amount and variety of content, streaming ^{is} ~~was~~ the best way to watch TV.

DAY 2

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

One reason why reading a book is much better than watching the movie adaptation is that the book includes much more detail and information. For example, minor characters are often left out of the movie version. Furthermore, background information, as well as details of the characters' pasts, is usually summed up quickly in a film, whereas a book might devote whole chapters to describing the characters' history. A film might also leave out key dialogue that would help us to understand characters. These examples all show that the original story told in the pages of a book will always be better than an adaptation for the screen.

DAY 3

SUMMER VERSUS WINTER

Summer offers many opportunities to enjoy the ^g ~~g~~reat ^o ~~o~~utdoors. The school holidays, the generally fine weather and the long ^d ~~d~~aylight hours all combine to create chances to relax and have family time in the fresh air. ^W ~~W~~hether it is a morning at the beach, a game of backyard cricket or an evening ^b ~~b~~arbecue, there are many ways to be healthy and active. Yet summer also brings bushfires and dangerous heat, flies and mosquitoes, and harsh sun. Furthermore, this season can be very hectic. ^T ~~T~~he summer ^m ~~M~~onths are usually full of rushing around, last-minute preparations for visitors or holiday travel and squeezing in catch-ups with friends and relatives.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

COMEDY VERSUS DRAMA

Topic sentence: Comedy programs and films make people happy.

First example / piece of evidence: Comedies are lighthearted and entertaining, so they can help audiences forget about their worries.

Second example / piece of evidence: People laugh and smile while watching comedies.

Topic sentence: Drama series and films make people think.

First example / piece of evidence: Dramas sometimes have characters and situations that people can relate to, so they can make audiences think about how the events on the screen would affect their own life.

Second example / piece of evidence: Dramas can lead people to question things such as what motivates a character and the nature of relationships.

DAY 5

1

THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA USE

Users need to be aware of the negative aspects of social media. Cyberbullying ^{is} ~~was~~ a big issue, involving online threats and aggressive or rude posts or messages. ^B ~~bullies~~ may use fake profiles to remain anonymous and victims, who can now be contacted via social media at any time of day, can feel as if there is no escape. Furthermore, social media platforms such as ^I ~~Instagram~~ ^{allow} ~~allowing~~ users to share the best aspects of themselves and hide anything negative, creating a facade of perfection. This sets an unrealistic standard for their followers to try to live up to, making them feel inadequate in comparison. ^W ~~While~~ these risks are enough to scare anyone away from using social media, there ^{are} ~~were~~ ways to minimise the dangers and enjoy all that the internet has to offer.

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

Many adults don't remember how hard it is to be a child and have all your decisions made for you. For example, every day your parents tell you what time to get up, when to do your homework, what to wear, what to say to others ... the list goes on and on! At school, children have to do everything they are told – for instance, when to eat, when to play and when to talk. Being a child means having very little freedom to do the things that you want to do.

WEEK 26 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE TEST

The flames that had moments ago covered Tristan's hands began to dwindle like the last embers in a fireplace. Flora might've convinced herself that it was all just a mirage if it hadn't been for the last wisps of smoke spiralling from her best friend's fingers.

'What happened to you?' she stuttered. Tristan looked at Flora, the one person he had dared to share this terrible secret with. He saw nothing but fear in her eyes.

'I have no idea,' he said, fumbling with his gloves as he hurriedly tried to cover his unharmed hands. That's why I had to tell you. I'm so scared. I need your help.'

Flora looked away, tears beginning to stream down her face like droplets of rain on a car window. 'I don't know if I can be friends with ... a freak. I'm sorry.'

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The complication is that Flora now thinks her best friend is a freak, leaving Tristan all alone to deal with his strange new power.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The rift between the two friends sets up a conflict that needs to be resolved later in the story. It also shifts the focus away from Tristan's powers to the relationship between the friends.

- 3 like the last embers in a fireplace
like droplets of rain on a car window

4 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a The flames erupted like a volcano.
b Flora ran as fast as an Olympic sprinter.

DAY 3

TO THE CIRCUS WE GO: SCENE II

Deni and Olga arrive at the circus, where they are greeted by a clown in a pink-and-green suit.

Deni: [Excitedly] Hello! My name is Deni Velour. I'm here to audition to be an acrobat.

Clown: I'm sorry, my dear. Auditions closed twenty minutes ago. [Honks his nose twice.] I have a better idea? Be a clown, be a clown. All the world loves a clown!

Olga: What? No! My sister has been dreaming about being a world-famous acrobat her whole life; she's the best there is. Why in the world would she want to be a clown and wear some silly pink-and-green suit?

Deni: Please I know the circus doesn't accept new acrobats very often. This might be my only chance to get out of this town ...

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Orientation	Complication
Jill, a pianist, auditions for a prestigious music school.	<u>Jill temporarily loses her sight just before her audition.</u>
Cleo asks Sam out on a date.	<u>Sam likes Cleo but is not allowed to date until his grades improve.</u>
Ramon and his family go to the jungle.	<u>Ramon and his family get lost in the jungle.</u>
Mary discovers a time-travel machine.	<u>Mary time-travels to the future and is taken prisoner.</u>

DAY 5

1

TREASURE ADVENTURE

Mahesh and Bjorn drag the dinghy up the beach and hide it among some ferns. Once they are happy that their only means of returning home is safely covered, the two friends set off into the heart of the island.

'Are we going the right way?' Mahesh asks Bjorn.

'Of course we are,' Bjorn huffs. 'Don't you think I know how to read a map?'

Mahesh shrugs, not entirely convinced, but continues to follow his friend. Bjorn leads them further and further away from the water until they eventually reach a crumbling castle.

'We're here?' Bjorn exclaims.

As he and Mahesh move towards the castle, a three-headed lion jumps out from the shadows. It roars loudly, sending Mahesh and Bjorn staggering back.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING HOMEWORK

'Well,' said Louise, 'I finished my assignment, put my pens in my pencil case and closed my laptop. I put the three sheets of my assignment on top of everything, then I went to bed.'

'Did you scan it, like we're supposed to?' asked Isabel. Although she was the younger of the two sisters, she liked to sound older and wiser.

Louise rolled her eyes. 'Of course not. I had to crash. I didn't get an early night like SOME PEOPLE.' She said the last two words so loudly that Stanley, the family dog, raised an eyebrow from his morning snooze on the lounge.

'Just write it out again and hand it in on Monday,' said Isabel, matter-of-factly.

'I can't! Ms Demander said there would be no extensions. I'll fail!'

Louise stomped off to her room like an angry elephant.

WEEK 27 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

STREAMING SERVICES VERSUS FREE-TO-AIR TV

One argument against streaming services ^{is} ~~are~~ the cost. When you pay for a ^{subscription} ~~subscriptions~~, if you want the biggest choice of ^{programs} ~~program~~ you need a more expensive plan and probably two or more ^{services} ~~service~~. In comparison, free-to-air TV is free for the viewer to watch. However, on a commercial TV station you are forced to watch the ads – around thirteen ^{minutes} ~~minute~~ per hour, regularly interrupting your favourite show or movie. Some of these ads are for gambling, alcohol and other things that many parents do not want their children to be exposed to. Streaming ^{services} ~~service~~, though, are ad-free, and for many people the ad-free experience ^{is} ~~are~~ worth paying for.

DAY 2

- a Some people argue that celebrities deserve more privacy. However, celebrities enjoy earning money from being seen and heard in the media, so they do not deserve any more privacy.
- b Some people argue that the sport of boxing should be banned. In fact, there are many positives associated with the sport, including increased fitness and greater knowledge of self-defence skills.
- c Some people argue that professional sportspeople should not have to be role models. In reality, though, these people will always be in the spotlight and children will copy their behaviour.
- d Some people argue that social media accounts should be available to children from the age of ten. However, the potential for negativity and bullying could harm vulnerable and innocent children.

DAY 3

SUMMER VERSUS WINTER

One of my favourite things to do on a grey winter afternoon is to visit a cafe – preferably with a roaring log fire – and settle into a comfy couch, with a hot chocolate, a piece of cake and a magazine. Time seems to slow down and the luxurious warmth of the surroundings keeps the winter chills far away. Only in winter does there seem to be time for such restful contemplation. However, winter does have its downfalls, too. Going outside in freezing temperatures, especially in the morning, can be very uncomfortable. The sky is often grey and depressing, during winter and it gets darker much earlier, leaving less time to enjoy the outdoors.

DAY 4

- ① **Answers may vary. Possible answers include:**

comfy, luxurious warmth, restful contemplation

uncomfortable

grey

depressing

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

One of the best things about winter is the food. Bowls of steamy porridge, hot aromatic soups and delicious roast potatoes are regulars in our house. Summer offers a completely different selection. Tasty fresh fruit and zesty garden salads are on offer day after day, which makes for a balanced, healthy diet.

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

My favourite season is autumn because the temperature is just perfect and the falling leaves make me feel happy and relaxed.

DAY 5**1****THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA USE**

There ^{are} ~~is~~ many ways to reduce or minimise the risks of negative impacts from social media use. While cyberbullying can be hard to avoid, ^{all} ~~an~~ social media platforms provide an option to report bullying behaviour and to block users, ^{who} ~~that~~ act inappropriately. Users should only accept friend requests or messages ^{from} ~~to~~ people they know in real life. Also, young social media users can ask ^{adults} ~~adult~~ for help if they are experiencing cyberbullying. Additionally, users should always be aware that not everything they see on social media ^{is} ~~are~~ accurate. Though people may display an idealised persona, in actuality they experience the realities of life such as fear and hardship like everyone else.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Adulthood comes with the benefit of being able to work and earn a living, which provides the means to do things you like. While some children get an allowance, this is often not very much and certainly not enough to do fun things like go on crazy adventures or play paintball with friends. Furthermore, without money of their own, children are forced to do chores such as taking out the garbage and mowing the lawn. Some people may say that having a job is hard work and can cause stress. However, having a job gives you a purpose in life and the means to buy nice things such as cars and clothes.

WEEK 28 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE TEST

As Flora rushed out of the shed and into the biting cold air, Tristan stood in shock. He could do nothing but watch as his best friend ran away from him. The moment he needed her the most, she had fled ...

He knew this would be hard for anyone to take in. (It was hard for him, too!) But he had truly believed that Flora would understand what he was going through, or at least try to understand. Hadn't he been there when her parents had divorced? Or when Dipesh had dumped her the night before the big dance?

If she couldn't support him when he really needed her, then maybe he didn't want to have her in his life, as hard as that was to admit.

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

It shows that Tristan is more invested in their friendship (always helping her out when she has a problem) and that Flora is perhaps not as good a friend as he thought.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a This shows that Flora is unhappy about what she learned about her best friend, and about how she responded. It depicts her as someone who likes to take time to sort out her feelings.
- b This hints that Flora is frightened of fire, possibly because of a previous event in her life. Perhaps her house once burned down and that is why she is so fearful of fire (and Tristan's new power).

DAY 3

TO THE CIRCUS WE GO: SCENE III

Deni stands alone, staring at the circus tent. Olga continues to argue with the clown in the background.

Deni: It's so beautiful. It's everything I imagined it would be. Colourful, bright, full of joy. And it must be even more incredible inside ... This is all my fault. If I hadn't needed Olga to convince me to come, we wouldn't have been late and I wouldn't have missed my one chance. I always do this: shoot myself in the foot right when things are looking up.

Deni sees two young acrobats skipping out of the tent. They're smiling from ear to ear.

Deni: Why can't I be like them? They're so carefree and happy. That's all I've ever wanted to be. That, and an acrobat.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Olga: (*Angrily*) Why are you being so mean to my sister? It's not her fault we were late. We live a really long way away. Are you doing this just because you're a sad, lonely clown?

Clown: There's no need to get snippy with me, missy! Clowns have feelings too. Yes, I get sad and lonely sometimes, but doesn't everyone? I'm only human.

Olga: I'm sorry, okay. This audition is just so important to both me and my sister. I've never told anyone this but I always wanted to be a lion tamer, but I never pursued my passion. I don't want the same fate for my little sister.

Clown: I understand how you feel. If I wasn't a clown, I don't know what I would do with my life. And I was lucky that someone gave me the chance to achieve my dreams. So it's only fair that I do the same now. Go and tell your sister she can audition.

DAY 5

1

TREASURE ADVENTURE

Maresh and Bjorn watch as the creature tries to ^{attack}~~attack~~ them but is pulled back by a chain around its neck.

'What is that?' Maresh shrieks. 'Bjorn you didn't say anything about a three-headed lion guarding the treasure!'

^{Obviously}~~Obviously~~, I didn't know,' Bjorn replies, exasperatedly. 'What should we do? We can't turn back now ^{can}~~can~~ we? We're so close ...'

'No, we're definitely not ^{running}~~running~~ from this,' Maresh says, standing tall. 'Between the two of us, we can outwit the lion ^{sneak}~~sneak~~ in and grab *our* treasure.'

'Yeah, you're right,' Bjorn says, standing shoulder to shoulder with his fellow adventurer. 'Let's show that thing what we're made of!'

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Positive attributes: resourceful, thoughtful

Negative attributes: bossy, self-important

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING HOMEWORK

Isabel looked around.

'Hmm,' she thought, 'I wonder where those pages have gone. Where do you think, Stanley?'

The dog looked up questioningly. Isabel went over to the table where the laptop and pencil case had been left. The pencil case was still open – Louise must have rushed off to go to bed. A couple of pens had fallen onto the floor, so Isabel picked them up and looked carefully under the table.

That was odd, she thought; Louise always left things neat and tidy. Not like Isabel, who was always leaving things on the floor while she was lost in thought. 'Away with the fairies,' her mother said. It was Isabel, not Louise, who was likely to miss a deadline. And the teacher had insisted on no extensions! Isabel knew how devastated Louise would be to have stayed up late and have nothing to show for all her work.

WEEK 29 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

STREAMING SERVICES VERSUS FREE-TO-AIR TV

Streaming services and free-to-air TV ^{are} is similar in some ways, offering a mix of comedy and drama, movies and series, real-life and highly imaginative content. Yet in many ways their ^{differences} difference are more striking than their similarities. Streaming services ^{offer} offers variety, choice, quality and convenience. In contrast, free-to-air TV ^{has} have a limited range of programs, and commercial stations have frequent and highly intrusive ad breaks. More and more, the most admired and popular programs ^{are} is only available through a streaming service. Yes, there is a cost, but the benefits make the cost of streaming services well and truly worth it.

DAY 2

- ① Yes, there is a cost, but the benefits make the cost of streaming services well and truly worth it.
Streaming services offer variety, choice, quality and convenience.
More and more, the most admired and popular programs are only available through a streaming service.
- ② Answers may vary. Possible answers include:
limited, highly intrusive
- ③ Answers may vary. Possible answers include:
quality, popular
- ④ Answers may vary. A possible answer is:
I think it is a good conclusion because it sums up the points made in the previous two body paragraphs without introducing any new material.

DAY 3

SUMMER VERSUS WINTER

Overall, the many differences between summer and winter make it impossible for me to choose a clear favourite. Summer's have warm, sunny days, as well as extreme heat and savage bushfire's. Winter storm's can wreak havoc, yet a wild wind on a nature walk can clear away the mental cobwebs. A cool drink on a shady verandah is perfect on a summer's day, just as there's nothing better than a hot drink on a warm, cosy lounge in the middle of winter. What would a year be like without these extremes? Its the variety of experiences and feelings these two seasons bring about that gives shape to our lives.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

COMEDY VERSUS DRAMA

Explanation: Conclusion 1 is more effective because it reinforces the points made earlier in the piece. It also responds directly to the topic. In contrast, Conclusion 2 fails to properly address the topic; instead, it discusses another genre that has not previously been mentioned.

1

THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA USE

In conclusion, though there ^{are} ~~is~~ various risks that go along with using social media, there are safe ways for users to engage with one another. Teenage users should be aware of the dangers of cyberbullying and ask for help from adults if they're unsure what to do. People should realise that cyberbullying ^{is} ~~are~~ just as real and serious as bullying in the schoolyard. Users should also remember that social media enables people to present a picture of themselves that is not necessarily accurate or realistic. Ignoring individuals who you suspect are presenting a fake version of their lives ^{is} sometimes the best solution to this problem. Employing strategies like these can help to keep users ^{safe} and ensure a positive ^{experience} ~~experiences~~ when using social media.

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

In conclusion, there are many reasons why being an adult is better than being a child. While childhood has its charms, such as having time to play and not being responsible for others, these pale in comparison to the advantages of being an adult. Adulthood means freedom: freedom to not take orders from others all day long, freedom to work and earn money, and freedom to spend your spare time as you choose. This type of freedom is one of the most important things in the world, and the primary reason why being an adult is so great.

WEEK 30 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE TEST

The sound of sharp, deliberate knocking woke Tristan the following morning. He slumped out of bed, his *Naruto* bedspread falling to a heap on the floor. He trudged to the door and opened it to reveal an unexpected visitor.

✓ 'Flora!' he exclaimed. 'What are you doing here?'

'Tristan, I'm so sorry for last night. I shouldn't have called you a freak. I was just so scared. ✓ But friends are supposed to be there for each other no matter what.'

'I forgive you, ✓ Tristan said. ✓ But only because you're shouting breakfast, right? ✓'

'LOL! After what I did, that sounds fair,' Flora said. 'So tell me, do your hands feel hot when it happens? ✓'

Can you control it? I want to know all about your powers!'

DAY 2

① Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Unresolved ending: Tristan wakes up and sees a text from Flora saying she needs more time to think about what happened.
- b Unhappy ending: Flora decides that Tristan's power is too dangerous and that she can no longer spend time with him.
- c Plot twist: Flora goes to see Tristan and reveals that she has developed the same powers as him.

② Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

I think a happy ending is the most effective for this story because it shows how strong friendships can be. Flora is willing to help Tristan even though his new power scares her. She does this because that's what a good friend would do.

DAY 3

TO THE CIRCUS WE GO: SCENE IV

Olga interrupts Deni's trance.

Olga: Oi, you! Stop daydreaming. I just ^{got} ~~gotten~~ you an audition!

Deni: What? But how?

Olga: Let's just say I've got a date with someone who likes pink-and-green suits ... Now put your leotard on quickly. Everyone ^{is} ~~was~~ waiting!

Deni, in her acrobat costume, performs her routine in front of the circus panel. Everyone applauds. Deni ^{runs} ~~will run~~ off stage to embrace her sister.

Deni: Oh my god! I did it. I can't believe I did it. All those years of training paid off.

Olga: I knew you would, Sis. They are sure to accept you after that awesome performance. But then we'll have another problem, won't we: ^{telling} ~~told~~ Mum and Dad you're moving out to ^{join} ~~joining~~ the circus!

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Complication	Resolution
Jill temporarily loses her sight just before her music-school audition.	<u>Jill fails to find a cure in time for the audition. But she performs wonderfully without reading her music, having completely memorised her piece after so much practice.</u>
Sam likes Cleo but is not allowed to date until his grades improve.	<u>Cleo offers to study with Sam to help him get better grades. They bond over studying and Sam scores his highest marks ever.</u>
Ramon and his family get lost in the jungle.	<u>Ramon remembers he has a compass in his backpack. He gives it to his mum, who uses it to help them find their way back to their camp.</u>
Mary time-travels to the future and is taken prisoner.	<u>Mary tries to explain to the people in the future where she is from but they don't believe her. Finally, though, she shows them her phone, and they help her return home.</u>

DAY 5

1

TREASURE ADVENTURE

The two adventurers nod, ^{confirming} ~~confirmed~~ their foolproof plan. Bjorn ^{digs} ~~dug~~ into his backpack and pulls out three cooked beef sausages while Mahesh waves furiously at the lion.

'Hey, big ugly lion!' Mahesh screams. [✓] Come and get me.'

[✓] Mahesh races to the left and the lion starts chasing him. Bjorn, meanwhile, runs directly into the heart of the castle, towards the treasure. Out of the corner of his eye, the lion sees Bjorn running and changes direction, as agile as a gazelle! [✓]

Using all his force, Bjorn throws the sausages as high into the air as he can. The lion's heads all turn upwards and lose focus on their former prey. Bjorn and Mahesh quickly rush into the castle and ^{see} ~~saw~~ a tower of gold coins awaiting them.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING HOMEWORK

How did those pens get on the floor, Isabel wondered. Had the pages fallen there, too? She looked around. Stanley shifted on the lounge with a whimper. Isabel looked over at him, and there, just under the lounge, was a torn corner of white paper poking out.

She got down on her hands and knees and looked properly under the lounge. There were three crumpled and slightly chewed sheets of paper. A few corners were missing. But the pages could be rescued with some cutting and pasting – or sticky-taping.

'Louise!' Isabel cried, 'I found your homework! It was under the lounge. Stanley tried to eat your homework! But luckily he didn't eat it all – we just need to add a few words back in where he ate the corners.'

'I can do that,' Louise said. 'We still have ten minutes before we have to go. Phew! I won't fail my assignment after all. Thanks, Isabel!'

WEEK 31 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

MY FIRST DAY AT SECONDARY SCHOOL

My ~~heart~~^{heart} was pounding from the moment I got up this morning. Why? Because it was my first day at secondary school! I jumped out of bed like a ~~bouncy~~^{bouncy} kangaroo, put on the school uniform I had ~~laid~~^{laid} out the night before and raced to the bus stop. All the other kids on the bus seemed ~~nervise~~^{nervous}, so no-one did much talking. Once we got to class, each of us was paired up with another student to be our buddy for the day. I was paired with the ~~funnyest~~^{funniest} kid in class. I can already tell we're going to be good friends! Oh, and did I tell you about Miss Nichols, my homeroom teacher? She's the nicest, smartest person I've ever met. Today was the best! I can't wait for ~~tommorrow~~^{tomorrow}.

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a See you next week.
- b How are you?
- c Let me know ASAP!
- d I can't come. Sorry.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

I was so scared on my first day of school. I was nervous the whole time and couldn't even look the other kids in the eye. When the homeroom teacher asked us to introduce ourselves to the rest of the class, I almost had a heart attack! Luckily the teacher was nice and made me feel comfortable enough to say a little bit about myself.

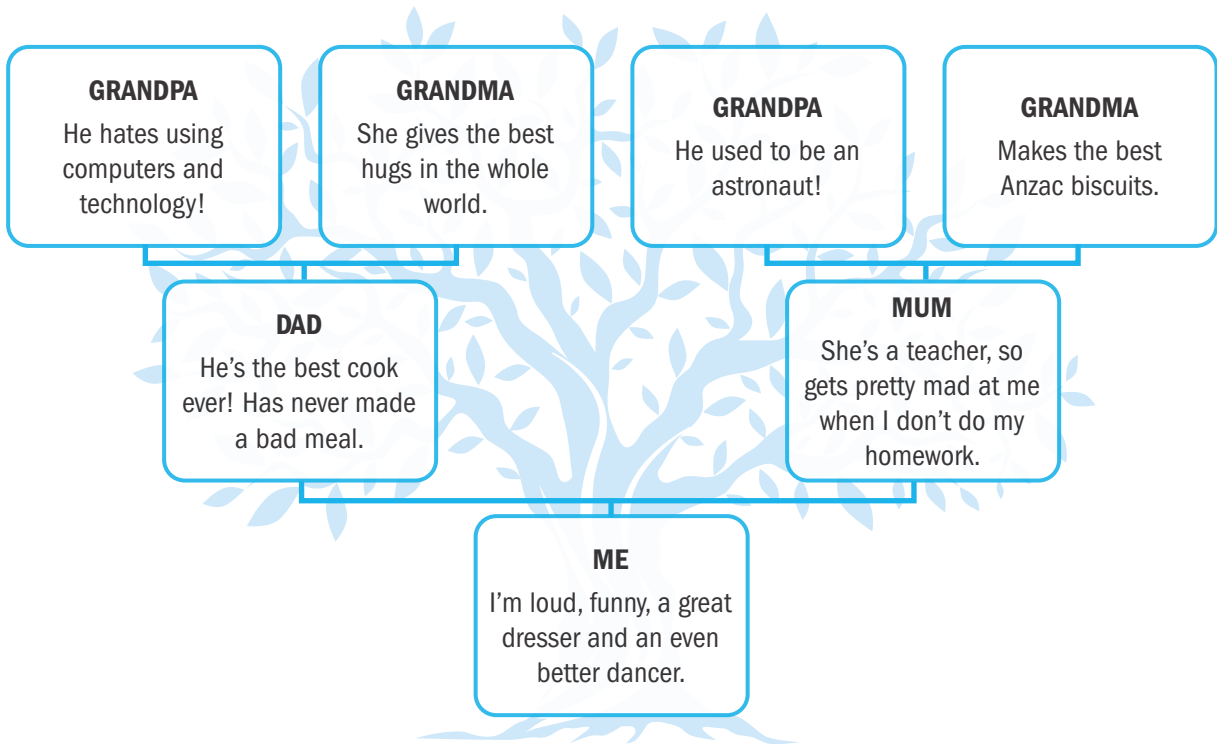
DAY 3

MY FAMILY

My name is Sinag and I'm a Filipino Australian, who was born in Darwin Northern Territory. Both of my parents were born in the Philippines, one in Manila and the other in Pasay. My mum's a typical Filipino mum. Even though she has a full-time job, as a criminal lawyer, she still finds time to do all the cooking – she makes the best adobo ever! – and to spend time with me. We do jigsaw puzzles and sing karaoke all the time. My dad's a freelance writer, so he works from home and spends even more time with me. We'll often shoot hoops at the local park and catch a movie at the cinema. On Saturdays, all three of us, visit my grandparents and take them out for lunch.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:



DAY 5

1

WHEN I GROW UP

When I grow up, I'm going to be a famous comedian. More famous than even Rebel Wilson or Jerry Seinfeld! I'm going to move to Hollywood and do stand-up shows in all the famous comedy clubs. People will love my dry sense of humour and hilarious impressions of celebrities. I do the best Arnold Schwarzenegger! After a few years of this, I'll be discovered by a TV executive and be given my own prime-time series. Kind of like *The Tonight Show*, but even funnier. I'll eventually return home and open up a school to teach young people how to be comedians telling them that making others laugh and smile is the best job in the world.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

WHEN I GROW UP

When I grow up, I'm going to be a surgeon. A real surgeon. Not like the fake ones you see on TV shows like *Grey's Anatomy*! I want to actually save lives: be in an operating room and save a woman who has just had a heart attack. Can you imagine how good that would feel? After surgery you get to go out and tell the family what a hero you are, and they'll remember you for the rest of their lives. I honestly can't think of anything better to devote the rest of my life to. I know it'll require lots of studying and hard work, but I think it's more than worth it.

WEEK 32 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

TO MY LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE

Dear Minister,

I am writing to you in regard to the ^{issue} ~~issues~~ of renewable energy. Last month you and your government announced that you would provide ^{individuals} ~~individual~~ with financial assistance to help install solar panels on their roofs. In addition, you agreed to build fifty new ^{wind turbines} ~~wind turbine~~ by the end of the ^{year} ~~years~~. However, this week you announced that only some individuals would receive financial ^{assistance} ~~assistances~~, and only twenty wind turbines would be built. This latest announcement ^{indicates} ~~indicate~~ that you do not recognise the ^{importance} ~~importances~~ of supporting renewable energy. I strongly advise you to commit to the changes you promised us and invest in the future of our children.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Nguyen

DAY 2

① Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

I am writing to you in regard to the issue of ...

I strongly advise you to ...

Yours sincerely,

② Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a It is my opinion that you have made an error. Please make immediate changes.
- b Hello, what are you up to? Have you heard from your grandfather lately?
- c We ate a lot of food last night. We are never going to do that again.
- d Thank you very much. Please let me know about next week as soon as possible.

DAY 3

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I wish to apply for the position of professional sleeper at ^M ~~m~~orningside ^G ~~g~~rand Hotel. I believe I have the skill set, the experience and, most importantly, the positive attitude to excel in this role. ^M ~~m~~y previous role as a product tester required me to identify how particular items could be improved, and I plan to bring the same level of ^a ~~A~~ttention to ^d ~~D~~etail to this role, to ensure that your beds are the best in the industry.

I am excited about the possibility of working for your company in this dynamic role and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to make a positive contribution if given the chance. Thank you for your time and consideration.

^S ~~S~~incerely,
^G ~~G~~ary ^A ~~a~~ngelous

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

To whom it may concern,

I wish to apply for the position of sports commentator at your company. I believe I have the necessary skills to excel in this role. These skills include being an excellent public speaker, having a wide and varied knowledge of many sports and speaking several languages. I am passionate about working in this industry because I have a deep respect and admiration for sportspeople and the sports they play. In closing, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to bring my expertise and passion to this exciting role, and to share incredible sporting memories with your listeners and viewers.

Yours faithfully,

An emerging sports commentator

DAY 5

1

AN OPEN LETTER

D
dear fellow citizens,

I am writing to you regarding a very important issue. Our oceans and the precious marine species that inhabit them ^{are} ~~is~~ under attack from plastic pollution. Plastic garbage that humans dispose of decomposes slowly and entangles and kills tens of ^{thousands} ~~thousand~~ of marine animals each year. It is important that ^{humans} ~~human~~ do their part to reduce plastic pollution. ^T ~~T~~his can be achieved by using reusable water bottles and shopping bags, limiting the use of hard plastics, and ^r ~~R~~ecycling whenever possible. The small changes can sometimes make the biggest impact, so let us work together to save our oceans and our fellow creatures.

A concerned citizen

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Dear Principal,

I am writing to you regarding this year's writing competition. It has come to my attention that the set topic you plan to give Year 7 students this year is 'puppies and daisies'. I believe that this topic is infantile and does not reflect the complex ideas that we have. How are we supposed to write on real-world issues that affect us, such as climate change, poverty and war, if you limit us in this way? I hope you will reconsider your decision and give me and my fellow students the opportunity to display not only our writing abilities but also our ideas.

Yours sincerely,

A budding novelist

WEEK 33 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

CLASS CAPTAIN NOMINATION

Good morning everyone,

I would like to nominate myself for the position of class captain. As most of you know, I am hardworking, reliable and honest. I feel that I am ready to take on more responsibility. I like to take the lead in making things happen. How many of you have been frustrated by the lack of recycling bins around the school? Do you like me think that our canteen foods have too much plastic wrapping? I'd like to get all of your thoughts on small but important changes that would improve our school.

I hope you will consider voting for me as class captain. Thank you.

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a I'm sure you feel that we all get too much homework.
- b At our age we require more sleep, so starting school later in the day just makes sense.
- c We make up the majority at school, so it is only fair that we should have a say in how it's run.

- 2 (Good morning) everyone. This is what I (think) we should do for our class party. First, hire a DJ. I recommend JoCool. He's (very professional). Second, (ask) the Village Cafe to do the catering; their (food) is (delicious). (Thank you) for listening.

DAY 3

MAKE HOME COMPOSTING PART OF THE SOLUTION

I agree with the suggestion that we should all do more to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill (Letters, 3/10). Before we began home composting, my family ^{filled} ~~fills~~ several plastic bags each week with food scraps. Now these scraps go into our large green compost bin. ^{Think} ~~Thought~~ about how much food waste you throw in the bin each week. By my calculations, if every household ^{composted} ~~will compost~~ their food waste it would save around 20 litres of rubbish a week, for roughly 100 000 households per shire. That's over 100 megalitres each year! Perhaps councils could ^{give} ~~gave~~ a free compost bin to each house to ^{promote} ~~promoting~~ this simple but highly effective means of reducing waste.

Mai Jones, Greenway

DAY 4

1 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Think about how much food waste you throw in the bin each week.

it would save around 20 litres of rubbish a week, for roughly 100 000 households per shire.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

The idea that home composting can help to reduce landfill (Letters, 5/10) is incorrect. I live in a house with five other people. We throw out around one rubbish bag of food waste each week. If we composted all this food waste, the impact it would have on our rubbish would be minimal. For this reason, I would argue that we need to find other ways to reduce food waste, such as fining people who waste too much food.

DAY 5

1

PARTY PRESENTATION

Mum and Dad, do you remember you promised I could have a party, when I turned thirteen? I ^{know} we haven't talked about it for ages, but since it's next month I thought we should start making some plans. I don't want you to have to do all the work. I ^{will write} the invitations. And what about having it at Game Ace? It's a great venue: they do food and have games music and a dance floor. If we ^{have} twenty guests or more they'll include a free cake. I think twenty would be the ^{perfect} number: ten boys and ten girls. Great! Is there ^{anything} I've left out?

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Audience: teachers

Hello, teachers. Have you noticed something odd in the schoolyard lately? I should hope so, because the increase in bullying is very hard to miss. A certain group of Year 7 students has been terrorising the more vulnerable members of our year level, taunting them and stealing their snacks. It's time for this to come to an end. It's time for you, as adults and educators, to intervene and tell these bullies off.

WEEK 34 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

BRICK BY BRICK

LEGO, a type of building toy, is one of the most popular ^{products}~~products~~ in the world. The colourful plastic building blocks that can be joined together to make objects such as houses and ^{castles}~~castles~~ have been around for almost a hundred years. They weren't always made of plastic, though. At first, LEGO bricks were made from wood. Plastic blocks were not made until the 1950s. Gradually, different types of ^{pieces}~~pieces~~, such as ^{wheels}~~wheels~~ and human figures, were added.

There are three key reasons why LEGO blocks are still so popular. First, the design is simple and child-^{friendly}~~friendly~~. Second, playing with them helps to develop imagination and ^{construction}~~construction~~ skills. Third, they're just a lot of fun – for both children and adults.

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The passage uses short and simple sentences and discusses the fun aspects of LEGO blocks, without going into too much detail or complexity.

2

- Parks often have playgrounds where you can play with your friends.
- Parks are the perfect place to have picnics with your family.
- Playing with your pets at the park can be super fun.

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Statement: Parks are a great place to discover nature.

DAY 3

THE LEGO COMPANY

The LEGO company is one of the oldest family-owned ^{companies}~~company~~ in the world. It was founded in Billund, Denmark, in 1932. Its earliest toys ^{were}~~was~~ made from wood, but the company purchased a machine for injecting and moulding plastic in the 1940s. Gradually, LEGO ^{pieces}~~piece~~ became more diverse, as wheels and human figures were added to the range.

Today, LEGO pieces and sets ^{are}~~is~~ designed to appeal to all age groups, from young children to adults. One of the largest objects able to be made from a LEGO set ^{is}~~are~~ the Imperial Star Destroyer from *Star Wars* – this set contains 4784 pieces. There are also remote-controlled train sets and sets that ^{involve}~~involve~~ coding and robotics, supporting science, technology and maths programs in schools.

DAY 4

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

While it still discusses LEGO, this passage is focused more on the LEGO company and its development. Using more complex sentences, it also discusses the educational benefits of some LEGO products.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Parks are a vital part of life. In addition to the environmental benefits, parks also have economic benefits. They generate money for the local economy, improve the local tax base and increase property values. Furthermore, parks provide a sense of community spirit for local residents. They are a place for people to gather and socialise, and can be the site for picnics, concerts or even farmers' markets.

DAY 5

1

A DIGITAL BRICK EMPIRE

LEGO has come a long way since its creation in the 1930s. While it is best known as a producer of ~~physical~~ ^{physical} ~~physic~~ building toys for kids, it has expanded into many other ~~area~~ ^{areas} since the turn of the century. This includes branching out into the digital ~~worlds~~ ^{world}, bringing LEGO into the twenty-first century.

The most notable example of this is *LEGO Worlds*, a multiplayer video game in which players ~~is~~ ^{are} able to ~~build~~ ^{build} an online world made up of LEGO bricks. Available on all major gaming ~~systems~~ ^{systems} (e.g. PlayStation 4, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch), *LEGO Worlds* shows how LEGO can remain on trend for generations to come.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The passage discusses the ways in which LEGO has branched out into online and gaming platforms. This appeals to teenagers' interest in digital games rather than playing with physical blocks like children.

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Parks are a great place for teenagers to meet and hang out with their friends. Unlike other meeting spots, such as shopping centres, parks are generally quiet and relaxing, which is perfect for reading or studying. There are also lots of fun things to do at parks, such as riding bicycles or skateboarding. Some parks also host music events and moonlight showings of films.

WEEK 35 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

IF I WON THE LOTTERY

Wouldn't you love to win the lottery, fellow classmates? What would you do with the money if you did? Well, if I won the lottery, I would be over the moon with excitement! Firstly, I would place a portion of the money in my savings account, so that when I'm older I could use it to buy a house or an apartment to live in. Secondly, I would donate some of the money to important causes, such as animal welfare, youth homelessness and curing cancer. Thirdly, I would spend some of the money on exciting adventures. For example, I would take my two sisters and my dad on an overseas holiday to Egypt to visit relatives I have never met.

DAY 2

1 Wouldn't you love to win the lottery, fellow classmates?

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

- a Yes, my love, I'll marry you.
- b Sorry for being late, Miss Dokic.
- c Mum, can I have a snack?
- d Dear Prime Minister,
- e Stop cheating, Parker!

DAY 3

WHO IS MY HERO?

Mr Iyagi, I would like to tell you about my hero? My hero is selfless, generous and hardworking. My hero is someone who puts the needs of others before his own. My hero wants the best for the people in his community. He does everything in his power to keep them safe and protect them from evil. My hero is mentally and physically strong; he doesn't need to rely on superpowers to achieve greatness. My hero fights for justice each and every day. My hero wants the world to be a better place for everyone. The person I admire the most, my hero, is my brother Barton, the best police officer this town has ever known.

DAY 4

1 Mr Iyagi, I would like to tell you about my hero.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

You are my hero, JK Rowling. Do you know why? Well, there are three reasons. The first reason is that you inspired an entire generation to love reading through the *Harry Potter* series. The children who loved the series were turned into lifelong readers because of you. The second reason is that you frequently donate to charities. You use your immense wealth to help others rather than just for your own needs and desires. The third reason is your resilience. When you began writing *Harry Potter*, you were an impoverished single mother. Despite numerous setbacks and rejections from publishers, you persevered and believed in your dreams. Now you know why you, JK Rowling, are my hero.

DAY 5

1

THE BEST THING ABOUT MY SCHOOL

Fellow classmates, the best thing about our school is that everyone who goes here is accepted for who they are.

The teachers understand that each student is an individual with unique interests. The student welfare officer, Ms Cannon, works hard to make sure that all of us feel welcome. She organises student-bonding activities such as bake sales and open mic nights, so that going to school feels like being part of a great community. Another excellent thing that our school does is celebrate things like R U OK? Day and Wear it Purple Day, which shows our support for students in our school who are going through personal challenges.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Mum and Dad, I would like to share with you the best thing about my school: the library. The school library is like a work of art! I reckon it's just as good as the National Library in Canberra. It's the most beautiful building I've ever seen. The intricate marble facade is impeccable and the phoenix statues that guard the entrance give it a magical touch. Inside is even better. Across the two storeys, there are thousands of books from every possible genre and subgenre. It's a dream come true for a book lover like me to be able to come here every day.

WEEK 36 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

THE WORST CHORE

The chore that I dislike most is vacuuming. There is simply nothing enjoyable about it. Plus, I never get enough pocket money for doing it. My sister always gets out of it because she is too small to vacuum properly, which leaves it up to me. It might sound like an easy chore but my mum insists that I remove everything from the floor to vacuum, then put everything back in its place. It takes hours. And the dust that comes out of the old carpet gets up my nose and makes me sneeze. It really sucks. Do you know what the worst part is? Each time I vacuum, the dog tracks in mud and grass and then I have to do it again!

DAY 2

- 1 Do you know what the worst part is?

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The purpose of this rhetorical question is to emphasise the worst parts about this particular chore.

- 2
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| a | What is the difference between a frog and a toad? | N |
| b | Do I look like I was born yesterday? | R |
| c | What's not to like? | R |
| d | Are there parent-teacher interviews tomorrow? | N |
| e | Did you put my favourite jumper in the wash? | N |
| f | Who doesn't like chocolate? | R |
| g | How could you do this to me? | R |

DAY 3

MY FAVOURITE PLACE IN THE WORLD

Have you ever been in complete awe of a place? Well, that's the feeling I get when I go to the Warburton Redwood Forest. It's my favourite place in the world! The first thing you notice is the sound of birds flitting through the trees. In the distance, you can hear the trickle of the river over rocks and logs. When you enter the forest you immediately feel calm. The redwood trees tower over you, filtering the sunlight through their canopy of green. The trees are evenly spaced in every direction, so it feels as if there are endless paths to explore. The leaves and twigs crunch under your feet and the smell of damp earth fills your nostrils. It's the best place to be.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

A: I can't believe you went to the Warburton Redwood Forest without me! Did you really think that I wouldn't find out?

B: I didn't mean to hurt your feelings, I swear. It's just that I really enjoy going there by myself. Just to go and think. Who doesn't need some alone time?

A: I guess that makes sense. But why didn't you just tell me that to begin with?

B: Because I didn't want to hurt your feelings. Haven't you ever hidden something so that you didn't hurt someone's feelings?

A: You make some valid points, I suppose. What's the point in me being angry?

B: You should go and enjoy the forest by yourself some time. It's so relaxing! Why not have some relaxing downtime and unwind?

DAY 5

1

THE NICEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME

Do you remember the nicest thing someone has done for you? I certainly do! It was when my best friend Hayat cheered me up by organising a class party for me at school. I was sad because Wentworth my cat had died the week before. Hayat asked our classmates to help by decorating our classroom with streamers and balloons, and she even made cupcakes for everyone. She's the nicest friend ever! Our teacher, Mr Anderson, also ran some games for us, such as 'Wink Murder' and 'Nemo'. It was so much fun. Everyone had such a great time together that it took my mind off Wentworth. Even though I still miss him, it always makes me feel better when I think about how my friends helped to cheer me up.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Helga, the best thing that has ever happened to me was when you and I did that dance routine to Shakira's 'La Tortura' in front of the whole school. It was so amazing to be able to showcase my Latin roots and dance like my family in Colombia does. Everyone went crazy over our performance! I mean, how could they not? We tore up that stage. I could see our classmates (and even some of the teachers) grooving along. Of course, who wouldn't want to dance along to that song?

WEEK 37 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

MY SEARCH FOR THE TASMANIAN TIGER

The Tasmanian tiger is considered extinct. But some believe there are still tigers hiding out in the bush. I ~~will~~ ^{spent} ~~spend~~ a week in the Tasmanian wilderness, hunting for this elusive creature. I kept a journal of my experiences.

Day 1: I ~~will follow~~ ^{followed} a set of animal prints leading to a river, where I waited all day, watching. But no luck ~~spotted~~ ^{spotting} a tiger.

Day 4: Stumbling across a rabbit's carcass, I saw teeth marks in its neck that resembled those of a tiger.

That night, a pair of gleaming green eyes in the darkness ~~startling~~ ^{startled} me. I ~~will grab~~ ^{grabbed} my camera, but the creature disappeared before I could take the shot.

Day 7: The tracks have disappeared. The bush is silent. It's time to go home. Perhaps the Tasmanian tiger is still out there. But, if so, it clearly doesn't ~~wishing~~ ^{wish} to be found.

DAY 2

① Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

I kept a journal of my experiences.

I saw teeth marks in its neck that resembled those of a tiger.

② Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

I went to the bush and looked for that elusive animal for days and days, but I was left disappointed when I couldn't find a trace of it.

③ Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

After days of searching I finally saw it. The elusive Tasmanian tiger! It was magnificent. I may be the first person to have seen this creature in decades. It's a shame I didn't get a picture.

DAY 3

HOW TO SURVIVE IN THE BUSH

The Australian bush can be a dangerous place to get lost. But the following tips will help you survive until help arrives.

1 Stay warm. You should stuff your clothing with ~~leafs~~ ^{leaves} to trap heat around your body.

2 Find water. Look for a lake or river and collect water from there. You can ~~steralise~~ ^{sterilise} it by leaving it out in the sun.

3 Create a shelter. It's important to be protected from both heat and rain. The easiest type of shelter to construct is with a ~~collection~~ ^{collection} of leaves and branches.

4 Stay put. You have a much ~~greater~~ ^{greater} chance of being found by rescuers if you stay in one spot.

5 Stay calm. ~~Panicing~~ ^{Panicking} wastes energy and leads to bad decision-making.

DAY 4

- 1 a You can collect water from trees using plastic bags.
- b Although you are scared of snakes, you must remain calm.
- c You should remember to stay close to your friends.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Build a fire. Gather dry leaves, twigs and branches from your surroundings, then use dry sticks for kindling to light the tinder bundle.

DAY 5

1

MYSTERY SURROUNDS BUSH DISAPPEARANCE

Police are baffled by the sudden and mysterious ^{disappearance} ~~disappearance~~ of a Melbourne student while on a school excursion on Tuesday. Thirteen-year-old Evie Ferguson ^{was} ~~is~~ on a day trip to Hanging Rock in north-western Victoria when she vanished.

The group of students was following a well-marked trail and ^{weather} ~~weather~~ conditions were good. Near the top of the rock, the path narrows so that hikers must ^{travel} ~~travel~~ in single file. Evie was at the head of the group. Classmates recall seeing her turn a corner, but when they ^{followed} ~~will follow~~ just seconds later, she was gone. Rescuers ^{found} ~~find~~ no trace of the schoolgirl.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

What happened?	<u>a girl went missing</u>
Who did it happen to?	<u>Evie Ferguson, a thirteen-year old girl</u>
When did it happen?	<u>on a Tuesday</u>
Where did it happen?	<u>Hanging Rock in Victoria</u>
Why did it happen?	<u>unknown</u>

3 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Polly Simone was arrested by police at Sugar Cane Jewels last Friday, where a security guard caught her trying to leave the premises with a diamond ring worth \$12 000. She has been charged with theft.

WEEK 38 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

DETECTIVE RIVALRY

I've had enough of smarty-pants Rowena McKenzie my archenemy. She thinks she's such a good detective. But she's nothing compared to me. Everyone in town thinks Rowena is so clever just because she solved the mystery of Lucinda Mr Novinsky's missing cat. That's child's play, though. Is there anything more clichéd than a cat stuck up a tree? I'm thinking big league here.

The identity of the ghost of Moon Hollow is one of this town's greatest unsolved mysteries – unsolved until I came along, that is! I'm going to blow this case wide open proving to everyone that I'm the best detective around. Tomorrow morning I'll go down into the sea caves where the ghost is rumoured to have come from and start looking for clues. Let's see Rowena try and beat me this time!

DAY 2

① Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

I've had enough of smarty-pants Rowena McKenzie, my archenemy.

I'm thinking big league here.

Let's see Rowena try and beat me this time!

② Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

a POV: 2nd

Explanation: A letter with instructions usually addresses the recipient directly (e.g. 'You need to avoid salt and sugar').

b POV: 3rd

Explanation: As there are two people, third person can describe each person's situation equally.

c POV: 1st

Explanation: Diary entries explore an individual's personal reactions to events, making first person most suitable.

DAY 3

CHOICES

You stand in a dimly lit corner of a deserted car park. A shadow looms into view. You're filled with a sense of dread. You:

A walk toward's the figure

B find somewhere to hide

You choose A.

It's probably one of your friend's playing a trick, you think to yourself as you step forward bravely. As you approach the figure, you see that it's a tall woman with an intense gaze. She offers you a chocolate bar, in exchange for a favour. You:

A take the chocolate bar and agree to the favour

B decline and walk away

You choose A.

DAY 4

Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The woman explains the favour you must now complete. She tells you that you must come with her to the bank the next day and help her empty your parents' bank account. You go to the bank the following day, filled with dread. You:

A go along with the plan, even though you know it's wrong

B tell the bank teller the truth, even though you made a promise

You choose A.

The woman leaves the bank and you never see her again. Your parents learn that they have no more money, but you don't tell them why. You are filled with shame and guilt, and all because you wanted a chocolate bar.

DAY 5

1

AS SMALL AS ANTS

Piper and Cole suddenly began to shrink. One second they were normal teenager-sized human's, the next they were the size of ordinary field ants. The uncut grass of their front lawn was now a scary and dangerous jungle to them.

'What's happening?' yelled Piper, her face contorted in fear.

Cole was speechless. He couldn't believe that he and his sister had shrunk. There was absolutely no explanation for them shrinking. Which meant they had no idea how to unshrink themselves.

A bloodcurdling chirp sounded through the blades of grass. Piper and Cole turned around and saw a giant ant scuttling towards them, its mandible's ferociously gnawing at the air ...

2 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

You must follow these two rules. If you fail to do so, an alien invasion will ensue, and you will be the first casualty. First, you must remain at home at all times. Otherwise you will allow the aliens to see the human form, giving them a way to destroy us. Second, you must never speak. If you do, the aliens will hear using their advanced technology and try to copy the human voice in an attempt to trick us all.

If you do not follow these rules, you will be sacrificed to the aliens.

WEEK 39 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

BUY NOW: ALL BLACK

All Black by Australian artist Tahnee is a stellar ^{piece} ~~pieces~~ of art that all art collectors will be dying to get their hands on! Tahnee has already proven herself as a rising star in the Australian art community, but this new painting will cement her as ~~the~~ ^{generation} ~~generations~~ voice of a ^{viewer} ~~viewers~~. Eclipsing the highs of her previous works, *All Black* asks ~~viewer~~ ^{art} to think about what ~~art~~ ^{sings} really is. The entire canvas is black, allowing viewers to interpret the artist's intention in their own way. This piece of art ~~sing~~ ^{has} with purpose. No other artist ~~have~~ ^{painting} dared to do something so bold, and Tahnee pulls off the feat with grace. Her new ~~paintings~~ ^{paintings} is nothing short of remarkable.

DAY 2

1

Negative	Neutral	Positive
worried	calm	passionate
critical	serious	celebratory
disappointed	detached	enthusiastic

2 enthusiastic

3 **Answers may vary. A possible answer is:**

The purpose of the piece is to depict Tahnee and her latest work as excellent, and to encourage people to want to buy *All Black*. The enthusiastic tone helps this purpose because it focuses on the positives.

DAY 3

REVIEW: ALL BLACK

Australian artist Tahnee's latest artwork, *All Black*, is an utter joke. While no-one can deny the talent of this up-and-coming Australian painter – her portrayal of the Kimberley region of Western Australia in her first work is stellar – she has failed to hit the mark this time around. *All Black* is, as the title would suggest, nothing but a canvas covered in black paint. Where is the imagination? Where is the artist's personality? Perhaps she is trying to make some grand statement, but I don't see it, and that's a problem. Not only is this piece uninspired, it is also poorly executed. The harsh brushstrokes provide an uneven coat, suggesting the artist was rushing to complete it in time. All in all, Tahnee's piece is very disappointing.

DAY 4

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The tone of the review is critical, suggesting that the writer's purpose is to highlight the negatives of the artwork.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Enthusiastic: Jeff Koons' *Balloon Dog* is fun and colourful! Taking the form of a balloon twisted in the shape of a dog, the piece was made using mirror-polished stainless steel and transparent colour coating. This means you can see your own distorted reflection in the dog. How cool is that?

Critical: Jeff Koons' *Balloon Dog* is unoriginal and boring. It is merely a copy of something everyone has already seen: a balloon twisted in the shape of a dog. There is no original thought or unexpected twist that makes this worth discussing any further.

DAY 5

1

AN ANALYSIS OF *ALL BLACK*

Tahnee's *All Black* is a contemporary Australian artwork. It is a totally black painting that shuns the traditional for more abstract ideas. Unlike traditional artworks, which depict a particular scene, *All Black* seems to ask the viewer to do some thinking work. Perhaps the painting is a commentary on the trials faced by the Indigenous population in Australia, who may feel as though they are not seen as individuals in society. The thick and uneven brushstrokes could reflect the feelings of anger and fear that such people share, or they could represent the long and storied history of their ancestors. The exact meaning of this artwork is not immediately clear. And that seems to be the purpose of the artist: to make viewers decide the meaning for themselves.

2 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Tone: serious/impersonal

Purpose: to give an unbiased opinion of the artwork

3 Answers may vary. Possible answers include:

Tone: sentimental

Purpose: to show why this piece of art is important to me

Jeff Koons' *Balloon Dog* reminds me of my childhood. I loved playing with the balloons that clowns had magically twisted into the shapes of dogs and other animals. Koons has turned this memory into a large-scale sculpture that I can admire whenever I need inspiration. It's like he has frozen a moment in time. It really is a groundbreaking piece of art. It makes me think back to a time when everything was possible and gives hope for the future.

WEEK 40 ANSWER SHEET

DAY 1

HIDING A SECRET

'Parminder, you won't believe it!' Willow screamed. 'I got us two tickets to see Lola perform live!'

Parminder set down her milkshake and stared at her best friend in shock. She dropped to her chair as the shopping centre around her began to blur. 'What? ... But how?' Parminder stuttered.

'I entered the concert lottery and won! Why aren't you jumping up and down more? You love Lola as much as I do. She's all we ever talk about!'

Afraid she would reveal her closely guarded secret, Parminder mustered all her strength and began jumping around in feigned excitement. 'OMG! You're right. This is great! We're finally going to see Lola on stage. I can't wait ...'

DAY 2

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

The narrator's voice reveals that Parminder is worried about her secret being discovered. It tells readers about her inner feelings in contrast to the positive facade she shows her friend.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Where are they? It's like they just disappeared. They wouldn't have left me here and gone home, would they? ... Oh no, it's finally happened. I've been left all alone at the supermarket. My worst nightmare. What am I going to do? I have no idea how to get home. No-one knows where I am. What if I die here, all alone?

DAY 3

PARMINDER'S DILEMMA

Parminder took the long route home, a ~~million~~ ^{million} thoughts tumbling through her mind. *This is the ~~worse~~ ^{worst} thing that could have possibly happened. If she goes to the concert, Willow is going to find out my secret. And if she does, then ~~everything~~ ^{everything} will change. Forever. I won't be able to hang out with her anymore ... because she will never see me in the same way again. Plus, she won't be able to keep it a secret – not like I've been able to do all these years. If she tells someone at school, I'll have to move again! I can't let her go to that concert. I'll ~~steal~~ ^{steal} the tickets when she's not looking, or I'll ~~pretend~~ ^{pretend} I'm sick. I'll do whatever it takes to protect my secret!*

DAY 4

1 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

While the Day 1 text is narrated in a fairly objective third-person voice, most of this passage is in the first person, in Parminder's voice, directly expressing her thoughts and feelings. The purpose is to involve readers more closely in her feelings and thought processes.

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

How dare they forget me! Just because I'm the youngest and smallest, that's no excuse. Parents should never forget about their kids. If I ever get home, I'm going to call child protection services and tell them what a terrible job my parents are doing. I mean, who ever heard about supposedly loving parents leaving you alone in a strange, dangerous place? I'll never forgive them for this!

DAY 5

1

IT'S LOLA

Parminder sat at her desk and began typing.

To the best fans in the whole world,

Lola here. I wanted to write to you all ^{personally} ~~personally~~ to say sorry about cancelling my show this Saturday night. I was totally looking forward to playing for you all, but I've come down with a ^{terrible} ~~terrible~~ cold and can't sing.

That's a big fat lie: ^{scared} ~~scared~~ I'm just ^{scared} that my best friend, Willow, will discover that I've hidden my secret identity from her for so long.

Parminder shook her head, deleted the last sentence and continued typing.

I hope I can come back to your town in a few month^s to perform. We're going to party so hard!

Love and kisses,

Your fav, Lola ❤️

2 Answers may vary. A possible answer is:

Voice: happy Purpose: to show how quickly this character can change emotions

'There you are, Malcolm,' said Mum. 'We've been looking everywhere for you. Hurry up or else we'll be late for your swimming lesson.'

I can't believe it. They had actually looked everywhere for me. And eventually found me! I can't stop smiling. I won't have to spend the rest of my days alone in a supermarket. I get to stay with my family and go swimming and go home and be tucked into bed by my loving parents. How lucky am I!