

READING

EB7

First name _____

Last name _____

School _____

Class _____

Date of birth ○○ ○○ ○○○○

Date of test ○○ 05 2019

Total score (maximum 38)



177587



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Practice questions

In this booklet, there are different types of question for you to answer in different ways. Here are some practice questions which show you the types of question you will see in the test. The instructions tell you what you need to do. Start by reading the text in the box below.

Each day, Aled and Bethan would hurry to the green shade of their favourite place at the end of the garden where there stood an ancient oak tree. It was home to chattering squirrels, nesting birds, hungry woodlice. Its branches were as thick as the body of a very stout person and easily held the children's weight as they climbed up. They had turned it into an entire playground, with a swing from the lowest limb, a platform balanced across two higher branches and a secret store made from a hole in the trunk in which they kept their notebooks. Today, Bethan took out the books, passed Aled a pencil, and they both began to write about their day.

- a Find and copy one word that shows the tree is very old.

Hint: You must look back in the text to find this.

- b Look at the text in the box below.

Underline one word that shows the children were eager to get to the tree.

Hint: Check how many words to underline.

Each day, Aled and Bethan would hurry to the green shade of their favourite place at the end of the garden where there stood an ancient oak tree.

Hint: If you make a mistake and want to change your answer, cross it out clearly and underline your new answer.

- c Which animals lived in the tree?

Tick three.

ants

birds

rats

snakes

squirrels

woodlice

Hint: Check how many you have to tick.

d Draw **three** lines to show what each part of the tree is used for.

lowest limb

platform

higher branches

swing

trunk

secret store

e Number these events from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they happened.
One has been done for you.

climb up the tree

run to the tree

find the notebooks

write about the day

Hint: You must look back in the text to find this.

f Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

	True	False
The tree is young.		
Creatures live in the tree.		
The tree is in a playground.		

STOP

Please wait until you are told to start work on page 4.

In this booklet, you have three texts to read and answer questions about. Read the first text carefully BEFORE you start answering the questions for that text. Then carefully read the next text BEFORE answering the questions and so on.

You should work through the booklet, referring to the text when you need to, until you finish page 15 or until you are asked to stop.

You have up to 60 minutes to do the test.

Manga today

The word *manga* was first used to describe a special style of drawing (in ink, not pencil) from Japan, and it has grown in popularity over the last 70 years.

Today, all over the world, *manga* means 'comic book story'. Because the books are released each week (rather than monthly like some of the coloured comics), they are usually drawn in black and white as this is much quicker to print; however, the characters will often be in colour on the book cover. When the stories are turned into animated films (known as *anime*) or video games, they are usually in colour because there is more time and more money available.

Recently, *manga* has taken the world by storm and now millions of adults and children are all following the exciting exploits of their favourite characters. *Manga* stories are hugely varied and are often published in series, covering a host of interests; in fact, you can find *manga* stories on just about anything!

Manga stories for young people

There are different kinds of *manga*.

Stories aimed at boys are called *shonen*; they often have a young, male hero who finds action and surprises in a real or a fantasy world. *Shoujo* stories are directed mostly at girls; these still have plenty of excitement but focus more on the characters' feelings. *Kodomomuke* stories are aimed at young children; they take place in imaginary worlds and teach the difference between right and wrong actions.

Who makes *manga*?

While most *manga* is drawn by Japanese artists, there are people everywhere who love creating it too. One of the interesting things about *manga* is that it uses stories from all over the world, traditional and new, but the drawing style remains the same.

Bringing *manga* characters to life

Characters are brought to life through their expressions. Like all comics, *manga* uses few words so the drawing must clearly show feelings for the reader.

Happy

The mouth is a small curve with ends pointing upwards



The eyebrows have a gentle curve a little way above the eyes

Angry

Eyebrows that cover part of the eye make a character look really cross



Eyebrows point down in the middle of the face

An open mouth shows the character is shouting

Shocked

Very high eyebrows make a character look surprised



Wide eyes with small irises and pupils make a person look shocked

A surprised mouth is rounded

Mischievous

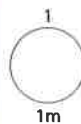
Looking to the side makes a character look sneaky



Curving the smile up on one side creates a disagreeable smirk

One eyebrow points down and covers part of the eye. The other is raised to show that someone is up to no good.

1 Find and copy one word that tells you where *manga* began.



2 Look at the paragraph beginning *Today, all over the world ...*

Find and copy the words that tell you why *manga* is usually drawn in black and white.



3 Recently, *manga* has taken the world by storm ...

This means that *manga* ...

- attracted some adults and children.
- became popular very quickly.
- caused a lot of arguments.
- was not liked at first.

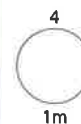
Tick one.



4 Look at the text in the box below.

Underline two phrases that tell you *manga* can be about lots of different topics.

Recently, *manga* has taken the world by storm and now millions of adults and children are all following the exciting exploits of their favourite characters. *Manga* stories are hugely varied and are often published in series, covering a host of interests; in fact, you can find *manga* stories on just about anything!



please turn over



- 5 Recently, *manga* has taken the world by storm and now millions of adults and children are all following the exciting exploits of their favourite characters.

What does the word *exploits* mean in this sentence?

Tick **one**.

- behaviours
- misfortunes
- emotions
- adventures

5
1m

- 6 Look at the section *Manga stories for young people*.

Which type of story tries to teach children how to be good?

Tick **one**.

- anime*
- kodomomuke*
- shonen*
- shoujo*

6
1m

- 7 Look at the text in the box below.

Underline one phrase that means worldwide.

While most *manga* is drawn by Japanese artists, there are people everywhere who love creating it too. One of the interesting things about *manga* is that it uses stories from all over the world, traditional and new, but the drawing style remains the same.

7
1m

- 8 Why are expressions so important in drawing *manga* stories?

Tick **one**.

- so that the reader can copy them easily
- because *manga* means big faces
- to help the reader to understand the character's emotions
- to show whether the character is a boy or a girl

8
1m

- 9 a) **Tick two** boxes in the table below to show the expressions that should have both eyebrows raised.

Happy	Angry	Shocked	Mischievous

- b) **Tick two** boxes in the table below to show the expressions when one or both sides of the mouth have an upward curve.

Happy	Angry	Shocked	Mischievous

9
2m

- 10 **Find and copy two** words that mean an **unpleasant smile**.

10
1m

- 11 Look at the whole text.

Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

	True	False
Most <i>manga</i> is drawn by Japanese artists.		
<i>Manga</i> tells traditional and new stories.		
<i>Manga</i> is just for children.		
<i>Manga</i> stories always take place in a fantasy world.		

11
1m

please turn over

TOTAL
8m

Ice sports

Ice skating

People have been skating on ice since the Viking age and long before. In Finland, archaeologists (scientists who study human history) have discovered animal bone ice skates that people first used about 5,000 years ago. The skates would have been strapped to footwear using pieces of leather. Animal bones had an oily surface that worked as a natural wax, helping skaters to glide across the ice.

Initially, ice skates weren't used for leisure. Ice skating is the earliest form of human-powered transport, used on frozen rivers, canals and lakes to move people and goods. Skates were a cheap and useful mode of transport during the winter months. It was much later, in the sixteenth century, that people started seeing skating as fun and perhaps even a sporting activity.

Skates are now used in three main types of sport:



Figure skating

In figure skating, skaters, either solo or in pairs, perform jumps, spins, lifts and often complicated footwork in a graceful manner. Originally, figure skating was performed in a very formal style using a strict set of movements. In more modern times, dance and music have been added to routines, making performances enjoyable to watch.



Speed skating

Although the first ice skates were useful for moving across ice, speed certainly wasn't one of their advantages. It was the invention of the iron blade in 1542 that made speed skating possible, and it has since become a popular sport.

In speed skating, competitors from all over the world race each other over long or short distances. Most races take place on an indoor oval course although there are exceptions. For example, in the Netherlands, they may be held outdoors in winter, on natural ice courses.



Ice hockey

In ice hockey, two teams made up of at least six players use curved sticks to shoot a hard, rubber puck into their opponents' net to score points. This fast-moving sport is believed to have evolved from simple stick and ball games played as far back as the 1700s.

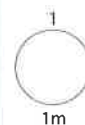
These days, strict rules ensure ice hockey players wear specially designed padding to protect their bodies, both from collisions with other players and from the power of the puck, which can travel at up to 100 miles per hour. But this wasn't always the case. When the game first started, the clothing they wore was more to protect them from the cold than anything else.



A puck is a black disc made from hard rubber, used in ice hockey.

1 Look at the section about ice skating.

Find and **copy one** word that tells you that the animal bone ice skates were found by archaeologists.



2 Why were animal bones good for making skates?

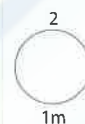
Tick **one**.

They were made from natural wax.

They had a surface that was oily.

They were made out of leather.

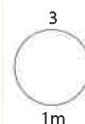
They were easy to find.



3 Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

The very first ice skates were ...

	True	False
a helpful form of transport.		
used to have fun.		
worn for sports activities.		
a way of crossing frozen lakes.		



4 In Viking times, who might have found ice skating useful?

Tick **two**.

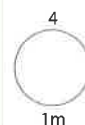
people who didn't have much money

people who loved sports

people who needed to travel in cold weather

people who preferred the winter

people who liked to stay at home



please turn over

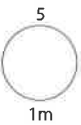
TOTAL



5 How has figure skating changed over time?

Tick **one**.

- Skaters are now allowed to skate faster.
- Skaters can now dance on the ice to music.
- Skaters now have to dance with a partner.
- Skaters now perform fewer routines.



6 Look at the text in the box below.

In figure skating, skaters, either solo or in pairs, perform jumps, spins, lifts and often complicated footwork in a graceful manner.

- a) **Underline one** word that tells you that the dance steps are difficult.
- b) **Underline one** word that tells you that figure skaters move in an elegant way.



7 Look at the section about ice hockey.

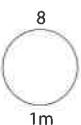
Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

	True	False
Ice hockey is played in pairs.		
Ice hockey developed from stick and ball games.		
A puck is now used instead of a ball.		
Ice hockey is now a game with safety and protection rules.		



8 Look at the paragraph beginning *In ice hockey ...*

Find and copy one word that shows that ice hockey has developed over time.



9 Look at the section about ice hockey.

Find and **copy one** word meaning the players on another team.

9
1m

10 Why have subheadings been used in the text?

Tick **one**.

- to make things sound more interesting
- to show the order of importance
- to help readers to find the main points
- to make the reader excited

10
1m

11 Draw **three** lines to match each type of ice skating to the skill needed.

figure skating

ice hockey

speed skating

racing skills

performance skills

shooting skills

11
1m

please turn over

Ruck in the muck by Ceri Wyn Jones

This is a poem about Ned and his brother Samson, who love playing rugby.

Beyond the old barbed wire, we found a field of play,
a field for games of rugby, behind our house all day.
The field is full of squelches, of reeds and weeds and wet
where thistles and sheep droppings, and cowpats are a threat.

Without its oil and engine, an old Land Rover sits,
just like the rusty tractor: all stones and bones and bits.
But, like my big, big brother, I know this field of fame
is our own national stadium, once we begin our game.

The sheep are our supporters, the crows are on their feet,
the blackbird brings his whistle, to ref the game: tweet-tweet!
My brother's always England, and I am always Wales.
And though we're real buddies, we battle hard as nails.

The fans are all bleating, the stadium is tense.
We start when my brother kicks off from the fence.
The oval ball rises as high as the tree,
then falls like an acorn, at speed towards me.

My head's spinning skywards, the reeds grab my toes,
before the ball bounces, and bombs on my nose.
I want to start crying, and run home to Mum.
But no, I, Ned, am braver, so fee-fi-fo-fum.

The Englishman grabs me, but from him I fly.
Yes, Wales really needs me. I must score a try.
The try line is calling, the wind's in my hair,
my heart's beating faster and I'm almost there.

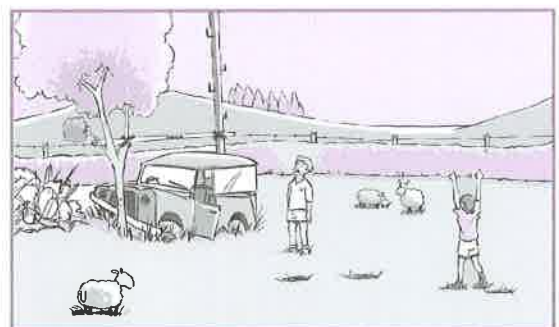
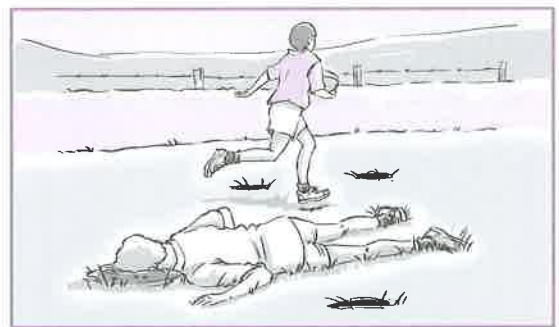
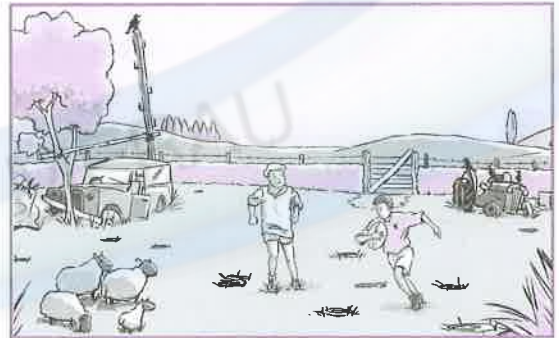
The only two things that can now stop me dead
are Samson behind me and cowpats ahead!
As Samson gets nearer, through squelches and slime,
I suddenly sidestep the cowpats in time.

But Samson the Tackler, he dives for my toes . . .
Too late! In a cowpat, he lands on his nose!
I've now crossed the try line (the edge of the hedge)
And scored in the corner – I must be a Ledge!

Just one last conversion, on this field of dreams,
will settle the battle, between our two teams.
The ball is placed neatly on top of the tee
(a medium-sized molehill): it's now up to me.

Above the Land Rover, between posts, it flies,
over the crossbar! And Samson . . . just cries!

A **ruck** is a movement in rugby. A ruck is formed when the ball is on the ground and the players from each team close around it.

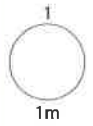


1 Look at the first and the second verses.

Tick **two** things that can be found in the field.

- a house
- some droppings
- some cows
- some thistles
- an engine

Tick **two**.



2 Look at the first verse.

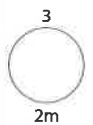
Find and **copy one** word that means the same as danger.



3 Who does Ned imagine is watching them play rugby?

- the sheep
- the crows
- the farmer
- the moles
- the blackbird
- the cows

Tick **three**.



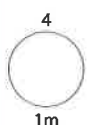
4 Look at the third verse.

And though we're real buddies, we battle hard as nails.

What does this tell us?

- The boys are real friends rather than pretend friends.
- The boys are friends and they don't want to fall out.
- The boys need to be careful of the hard nails so they don't get hurt.
- The boys are friends but they strongly challenge each other.

Tick **one**.



please turn over



5 Look at the fourth and fifth verses.

Why does Ned want to run home to his mum?

Tick **two**.

- because he has a headache from the noise
- because he is in pain
- because his brother lost the ball in the tree
- because the ball hit him
- because the acorns fell out of the tree

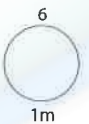


6 Look at the sixth verse.

Who is the *Englishman*?

Tick **one**.

- Mum
- The farmer
- Samson
- Ned



7 Put ticks to show which statements are **true** and which are **false**.

Why is Ned's heart *beating faster*?

	True	False
He is upset.		
He has fallen over.		
He is running quickly.		
He is disappointed.		
He is close to scoring.		



8 There are two things that make it more difficult for Ned to score.

What are they?

Tick **two**.

- the wind
- the cowpats
- his older brother
- the squelchy mud
- the try line



9 Look at the whole text.

Tick one box in each row.

Who ...

	Samson	Ned
gets hurt by the ball?		
gets covered in cowpat?		
tries to be brave?		
is playing for Wales?		
is the biggest?		

9
2m

10 Put these events in order by numbering them from 1 to 5.
One has been done for you.

Ned is hurt by the ball.

Ned tries to be brave.

The boys find a place to play.

Ned scores a try.

Samson falls in a cowpat.

10
1m

11 Look at the whole text.

Why is *Ruck in the muck* a good title for this text?

The boys can use rugby tactics when they play.

The boys need to know all the rules of rugby.

The boys live near a field.

The boys use rugby skills and get covered in dirt.

The boys play rugby in the field with cowpats, weeds and thistles.

Tick two.

11
1m

End of test. Please check your work.

TOTAL
9m

YSGOL CYMERAU

Acknowledgements

'Manga today' text author's own

'Ice sports' text author's own

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