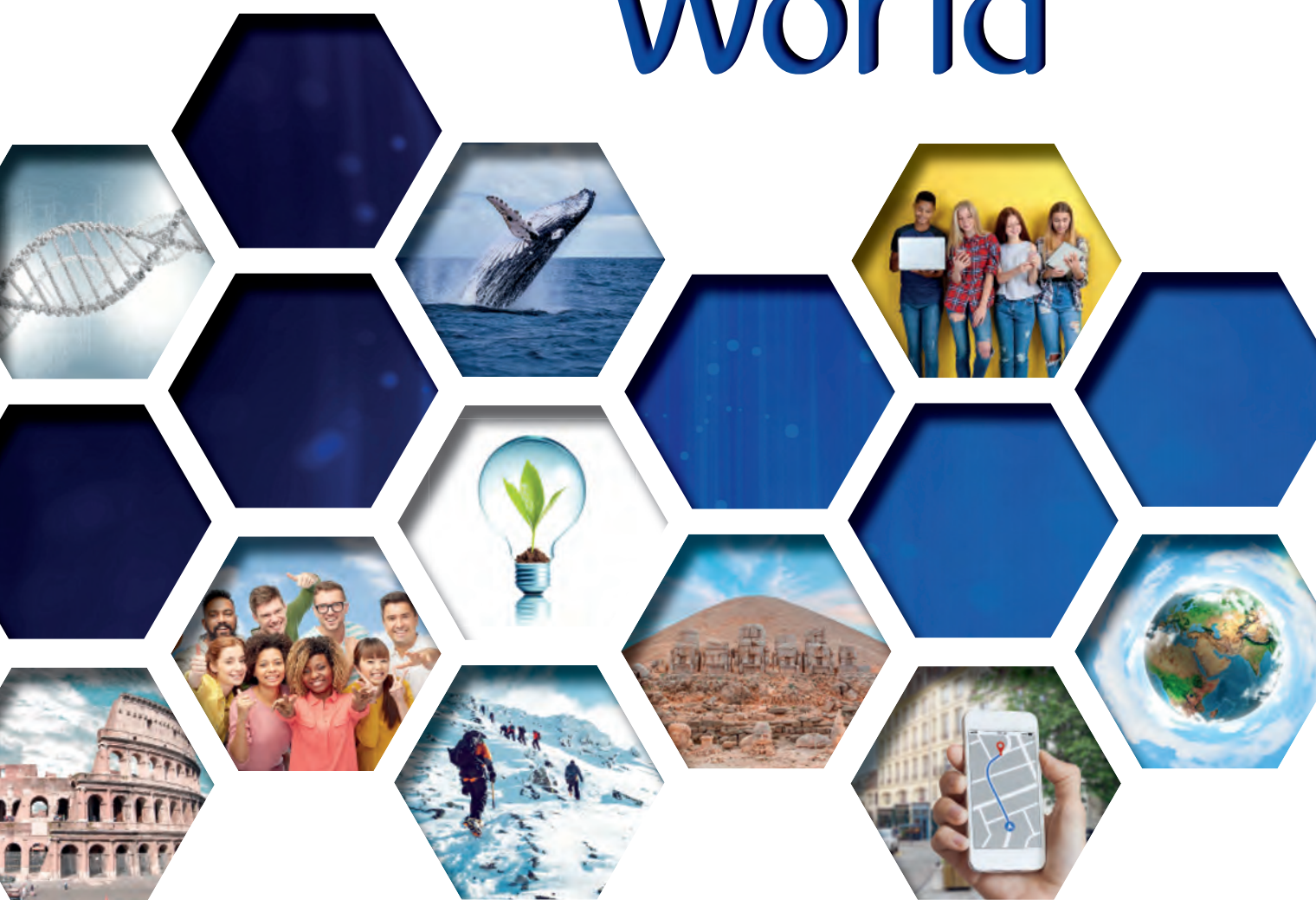


WINSTON  
ACADEMY

A2-B1

# Reading World



Interactive Readers



Audio Files

# CONTENTS

## READING PASSAGE

## PAGE

READING 1	A Life of Studying Fish.....	4
READING 2	A Social Celebration .....	8
READING 3	Do You Have Anything to Sell? .....	12
READING 4	Female Shamans .....	16
READING 5	Life in the Savannah .....	20
READING 6	The Impact of Cartoons .....	24
READING 7	Access to Education .....	28
READING 8	Controversial Technology .....	32
READING 9	Controlling the Mother Nature .....	36
READING 10	The Parasite Travels .....	40
READING 11	Let's Discover the Ladybird .....	44
READING 12	The Great Sphinx .....	48
READING 13	Estates .....	52
READING 14	A Chemistry Lesson .....	56
READING 15	Water Cycle .....	60
READING 16	The King of All Snakes .....	64
READING 17	Precious Eyes .....	68
READING 18	A Coastal Paradise .....	72
READING 19	The Dangerous Beauties of the Forest .....	76
READING 20	The Misery of Autumn for Plants .....	80
READING 21	What Is a Teepee? .....	84
READING 22	A Genius with Many Talents .....	88
READING 23	Fertile Crescent Or Is It Not? .....	92
READING 24	I Have Studied Horses All My Life .....	96
READING 25	Pure Genius .....	100
READING 26	Surviving in the Cold .....	104
READING 27	The Mighty Migration .....	108
READING 28	We Care About Looks .....	112
READING 29	Life in Ancient Greece .....	116
READING 30	The Obsession with Skin Colour .....	120
READING 31	Warner Bros. ....	124

READING 32	We Need More Food .....	128
READING 33	A Failure of Vaccination In The Modern World .....	132
READING 34	The Moon's Effect on the Ocean Tides .....	136
READING 35	We Know Why We Dream Now .....	140
READING 36	Ice on Celestial Bodies .....	144
READING 37	Plastic Harm .....	148
READING 38	Water in the Universe .....	152
READING 39	The Manes of King .....	156
READING 40	The Role of Women in Ancient Mesopotamia .....	160
READING 41	The Cycle of Nature .....	164
READING 42	From Cuneiform to Alphabets .....	168
READING 43	The Heat of the Sun .....	172
READING 44	Solar Energy .....	176
READING 45	We Should Care More .....	180
READING 46	An Unusual Discovery .....	184
READING 47	The Search for Happiness .....	188
READING 48	The Immune System .....	192
READING 49	The Girls of the World .....	196
READING 50	Andean Bears at a Zoo .....	200
READING 51	The Use of Tears .....	204
READING 52	The Amazing Spider Silk .....	208
READING 53	Our Age .....	212
READING 54	The Path to a Better Future .....	216
READING 55	Are We Happy? .....	220
READING 56	The New Rich China .....	224
READING 57	Finnish Legend .....	228
READING 58	We Believe What We See Online .....	232
READING 59	The Importance of Bees .....	236
READING 60	Stardust .....	240
ANSWER KEY	.....	245



## A LIFE OF STUDYING FISH

I am Edie and I am a fish expert and a scientist. I travel to other parts of the world for work. I take a team made up of students and other scientists I work with at the museum. More importantly I always collaborate with people who live there. Sometimes I work with local scientists, or people from government agencies. Often, I work with local students. They provide us with a lot of local knowledge and information. In return, we share knowledge of how we carry out scientific fieldwork. Fishing is a common language; everyone is an expert. Everywhere I go, I meet people who are natural ichthyologists. They know everything about the fish in their environment. Every village knows who these people are. After I'm there for a day or two, they hear about me, and show up. People have phenomenal knowledge. I love it! Nothing compares to waking up in a tent, in the middle of nowhere, three days from the nearest town, surrounded by nature. I walk through rice paddies and beaches. I get really muddy, and I'm always wet. I catch a lot of fish to study. Back in the Land Rover I need to come up with ways to keep my specimens alive. I don't want them to die because I want to be able to observe their behaviour back in the lab. I enjoy all the challenges, solving all the problems. It makes me feel brave! Before I go somewhere new, I do my homework. I read up on all the fish that have been recorded there. I look closely at pictures of them, so that when I get there, I know what to look for. As time goes by, I get more experienced in identifying fish. When I see something completely different, I can feel confident that it might be something that hasn't been described yet by any other scientist. I collect samples of that fish and bring them back to New York.

1

### READING COMPREHENSION

**A** Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Edie catches the fish to take back to his workplace so as to display them.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Edie works alone because his job requires a lot of courage.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ When Edie goes somewhere, he works with the people and students there.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ When people learn that Edie is in town, they start looking for him at the beach.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Edie finds it boring to be travelling to other places for work.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ He is surprised by the fact that people don't know about the fish in their environment.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Edie explores different parts of a region to find all the specimen he can find there.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Edie does a lot of research before he sets off to a new place for work.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ It is not always easy to keep the fish alive till they come to New York but he manages.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ On each trip Edie gets to stay in luxurious hotels and he loves it.





## B Answer the following questions.

- 1 What is the purpose of the pow-wow celebrations?  
.....
- 2 What are some of the Indian tribes mentioned in the passage?  
.....
- 3 What kind of activities are included in the pow-wow?  
.....
- 4 What is the significance of the circle in pow-wow?  
.....
- 5 What is the most important element of the celebrations?  
.....
- 6 Does the drum signify something important?  
.....
- 7 How do you think the Indians learn how to make a drum?  
.....
- 8 Are the dances different from each other?  
.....
- 9 Who decides the winner of the dances?  
.....
- 10 What is different about each dance?  
.....

## C Choose the correct option.

- 1 **People gather in a ---- to dance during the pow-wow celebrations.**  
A) circle  
B) rhythm
- 2 **The native Americans wear ---- costumes during the celebrations which other people cannot.**  
A) colourful  
B) similar
- 3 **The costumes the Native American people wear during the celebrations can vary according to which ---- they belong to.**  
A) activity  
B) tribe
- 4 **The Native Americans also show their ---- for their games during the celebrations as well as other activities.**  
A) dances  
B) skills
- 5 **The ---- is a big part of the celebrations because it has a special meaning to native people.**  
A) heartbeat  
B) drum
- 6 **Every dance has different ---- even though they may seem the same to some of the people there.**  
A) steps  
B) rhythms
- 7 **The ---- are the people who decide who has won the dance competitions.**  
A) chiefs  
B) judges
- 8 **Pow-wow drum making goes from fathers to children as a form of ----.**  
A) art  
B) rhythm



**A TARGET VOCABULARY**

capital	society	privilege	explore	intrigue
ritual	ceremony	interact	spirit	heal
predict	divination	special	lunar	last
perform	break	amuse	ancestor	situation

**B Fill in the blanks with a word from the target vocabulary list in A.**

- The award \_\_\_\_\_ will take place at noon at the Concert Hall of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw.
- Today, advanced computer systems allow authorities to \_\_\_\_\_ where flooding is likely to occur and how severe it will be.
- Viking \_\_\_\_\_ is very old. It may go back as far as 2,500 BC. They dominated parts of Europe in those days.
- Our parents are better able to control their negative emotions in stressful \_\_\_\_\_ because they are older.
- Chimpanzees not only eat what people give them, they also use tools to \_\_\_\_\_ open nuts, and some of them even use tools for hunting.
- The workplace is typically an environment in which people with different personalities, communication styles, and worldviews \_\_\_\_\_.
- Today, the Asante people still remember their ancient traditions. They hold \_\_\_\_\_ ceremonies called durbars to remember their past.
- The celebrations will \_\_\_\_\_ for several more hours. You can stay if you like but you can also go.
- Skin is the human body's largest organ and an organ is a group of tissues that work together to \_\_\_\_\_ functions in your body.
- While it is an amazing chance to \_\_\_\_\_ a new place, travel is not without its negative sides or surprises.

**C Circle the correct option.**

- Several NASA spacecraft, such as the **Lunar** / **Ritual** Reconnaissance Orbiter, have found evidence of water ice on Mars.
- It is difficult to **amuse** / **predict** what will happen in the future. The answer to your question is, therefore, "maybe".
- We will not have another **ceremony** / **break** till the lunch time, so if you want to eat something you should eat it now.
- Keeping a journal can help you fully **heal** / **explore** your emotions, and you learn more about yourself.
- As I practised healthy behaviours like meditation, exercising, eating well on the road of loving self-care, I began to **interact** / **heal** and see situations improving.
- I have bought a **special** / **lunar** gift for my friend but I am not sure she will like it. Can you tell me what you think?
- Stress isn't a bad thing as it has a lot of benefits that help us function on a daily basis. Stress also helped our **ancestors** / **rituals** survive, and it helps us live in our modern world.
- The opening **ceremony** / **break** of the sports event included 5,000 entertainers, the release of 2,000 pigeons, and a military gun salute.
- Many people have **divinations** / **spirits** about the future of countries or people's future but I don't believe them.
- I've discovered the importance of finding moments and experiences in everyday activities that lift my **ritual** / **spirit** and make me smile.





## LIFE IN THE SAVANNAH

There are many different types of animals that live in the savannah. The species found in savannahs vary by the geographic location of the biome. Animals which are native to African savannahs include African elephants, zebras, horses, and giraffes. Many animals in the savannah are herbivores, which means they eat plants, and there is plenty of grass in the savannah. During the rainy months, animals thrive in the savannah, but the rainy season is only half the year. During the dry season, surface water from the rain is quickly absorbed into the ground by thirsty soils. The competition for water during the dry season is so intense that most birds and many of the large mammals migrate elsewhere in search of water. Depending on the severity of the drought, the migration may be to a place nearby, or far away. The dry season is often associated with fires. Many insects with short life spans die in these fires, but the birds and larger animals are usually able to fly or run to safety. Although small burrowing animals probably can't outrun the flames, they often survive the fire by burying themselves deep into the ground and remaining there until the flames are gone. Some birds, such as the Fork-tailed Drongos, don't flee the fires; they actually fly to the fires. For these birds fire means dinner. They eat the fleeing or flame-roasted insects.



1

### READING COMPREHENSION

A

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ There are animals in the savannah that we may not see anywhere else.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Only a few animals graze, which means they eat grass to feed themselves.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ The favourite season for the animals is the dry season.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ The dry season includes seven months of the year.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Water from the rains cannot feed all the animals in the savannah in the dry season.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Animals migrate to see the rest of the world in the dry season.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ How far the animals will migrate depends on how bad the drought is.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ All insects die during the rainy season due to floods.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Some animals can escape the fires by staying under the soil.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ All birds fly to the fire to eat the insects running away from the fire.



**A TARGET VOCABULARY**

species	vary	location	biome	native
include	grass	thrive	surface	absorb
soil	competition	intense	migrate	flame
drought	associate	insect	span	burrow

**B Fill in the blanks with a word from the target vocabulary list in A.**

- In the winter when the ground is frozen, it is difficult for trees to \_\_\_\_\_ water, so they drop their leaves.
- The giant panda is \_\_\_\_\_ to China. That's why it has become the symbol of the country.
- Only women compete at the Olympic level in rhythmic gymnastics, while both genders compete in separate \_\_\_\_\_ in artistic gymnastics.
- Millions of children live on one meal a day, and many of them are forced to eat \_\_\_\_\_ seeds and roots in Ethiopia.
- My name is \_\_\_\_\_ with toothbrushes in this town because I always tell people to brush their teeth.
- Sweet lavender can survive better in colder temperatures than some other lavender \_\_\_\_\_.
- When we saw the huge \_\_\_\_\_ rising from the fire we were scared. We ran away immediately.
- Be careful when testing lipsticks, lip glosses, and mascara since bacteria \_\_\_\_\_ in moist conditions.
- A hurricane is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ tropical storm with powerful winds and heavy rain.
- Pandas are an endangered species. Population estimates \_\_\_\_\_ but there may be around 2000 left living in the wild.

**C Circle the correct option.**

- Marginal seas of the Arctic Ocean **thrive** / **include**: Barents Sea, Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, Kara Sea and Laptev Sea.
- The U.S. has witnessed increasing numbers of **intense** / **native** rainfall events. There have been many floods.
- Deserts can be good **drought** / **locations** to farm solar energy. They have a huge solar energy potential.
- In Somalia, a **drought** / **competition** has killed many animals which are the main source of income for millions of nomads.
- Most bats feed on **species** / **insects**, while others eat fruit, fish or even blood. They hunt at night.
- By telling stories and using space, you can really **vary** / **absorb** a lot of information very quickly.
- In far northern regions, such as Canada or Scandinavia, most species **migrate** / **thrive** south to escape winter.
- The **biome** / **drought** in Greece is not that different from Turkey. They are almost in the same region.
- It has been felt that organic manures are essential for keeping the **soil** / **competition** in good health.
- Easter Island had around 5,800 residents in 2012. Over 60% of these people are descendants of the **intense** / **native** Rapa Nui people.



**D Choose the correct option.**

- 1 **Parasitic bees lay eggs in the nests of other bee ----. Their larvae eat the pollen and honey intended for the host's larvae!**  
A) species                      B) competition  
C) soil                          D) surface  
E) biome
- 2 **Hamsters are very good diggers, they will create ---- in the soil that can be over half a metre deep, with various rooms for different purposes.**  
A) insects                      B) burrows  
C) surfaces                      D) species  
E) biomes
- 3 **Some 71 per cent of Earth's ---- is covered by saltwater oceans, and the continents themselves possess lakes, rivers, and, in some cases, seas.**  
A) species                      B) biome  
C) drought                      D) soil  
E) surface
- 4 **Millions of children are starving in Africa. Terrible ----, floods and poverty often cause a crisis in African countries and people don't have enough to eat.**  
A) surfaces                      B) competitions  
C) biomes                        D) soils  
E) droughts
- 5 **The Pea Crab is the smallest known crab species at just a few millimetres wide. The largest one is the Japanese Spider Crab, with a leg ---- of up to 4 metres.**  
A) surface                      B) burrow  
C) span                         D) biome  
E) soil
- 6 **Some famous volcanic eruptions of modern times ---- Mount Krakatoa in 1883, Novarupta in 1912, Mount St Helens in 1980 and Mt Pinatubo in 1991.**  
A) thrive                        B) migrate  
C) include                      D) burrow  
E) vary
- 7 **Parents sometimes make the difficult decision to ----, so their children can benefit from things like superior education and plentiful job opportunities.**  
A) burrow                        B) include  
C) thrive                         D) migrate  
E) absorb
- 8 **There are over 500 million domestic cats in the world. Cats and humans have been ---- for nearly 10,000 years.**  
A) associated                      B) absorbed  
C) migrated                      D) varied  
E) included







## CONTROLLING THE MOTHER NATURE

We humans have come a long way in gaining our independence from the whims of Mother Nature. We've learned how to build shelters and clothe ourselves. Through agriculture and irrigation, we can control our own food supply. We've built schools, hospitals, computers, automobiles, airplanes and space shuttles. So what's the big deal if a bunch of plants, animals and simple organisms die out? Here's the problem with the loss of biodiversity: The Earth functions like an incredibly complex machine, and there don't appear to be any unnecessary parts. Each species, from the lowliest microbe to humans, plays a part in keeping the planet running smoothly. In this sense, each part is related. If a lot of those parts suddenly vanish, then the machine that is Earth can't function properly. For example, the crops that we grow through our clever use of agriculture are enabled by the nitrogen present in the soil. This nitrogen nourishes and strengthens our crops. But where does it come from? Worms, bacteria and other life found within the soil love to decompose vegetation. When they eat, these organisms produce nitrogen as waste, which crops really love. This is also how nutrient-rich compost is made. If these bacteria species were killed off, then our crops would not grow properly.



## 1

### READING COMPREHENSION

## A

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Humans have managed to take the control from the Mother Nature completely.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Housing ourselves has been a part of our struggle against the Mother Nature.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Making clothes to protect ourselves from the Mother Nature is a part of housing ourselves.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Even though the Earth is like a machine, some species don't function.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ The microbes don't contribute less than the other species to the working mechanism of the world.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ If we take out even the smallest part of the biodiversity, the Earth will suffer.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ The nitrogen is only present in the soil.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ The nitrogen helps the crops grow and flourish.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Nitrogen is actually a waste product but it is really helpful for the growth of crops.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ The actions of bacteria and growing crops are highly related.



**D** Choose the correct option.

- 1 **Buddhism is the primary religion in Thailand and it is practised by about 95% of the population. Throughout Thailand are many Buddhist ---- and grand golden Buddhist statues.**
- A) temples                      B) creatures  
C) statues                      D) tombs  
E) pharaohs
- 2 **Osun was the god of magic and medicine. People believed he controlled all the plants and ---- of the rainforest.**
- A) promises                      B) creatures  
C) guards                      D) rulers  
E) pharaohs
- 3 **The identity of the killer of five women in the East End of London in 1888 has remained a ----, but the case has continued to horrify and fascinate people.**
- A) disrepair                      B) power  
C) mystery                      D) legend  
E) guard
- 4 **A tomb was found in Amphipolis, Greece. Inside the tomb, there were two tall marble statues that ---- the entrance. These statues are called caryatides.**
- A) promised                      B) guarded  
C) believed                      D) carved  
E) cleared
- 5 **The people of Rhodes were so happy that they didn't have to take orders from anybody, so they decided to build a giant ---- of their favourite god, Helios, to celebrate their continued freedom.**
- A) creature                      B) disrepair  
C) legend                      D) pharaoh  
E) statue
- 6 **Adult wolves have large feet. A fully grown wolf would have a ---- print nearly 13 centimetres long and 10 centimetres wide.**
- A) course                      B) paw  
C) temple                      D) passageway  
E) statue
- 7 **My very first anthropology class ---- it to me that this is what I wanted to do. I wanted to be an anthropologist.**
- A) guarded                      B) believed  
C) carved                      D) cleared  
E) promised
- 8 **A cave is a naturally occurring area or space under the surface of the Earth. Caves are often a system of interconnected ---- created by the weathering of rock.**
- A) courses                      B) mysteries  
C) disrepairs                      D) passageways  
E) statues







## SURVIVING IN THE COLD

There are four species of penguins that live in Antarctica: emperors, gentoos, chinstraps, and Adélies. All these penguins have special adaptations that keep them warm. However, emperor penguins might be the most extreme birds in the world. These amazing animals dive up to 500 metres below the surface of the ocean to catch their prey. They withstand crushing pressures and water temperatures as low as  $-1.8$  degrees Celsius. But their most incredible feat takes place not in the ocean, but on the sea ice above it. Emperor penguin chicks must hatch in spring so they can be ready to go to sea during the warmest time of the year. For this timing to work, emperors gather in large groups on sea ice to begin their breeding in April, lay their eggs in May, and then the males protect the eggs for four months throughout the harsh Antarctic winter. It's dark, windy and cold. Air temperatures regularly fall below  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and occasionally drop to  $-60^{\circ}\text{C}$  during blizzards. These temperatures could easily kill a human in minutes. But emperor penguins endure it, to give their chicks the best start in life. Emperor penguins have four layers of overlapping feathers that provide excellent protection from wind. They also have thick layers of fat that trap heat inside the body. Have you ever noticed that an emperor penguin's body looks too big for its head and feet? This is another adaptation that keeps them warm. The first place that you feel cold is your hands and feet, because these parts are furthest away from your main body and so they lose heat easily. This is the same for penguins, so they have evolved a small beak, small flippers, and small legs and feet, so that less heat can be lost from these areas.

1

### READING COMPREHENSION

**A** Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 ☐ All penguin species have different ways to protect themselves from the cold.
- 2 ☐ Emperor penguins have developed better adaptations than other penguin species.
- 3 ☐ Emperor penguin chicks can bear the cold by themselves.
- 4 ☐ It is the male's job to hatch the penguin eggs.
- 5 ☐ Both the females and males take care of the baby penguin.
- 6 ☐ The humans can bear the cold in Antarctic winter for a few days.
- 7 ☐ The size of their head and feet is especially developed to keep warm.
- 8 ☐ Every being feels cold in the hands and feet first.
- 9 ☐ Penguins feel cold from hands and feet first so they have evolved to have smaller ones.
- 10 ☐ The size of their flippers is also related to keeping warm.



**D Choose the correct option.**

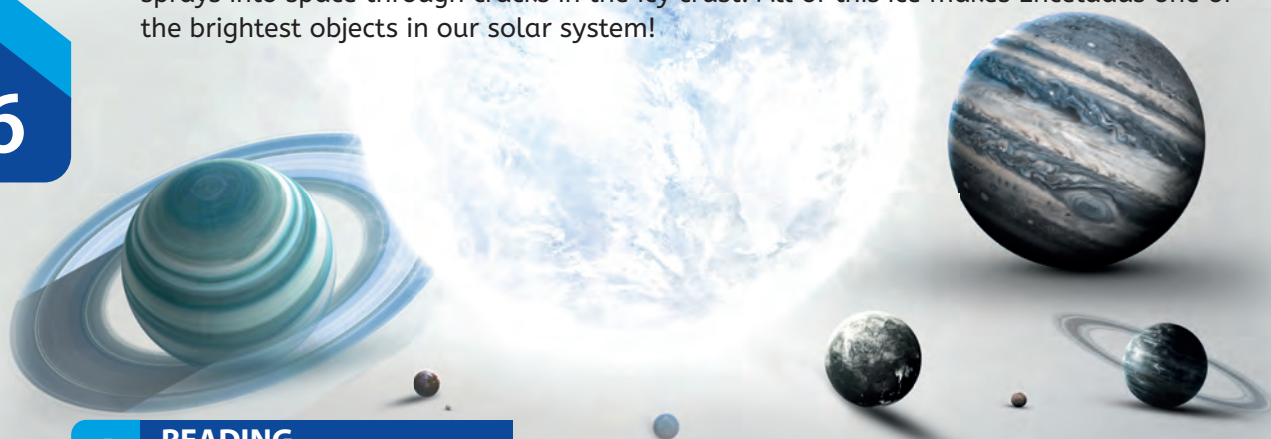
- 1 **Clocks have been with us since the dawn of ancient human civilizations. Since then, we have always ---- to improve them, make them more portable, reliable and easier to produce.**  
A) strived                                      B) achieved  
C) tanned                                      D) lightened  
E) indicated
- 2 **We can barter for the use of features that we can't afford for our home. For example, we might offer to clean someone's pool periodically, in exchange for the ---- of swimming there.**  
A) privilege                                      B) ideal  
C) trend    D) tone  
E) complexion
- 3 **Just as there are pros and cons of letting machines perform manual ---- jobs, there are good and bad points of keeping humans as manual labourers.**  
A) skin    B) attempt  
C) labour    D) majority  
E) outdoor
- 4 **If current ---- continue, obesity is estimated to increase for both males and females across every age span, resulting in one third of population being overweight by 2025.**  
A) obsessions                                      B) glorifications  
C) priveleges                                      D) destinations  
E) trends
- 5 **Donald has blamed the ---- of violence in video games and the Internet for the rise in the number of mass shootings.**  
A) personality                                      B) trade  
C) migration                                      D) glorification  
E) disorder
- 6 **Compared to refined grains, whole grains reduce blood sugar response and lower insulin levels. Some research ---- that whole grains may also improve overall insulin sensitivity.**  
A) refers    B) indicates  
C) tans    D) lightens  
E) achieves
- 7 **O'Connor was an Irish-born Chartist leader. The Chartists represented the first ---- to build a party representing the interests of the English working classes.**  
A) statue    B) majority  
C) climate    D) attempt  
E) labour
- 8 **The earliest documented references to the specific act of applauding to ---- approval can be traced back as far as the Roman Republic.**  
A) specialise                                      B) signify  
C) sail off    D) glorify  
E) supply





## ICE ON CELESTIAL BODIES

On Earth, you can find ice in many places; for example, the North and South poles. But Earth isn't the only icy world we know of. Ice can be found in many places in our solar system: on planets, moons, comets and even in the rings of giant planets like Saturn. Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. However, that doesn't mean it's too hot to have ice. In fact, Mercury has very deep craters that never see sunlight and are always cold. NASA's Messenger mission saw bright spots on Mercury's north and south poles. Scientists think the bright spots might actually be water ice that is deep inside craters. This ice may have come to Mercury from comets and meteorites hitting the planet's surface. Both poles on Mars have ice caps that grow and shrink with the seasons. These ice caps are made mainly of water ice. During winter near the poles, carbon dioxide in the atmosphere freezes and falls to the surface. In 2017, NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter took photos of the sand dunes around Mars' north pole. The slopes of these dunes were covered with carbon dioxide snow and ice; what we'd call dry ice here on Earth. Saturn has more than 60 moons, all mostly made of water ice. Saturn's moon Enceladus has a water-ice crust over a saltwater ocean. The ocean water on Enceladus sprays into space through cracks in the icy crust. All of this ice makes Enceladus one of the brightest objects in our solar system!



1

### READING COMPREHENSION

A

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ There are more than a few places where you can find ice on earth.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Our solar system is full of icy planets and their moons.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Mercury is full of ice despite being the closest planet to the sun.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Not receiving any sunlight can make it possible for a crater to have ice in it.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ NASA's Messenger mission has found ice on Mercury.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Comets and meteorites have hit the surface of the Mercury.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Comets and meteorites are able to bring ice on a planet when they hit its surface.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ The ice caps on Mars grow and melt when the seasons change.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter saw evidence of water ice on Mars.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ One of Saturn's moons stands out with the way it shines.



**D Choose the correct option.**

- 1 The fast growing, tall sweet lavender plant has leaves that are more green than most species and has flower stalks that can ---- 1 m in length.

A) reach                      B) contribute  
C) act                        D) generate  
E) drag

- 2 Low unemployment and birth rates and a highly developed welfare system ---- to modern Sweden having one of the highest standards of living in the world.

A) reache                    B) appear  
C) generate                D) contribute  
E) act

- 3 As our living and working structures become more energy efficient, they also make it easier to trap indoor air ---- which are absolutely dangerous for you.

A) productions            B) hazes  
C) drags                    D) dusts  
E) pollutants

- 4 When you hold on to your anger, you prevent yourself from feeling happy or positive, because your negative feelings ---- everything else.

A) appear                    B) drag  
C) act                        D) contribute  
E) block

- 5 The ---- of following the basic rules of good manners shows respect for other people and sends the message that you want the same respect in return.

A) drag                      B) output  
C) act                        D) haze  
E) dust

- 6 China is the largest producer of garlic, producing over 10 million tons in 2008 and accounting for over 75% of world ----.

A) dust                      B) output  
C) production            D) pollutant  
E) haze

- 7 When you keep replaying a mistake you made in your head over and over again or you can't stop thinking about something bad that happened, you'll ---- yourself down.

A) appear                    B) contribute  
C) drag                      D) generate  
E) reach

- 8 Newton moved to London in 1696 and took up a role as the Warden of the Royal Mint, overseeing the ---- of the Pound Sterling.

A) pollutant                B) production  
C) dust                      D) haze  
E) drag





## B Answer the following questions.

- 1 Why does the panda look all white?  
.....
- 2 What is albinism and what does an albino panda look like?  
.....
- 3 Can we say that the panda has enough melanin?  
.....
- 4 Which body parts of the panda are affected by albinism?  
.....
- 5 What does Li Sheng do?  
.....
- 6 Does the panda have any natural enemies?  
.....
- 7 What happened in 2017 that is relevant to this case?  
.....
- 8 Why did people feel forced to save the albino orangutan?  
.....
- 9 Where does the saved orangutan live now?  
.....
- 10 How many giant pandas can we see in the wild?  
.....



## C Choose the correct option.

- 1 **The unusual panda was first detected ---- the forest by a camera which becomes active when something moves.**  
A) trudging through  
B) walking along
- 2 **The detected bear could be mistaken for a ----. You may get that notion from the way it looks.**  
A) a rare albino panda  
B) polar bear
- 3 **Melanin is a genetic factor that ---- the colour of your skin and if you don't have enough you will have white hair.**  
A) releases  
B) determines
- 4 **Unlike what we may think and what normally happens, the panda seems to be ----.**  
A) in need of help  
B) in good health
- 5 **The albino panda may have problems with its ---- even though we don't know if it will be blind in the future.**  
A) vision  
B) predator
- 6 **There may be people trying to ---- the albino panda because what he has is not seen very often.**  
A) hunt  
B) see
- 7 **Even though people placed the orangutan in a protected place there may be some people who would ---- it as its case is rare.**  
A) target  
B) protect
- 8 **Scientists are currently ---- the albino panda to protect it from danger.**  
A) investigating  
B) looking for

**D** Choose the correct option.

1 We started paying farmers a little more as a promise that we will buy their products. The extra profit has helped some farmers send their children to school, build homes, and ---- in their farms.

- A) state
- B) stage
- C) reach
- D) force
- E) invest

2 Napoléon Bonaparte was a French military and political leader who rose to prominence during the French Revolution and led several successful ---- during the Revolutionary Wars.

- A) rates
- B) educations
- C) campaigns
- D) residence
- E) governments

3 Faraday had only a basic ----. He had only a minimal understanding of technical mathematical concepts but was still able to produce some of the most important scientific concepts in history.

- A) government
- B) equality
- C) education
- D) state
- E) charity

4 It's hard to avoid ---- for the sweets, especially after a difficult day. And when you're dealing with depression, sometimes food can serve as a form of self-medication.

- A) forcing
- B) investing
- C) stating
- D) reaching
- E) staging

5 The horrible ---- of my wounds horrified my mother and she ran to the doctor. She came back with him, and he looked at my open wounds and prescribed a cream for treatment.

- A) rate
- B) state
- C) gender
- D) effort
- E) health

6 This medication can be used to treat chronic pain resulting from conditions such as cancer, ---- HIV, and some neurological disorders. Its use doesn't lead to the development of addiction or tolerance.

- A) stage
- B) campaign
- C) state
- D) equality
- E) gender

7 Buddhism is a world religion. People who ---- Buddha's teachings are called Buddhists. There are over 500 million Buddhists in the world.

- A) follow
- B) reach
- C) force
- D) travel
- E) support

8 Racism takes many forms and can happen in many places. It includes ----, discrimination, or hatred directed at someone because of their colour, ethnicity, or national origin.

- A) equality
- B) force
- C) prejudice
- D) stage
- E) campaign





## OUR AGE

For centuries, historians and archaeologists have defined periods of human history. They have defined them by the technologies or materials that made the greatest impact on society. Examples include the Stone Age and the Bronze Age. It also includes the Iron Age. But what age are we in now? For some researchers, that question can be answered with one word. Plastics. This proposed age is a period resulting from massive human impact on the planet. This most recent geologic epoch is not yet official. But there have been many calls for its designation. A recent study argued that the Anthropocene (the current geological age) began during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century with the detonation of the first nuclear bombs. The last geologic epoch was the Holocene. It is thought to encompass both the Bronze and Iron Ages. But we do not yet have a tool or material to define our current age. Scientists point to a few specific changes that humans have wrought on the planet. These include nuclear fallout and the rapid spread of materials like aluminium, concrete, and silicon. These offer forensic proof of humanity's influence on Earth. Plastic has redefined our material culture and the artefacts we leave behind. It will be found in stratified layers in our trash deposits. There is no place on Earth that plastics are naturally made. The wide variety of synthetic polymers would not exist if it weren't for human action. About six billion tons of plastics have been made and spread around the planet. They have been spread from forests to oceans since the first plastic polymers were invented.



1

### READING COMPREHENSION

A

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Whatever item we use the most in one era may give that time period its name.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ There was a time in history when iron was the most prominent material on earth.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ There is an official name given to our age as well.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ The name that scientists propose for our age is suggested because we prefer plastic.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ There have been multiple attempts to give our age the name Plastic Age.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Some studies suggest that there is no material yet that we can name our age after.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ An age can be named after a material as well as a tool.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ In order to name the current geological age scientists have suggested a few different materials.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Nuclear fallout has had a lot of effect on our times as scientists suggest.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ Plastic is a naturally found and processed material.





**D Choose the correct option.**

- 1 **We grew up in ----. We didn't have good education opportunities, but we were smart, so we have good jobs.**  
A) poverty                      B) condition  
C) wage                         D) company  
E) foreign
- 2 **Harry ---- twenty people in his small factory. He is known for being a good boss.**  
A) soars                         B) argues  
C) follows                      D) encourages  
E) employs
- 3 **The charity organisation helped the orphans ---- poverty by giving them good education opportunities.**  
A) set up                        B) follow  
C) lift out of                    D) change  
E) employ
- 4 **Coca Cola ---- helped millions of poor children in Africa and will go on to do it in the future.**  
A) company                    B) foreign  
C) condition                   D) wage  
E) poverty
- 5 **In the ---- parts of China, people are still struggling with extreme poverty. They don't have good jobs to pay for food.**  
A) multinational              B) rural  
C) private                     D) wealthy  
E) foreign
- 6 **My fame ---- as a doctor because I could heal cancer patients, which is why I can't even find time to have a holiday.**  
A) followed                    B) employed  
C) encouraged                D) soared  
E) argued
- 7 **Rich people should pay more taxes, but they don't. They hide their money in ---- banks in other countries.**  
A) wealthy                     B) basic  
C) foreign                     D) rural  
E) traditional
- 8 **Indian people are very ----. They still do what their ancestors did hundreds of years ago.**  
A) international              B) rural  
C) multinational              D) traditional  
E) wealthy





## STARDUST

As strange as it sounds, rocks are made from stardust: dust blasted out and made from exploding stars. In fact, our corner of space has many rocks floating around in it. From really fine dust to pebbles, boulders and house-sized rocks that can burn up in the night sky to make meteors or “shooting stars”. The Moon and our local planets; Mars, Venus and Mercury, are just the largest rocks floating around our part of space. These are all made from space dust stuck together over billions of years. Planet Earth is a rock too, but so much has happened since it was formed from dust and small rocks that smashed and stuck together 4.543 billion years ago. As the space dust hit each other to make the Earth, it got super-hot and melted. The Earth was, at that time, a spinning ball of red-hot lava flying through space. In this melted lava planet, heavy bits of the Earth sank and the light frothy bits gathered on the surface. Have you ever looked closely at a glass of milky coffee at a cafe? The dark heavy coffee is at the bottom, whereas the light, frothy milk sits on the top. Well, our planet was a bit like that coffee billions of years ago. We don’t see the really heavy rocks these days because they sank deep in the planet very early on. The rocks we see on the surface are like the frothy milk! They were light and rose to the top. Then, as time moved on, the planet cooled and froze to become the solid earth we have now.

1

### READING COMPREHENSION

**A** Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F) according to the passage.



- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ It can be hard for us to believe what stars are made of.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ When stars explode they start making rocks like the way we know them.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Shooting stars are actually star dust that eventually become small pebbles.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Mars, Venus and Mercury are too far away from our planet, but we have other closer planets.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ These planets took billions of years to form and become what they are today.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Our planet falls into the same category as Mars with respect to the material it is made of.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ There was a time when the Earth couldn't sustain life because of its heat.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ When dust was melting on Earth, the planet was full of lava.
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ The planet got more and more heated as time went on.
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ The first sinking state of the Earth does resemble a cup of coffee with foamy milk on top.



# ANSWER KEY

## READING PASSAGE

## PAGE

READING 1	A Life of Studying Fish.....	246
READING 2	A Social Celebration .....	246
READING 3	Do You Have Anything to Sell? .....	247
READING 4	Female Shamans .....	247
READING 5	Life in the Savannah .....	248
READING 6	The Impact Of Cartoons .....	248
READING 7	Access to Education .....	249
READING 8	Controversial Technology .....	249
READING 9	Controlling the Mother Nature .....	250
READING 10	The Parasite Travels .....	250
READING 11	Let's Discover the Ladybird .....	251
READING 12	The Great Sphinx .....	251
READING 13	Estates .....	252
READING 14	A Chemistry Lesson .....	252
READING 15	Water Cycle .....	253
READING 16	The King of All Snakes .....	253
READING 17	Precious Eyes .....	254
READING 18	A Coastal Paradise .....	254
READING 19	The Dangerous Beauties of the Forest .....	255
READING 20	The Misery of Autumn for Plants .....	255
READING 21	What is a Teepee? .....	256
READING 22	A Genius with Many Talents .....	256
READING 23	Fertile Crescent or Is It Not? .....	257
READING 24	I Have Studied Horses All My Life .....	257
READING 25	Pure Genius .....	258
READING 26	Surviving in the Cold .....	258
READING 27	The Mighty Migration .....	259
READING 28	We Care About Looks .....	259
READING 29	Life in Ancient Greece .....	260
READING 30	The Obsession with Skin Colour .....	260
READING 31	Warner Bros. ....	261

READING 32	We Need More Food .....	261
READING 33	A Failure of Vaccination In The Modern World .....	262
READING 34	The Moon's Effect on the Ocean Tides .....	262
READING 35	We Know Why We Dream Now .....	263
READING 36	Ice on Celestial Bodies .....	263
READING 37	Plastic Harm .....	264
READING 38	Water in the Universe .....	264
READING 39	The Manes of King .....	265
READING 40	The Role of Women in Ancient Mesopotamia .....	265
READING 41	The Cycle of Nature .....	266
READING 42	From Cuneiform to Alphabets .....	266
READING 43	The Heat of the sun .....	267
READING 44	Solar Energy .....	267
READING 45	We Should Care More .....	268
READING 46	An Unusual Discovery .....	268
READING 47	The Search for Happiness .....	269
READING 48	The Immune System .....	269
READING 49	The Girls of the World .....	270
READING 50	Andean Bears at a Zoo .....	270
READING 51	The Use of Tears .....	271
READING 52	The Amazing Spider Silk .....	271
READING 53	Our Age .....	272
READING 54	The Path to a Better Future .....	272
READING 55	Are We Happy? .....	273
READING 56	The New Rich China .....	273
READING 57	Finnish Legend .....	274
READING 58	We Believe What We See Online .....	274
READING 59	The Importance of Bees .....	275
READING 60	Stardust .....	275