In the story 'The Magic Pudding' written by Norman Lindsay, the characters Bill Barracle, Sam Samwell and Bunyip Bluegum are trying to track down their Magic Pudding (magic because it can go on being eaten forever) which has been stolen by some professional pudding snatchers. This extract starts when Bill is asking a very talkative Rooster they have just met if he has seen a possum and a wombat, the pudding snatchers. The Rooster thinks he has seen the possum...

"Which way did he go?" inquired Bill excitedly.

"Now, let me see," said the Rooster. "He went down the road, turned to the right, gave a jump and a howl, and set off in the direction of Watkin Wombat's Summer Residence."

"The very man we're after," shouted Bill, and bolted off down the road, followed by the others, without taking any notice of the Rooster's request to wait a minute and be introduced to the wife.

"His wife may be all right," said Bill as they ran, "but what I say is, blow mehin' old Rooster's wife when you haven't got a year to waste listenin' to a bloomin' old Rooster."

They followed the Rooster's directions with the utmost rapidity, and came to a large hollow tree with a door in the side and a notice-board nailed up which said, "Watkin Wombat, Esq., Summer Residence."

The door was locked, but it was clear that the puddin' thieves were inside, because they heard the Possum say presently, "You're eating too much, and here's me, most severely singed, not getting sufficient", and the Wombat was heard to say, "What you want is soap", but the Possum said angrily, "What I need is immense quantities of puddin'!"

The wanderers drew aside to hold a consultation.

"What's to be done?" said Bill. "It's no use knockin', because they'd look through the keyhole and refuse to come out, and, not bein' burglars, we can't bust the door in. It seems to me that there's nothin' for it but to give way to despair.

Never give way to despair while wheaters can be made from dry grass," said Bunyip Bluegum, and smacking the action to the word, he swiftly made a pair of fine moustaches out of dry grass and stuck them on with wattle gum. "Now, lend me your hat," he said to Bill, and taking the hat he turned up the brim, dented in the top, and put it on. "The bag is also required," he said to Sam, and taking that in his hand and turning his coat inside out, he stood before them completely disguised.

"You two," he said, "must remain hiding behind the tree. You will hear me knock, accost the nutter, and hold them in conversation. The moment you hear me exclaim boldly, 'Hey, Presto Pots and Pants, you will dart out and engage the villains at needlefights. The rest leave to me."

Waiting till the others were behind hiding behind the tree, Bunyip rapped smartly on the door which opened presently, and the Wombat put his head out cautiously.

"Have I the extreme pleasure of addressing Watkin Wombat, Esq.?” inquired Bunyip Bluegum, with a bow.

Of course, seeing a perfect stranger at the door, the Wombat had no suspicions, and said at once, "Such is the name of him you see before you."

"I have called to see you," said Bunyip, "on a matter of business. The commodity which I vend is Pooties' Patent Pudding Enlarger, samples of which I have in the bag. As a guarantee of good faith we are giving samples of our famous Enlarger away to all well-known puddin'-owners. The Enlarger, one of the wonders of modern science, has but to be poured over the puddin', with certain necessary incantations, and the puddin' will be instantly enlarged to double its normal size." He took some sugar from the bag and held it up. "I am now about to hand you some of this wonderful discovery. But," he added impressively, "the operation of enlarging the puddin' is a delicate one, and must be performed in the open air. Produce your puddin', and I will at once apply Pooties' Patent with marvellous effect."

"Of course it's understood that no charge is to be made," said the Possum, hurrying out.

No charge whatsoever," said Bunyip Bluegum.

So on this principle of always getting something for nothing, as the Wombat said, 'Puddin' was brought out and placed on the ground.

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE
"Now watch me closely," said Bunyip Bluegum. He sprinkled the Puddin' with sugar, made several passes with his hands, and pronounced these words—

*Who incantations utters.*
He generally mutters.

His greased claws and buns.
But I, you need not doubt it,
Preride away to shout it.

Hey, Presto Poti and Pars.*

Out sprang Bill and Sam and set about the Puddin'-thieves like a pair of windmills, giving them such a clip clip cloutting and a flip flap flouting, that what with being punched and pounded, and clipped and clapped, they had only enough breath left to give two strains of despair while scrambling back into Wombat Wombat's Summer Residence, and barring the door behind them. The three friends had Puddin' secured in no time, and shook hands all round, congratulating Bunyip Bluegum on the success of his plan.

"Your noble actin'," said Bill, "has saved our Puddin's life."

"Then Puddin'-thieves," said Sam, "was children in your hands."

"We hear you," sang out the Possum, and the Wombat added, "Oh, what decoy!"

"Enough of you two," shouted Bill. "If we catch you sneakin' after our Puddin' again, you'll catch such a beatin' you'll wish you was vegetarians. And now," said he, 'for a glorious reunion round the camp fire.'

And a glorious reunion they had, tucking into hot steak and kidney pudding and boiled jam roll, which, after the exertions of the day, went down, as Bill said, "Gland."

From *The Magic Pudding* by Norman Lindsay

1. This story was written by an Australian and is based in Australia. How do we know this?
   - A. In Australia, there are talking roosters.
   - B. The animals used in the story are native to Australia.
   - C. Bill is an Australian name.
   - D. They have magic puddings in Australia.
   - E. They love pudding in Australia.

2. Why were Bill and his friends so eager to get away from Rooster?
   - A. They didn't want to meet Rooster's wife.
   - B. They were hungry and wanted to eat the pudding.
   - C. They wanted to open Wombat's door before he locked it.
   - D. They had more important things to do than listen to Rooster.
   - E. They had to get going because they couldn't walk after Wombat and were worried he might get away.

3. Who were Bill and his friends after?
   - A. 1 and 2
   - B. 2 and 3
   - C. 2 and 4
   - D. 1 and 4
   - E. 1 and 5

4. Which of the following best describes Wombat's Summer Residence?
   - A. A small hollow tree
   - B. A large hollow tree with a window
   - C. A large hollow tree, with a door in the side
   - D. A hollow tree, in the side a door with a keyhole
   - E. A large hollow tree, in the side a door with a keyhole.
5. Who were the evangels? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. The professional puddin' snatchers
   B. Rostor and his wife
   C. Wombat and Possum
   D. Bill, Sam and Bunyip
   E. Puddin' and Possum

6. How did Bill feel on discovering the puddin' at Watkin Wombat's Summer Residence? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Concern
   B. Delight
   C. Relief
   D. Relaxed
   E. Excitement

7. What did Bunyip use wattle gum for? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. As a glue
   B. As whiskers
   C. As the pudding enlarger
   D. As a moustache
   E. To tie up the pudding thieves

8. Who, in this extract, do we know owns a hat? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Wombat
   B. Bill
   C. Bunyip
   D. Possum
   E. Rostor

9. Why was it so important that Bunyip was alone when he knocked on Wombat's door? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. He could concentrate without the others around.
   B. He wanted to shout 'Hoy, Presto Pots and Pans'.
   C. He wanted to try and sell Pootles' Patent Pudding Enlarger and keep the money he earned.
   D. He wanted to be the only one to chat to Wombat.
   E. If Wombat saw the other kids he would realise that Bunyip was wearing a disguise.

10. In which of the following sentences or phrases does Bunyip put Wombat most at ease? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Have I the extreme pleasure of addressing Watkin Wombat, Esq.?
    B. I have called to see you ...
    C. ... we are giving samples of our famous Enlarger away ...
    D. I am now about to hand you some of this wonderful discovery ...
    E. Now watch me closely.

11. Why did Bunyip choose to sell a pudding enlarger? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Bunyip wanted a bigger pudding.
    B. Bunyip heard Possum moaning he wasn't getting enough pudding.
    C. It was the only thing Bunyip could think of.
    D. Bunyip thought Wombat was greedy.
    E. Bunyip wished he could have a pudding enlarger.
12 Why did Bunyip need the bag? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A to carry the pudding in
B to assist Wombat with
C to look more professional
D to carry the pretend Pudding Enlarger
E to carry soap to give to Possum

13 How did Possum feel, listening in on the conversation happening at Wombat's door? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A hungry
B disappointed
C excited
D angry
E despairing

14 Why was it important the pudding was brought outside by Wombat? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A so the owners of the pudding could get hold of it easily
B so the owners could check the pudding was all right
C so the pudding could see what was happening
D so the Pooles' Patent Pudding Enlarger would work
E so the pudding thieves had somewhere to run to

15 How does Norman Lindsay make it clear that Wombat and Possum were truly taken off guard? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A He describes Bill and Sam 'like a pair of windmills'.
B He writes they were 'punched and pounded'.
C Bunyip, Bill and Sam get hold of the pudding.
D He makes no description of Wombat and Possum's counter-attack.
E He says they don't have much breath left after the attack.

16 Which one of these sentences is true? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A Bunyip didn't have sugar in the bag.
B Bunyip, Bill and Sam congratulated each other equally.
C Sam likened the Wombat and Possum to children.
D Bunyip, Bill and Sam thought they had had an easy day.
E Wombat and Possum were vegetarians.

17 At what time of day was the magic pudding reunited with its owners? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A dawn
B mid morning
C lunchtime
D afternoon
E early evening

18 What type of pudding was the Magic Puddin'? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A jam roll
B steam
C steak and kidney
D upside down
E sugar
Answer these questions about the meanings of words or phrases as they are used in the extract.

19. What is a ‘consultation’ (line 15)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. discussion
   B. support
   C. argument
   D. plan
   E. meeting

20. What is the closest meaning to ‘accoss’ (line 24)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. grab
   B. approach and speak to
   C. hold down
   D. whisper to
   E. jump on

   A. offer
   B. carry
   C. hold
   D. have
   E. offer for sale

22. Which of the options below is not a possible definition for ‘deceit’ (line 62)?
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. underhandedness
   B. cunning
   C. selfishness
   D. untruthfulness
   E. exaggeration

Answer the following questions about these words and phrases.

23. Which of the words in the opening sentence is a pronoun?
   “Which way did he go?” Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Which
   B. way
   C. did
   D. he
   E. go

24. What type of words are ‘modem’ (line 36) and ‘glorious’ (line 64)?
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. adverbs
   B. nouns
   C. prepositions
   D. adjectives
   E. verbs

25. Which of these words is a preposition? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. direction (line 9)
   B. bargains (line 17)
   C. in (line 23)
   D. immerses (line 14)
   E. science (line 36)
In this extract there are a number of spelling mistakes. In your answer booklet, mark the letter where the spelling mistake is underlined. If there isn't a spelling mistake, mark the letter X.

26. There was a sound of wheels outside, and, as Dick heard them, he grew desperate. A B C D X

27. A wish he had long since secretly cherished unspoken, without ever hoping for courage. A B C D X

28. to give it words, rose to his lips now; he got up and moved instantly towards his father. A B C D X

29. "Father," he said, "there's something I want to say to you so much before I go. A B C D X

30. "Do let me ask you now." A B C D X


32. "It's this, I want you to—to let me leave Grimstone's at the end of term." A B C D X

33. Paul stared at him, angry and incredulous. "Let you leave Dr Grimstone's? A B C D X

34. (oblige me by giving him his full title when you speak of him)" he said slowly. A B C D X

From Vice Versa by F. Anstey

In this extract mistakes have been made in the use of punctuation and capital letters. In your answer booklet, mark the letter where the mistake is underlined. If there isn't a mistake, mark the letter X.

34. This story from the Buddhist faith is about a King teaching his wise men a lesson... A B C D X

35. The fourth blind man felt the elephant's leg. "It is obvious that this elephant is like a tree." A B C D X

36. when the fifth blind man caught hold. A B C D X

37. of the elephants tail he was absolutely convinced that the elephant was like a rope. A B X

38. Many other blind men felt the elephant and each had his own idea as to what it was like. A B C D X

39. Soon quarrels broke out. Angry words were shouted. One man pushed another. A B C D X

40. The quarrel turned into fight as each blind man was sure he was right. A B C D X

41. The wise man looked on in amazement at the way the blind men were behaving, and some of them even began to laugh. A B C D X

42. "Why are you laughing?" inquired the King. "The way these blind men are behaving A B C D X

43. is no different to how you behave! A B C D X

PLEASE TURN OVER
In this extract, the letter below the best word or words needs to be chosen, so the extract makes sense and uses correct English. Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

43. The flower bed was not _a_ b) nearly c) almost d) quite e) barely.
A B C D E

44. It was bare of flowers because the perennial plants were never d) to be b) had been e) been c) to be d) cut down for their winter rest.
A B C D E

45. But there was there is their were there was there were tall shrubs and low ones which grew a) together b) at c) the back d) of e) the bed.
A B C D E

46. and as the robin hopped a) hopped b) hopping c) hopping d) hopping e) hopping about them she saw him.
A B C D E

47. He stopped on it to look for a worm. The earth had been turned up because a dog had been trying to dig up a mole and he had scratched quite a deep hole.
A B C D E

48. Mary looked at it, not really knowing knew now why the hole was there. a) A b) B c) C d) D e) E

49. and as she looking a) looking b) looked c) looking d) looking e) looking saw something almost buried in the newly- turned soil. It was something like a ring of rusty iron or brass.
A B C D E

50. It was more a) ring b) than c) it was d) an e) old
A B C D E
Read the extract carefully, then answer the questions in the answer booklet provided.

For a 1988 television programme, ‘Around the World in 80 Days,’ Michael Palin with a film crew attempted to retrace the route Phileas Fogg had taken 115 years earlier. The following are some extracts from Michael Palin’s diary.

Day 16
10 October

Woken from a five-hour sleep by the sound of a telephone at my bedside. Good news and bad news. The good news is that we have secured a dhow to take us to Bombay. The bad news is that it leaves at dawn tomorrow. No time for recovery before a six-day voyage on an open boat. On the other hand the sooner we move the better. I must not forget that Phileas Fogg, aboard the Mongolei, reached Bombay in eighteen days.

Walk out onto the quayside. My first sight of a dhow. Only nostalgic, crossword-loving Western romantics still call them dhows. To the locals they are ‘launches’ or ‘coastal vessels’. They are wooden, built to a traditional design resembling in shape a slice of melon, with a high stern on which sits the wheelhouse, a draught of 15 or 20 feet, and a length of about 60 feet. There seems to be no shortage of them in Dubai. There are twenty or thirty lined up in this inlet of the river they call The Creek. One is loading crates of ‘Tiger’s Head’ brand flashlights, made in China. Coast ‘full cream milk powder, boxes of Tide washing powder, ‘White Elephant’ dry battery cells.

Sanyo radios and a twin tub washing machine. Its destination is Berbera in Somaliland.

Every corner of the dhows is like a floating small business, and generally run by family and friends, though owned, as likely as not, by some shrewd import-exporter in a stretch Mercedes. They present quite a different dockside ambience from any I’ve experienced so far. Instead of cranes and gantries and hard hats and bulk loads and lorries, operating behind guard posts and fences, the dhows are serviced, right in the centre of town, by small pick-up trucks, trolleys and men’s backs. People bustle around, scrambling over the boats like ants, arranging, moving, heaving and hoisting the cargo. The reason for the great activity at the moment is that these are some of the first boats out after the long monsoon season from May to August, during which the dhows are laid up because of storms.

In the afternoon we are taken by Kamie, an agent for the port and customs department, to see the boat that will be our home for the next week. The M/V Al Shamaa (meaning ‘Candlelight’) is a trim, freshly-painted ship, and her Captain, Hassan Sulayman, bounds across the cockpit of date sacks to welcome us. He smiles broadly and constantly, especially when giving us bad news, so it is a moment before it sinks in that he is telling us he will not be leaving tomorrow, but the next day.

Wednesday, 12 October. Day 18.

All the time made up on the hectic scramble from Jeddaah is suddenly lost again, but there is nothing we can do. Clare disappears to have words with the owners. Nigel and the other Passepartouts (the film crew) to the other end of the quay to film. I’m left with the taxi drivers. One nods towards the Al Shamaa. ‘You go on that?’ He clearly can’t believe it. The other joins in. ‘These boats, no restaurant!’ He shakes his head vigorously, mistaking my smile for disbelief. ‘No clean, nowhere sleep!’ Now they both shake their heads, like witches. ‘It will be six, seven days, you know. Terrible. Embiez! Three days on a dhow, fifteen in hospital!’

Day 19
13 October

All is pretty quiet aboard the Al Shamaa this morning, the crew are curled up on various parts of the deck, sleeping off the night’s activity. Al Hamoum of course, is awake, already making chapattis and brewing tea. A small ratten mat of many colours is produced for us, and our breakfast of omelette, chapattis, jam and fresh oranges laid out on it.
As we’re eating the sea around us turns leaden and heavy. We’re passing through the thick, viscous sneer of an oil slick. It extends for several miles, and is so obscene it silences us all.

Oman being flat on his back against a sack of pastichio nuts, Mahomet has taken his role as our guardian. Mahomet, water-thin and with a crop of curly black hair, is the father of Anwar, the cabin boy, and brother of the captain. He speaks more Persion than most because he worked for a while as an international seaman. He produces a carefully kept notebook which lists the details of all his journeys away from home. The time he left, the time he returned, all neatly rounded up to a grand total of nine years, seven months and three days away. He will receive 330 rupees for this journey, about £50, but he’s much happier to be working for this company than for the P & O group. Here he’s with friends and family and through no one gets rich, everyone is in it together.

Day 24
18 October

An air of anti-climax hangs over the boat. The elation of the last few days has been replaced by impatience and new resignation. At one time on the Chow I wanted time to stand still; now that it is, I just feel frustrated.

Our speed has been cut to 4 knots, a pervasive odour of fish hangs over the boat, for most of yesterday’s catch is being dried for the return voyage. .. As I’m not eating I feel my energy reserves dwindling. Nowhere on the boat is comfortable anymore. The clear bright skies are gone and it’s cloudy, humid and very still. Even the weather seems to be waiting for something to happen.

Our seventh and last night on the Chow should be celebrated but, as the At Sherer turns in endless circles, wasting time, Passepartout (the ship’s crew) and I are subdued and quite soon get our heads down, taking refuge in the world of personal stereo whilst the ship sits round in groups, talking, for most of the night. There’s an end of term feeling about, and I feel that our mettle must be something of a disappointment to them.

Day 25
19 October

At about 10 o’clock we are opposite the port, but as the Chow cannot go alongside until customs and immigration have come aboard, the crew prepare to weigh anchor. This procedure, like raising the sail, involves all hands – old men and boys, side by side, releasing the anchor and lowering it into the murky water. Scavenging crewe board the ship, followed by three well-built customs men in dark glasses.

So the time comes to say goodbye to the people in whose hands we have entrusted our lives for the last week. It’s been a unique relationship, for I can’t imagine any other circumstances in which we would have become so close so quickly to people like this, and of course it’s hard to come to terms with the fact that it must end so peremptorily. But I clutch a batch of addresses and Kassim shows me and I climb down the rope ladder to waves and smiles and “Goodbye Mikets!” Then my launch speeds me to the quayside and I know I shall never see them again and I shall miss them.

From Around the World in 80 Days with Michael Palin by Michael Palin

1 Where was Michael Palin planning to go in a Chow?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A Sarawak
B China
C Barbados
D Dubai
E Bombay
2. How did Phileas Fogg spend the first 18 days of his expedition? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. on a train
   B. walking
   C. trekking through the jungle
   D. on a plane
   E. on a boat

3. What is a chow? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. a very large truck
   B. a ferry
   C. a cube loader
   D. a coastal vessel
   E. a type of car

   A. the inlet of the river
   B. the shape of a chow
   C. a picture on the boxes of washing powder
   D. the shape of the moon
   E. the men’s backs while servicing the chows

5. Which country is Michael Palin in on Day 16? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. India
   B. Dubai
   C. Somalia
   D. England
   E. China

6. Who usually worked on the chows?
   1. importers
   2. family
   3. exporters
   4. friends
   5. anyone
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. 1 and 3
   B. 3 and 4
   C. 5
   D. 1 and 2
   E. 2 and 4

7. Why did Michael Palin liken people to ants? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. They were busy and purposeful in the work they were doing.
   B. They were walking quickly.
   C. They were carrying eggs.
   D. They were putting some things underground.
   E. They started things on their backs.

8. What type of docksides is Michael Palin normally familiar with? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. those in the middle of nowhere with no boundaries
   B. ones with large areas of machinery and people in protective headgear
   C. docksides with many more small boats
   D. a quieter environment with large oil tankers
   E. those with small pickup trucks servicing the boats

9. How do monsoons affect chows? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. They get cleaned by the rain.
   B. They are unable to sail because of the storms.
   C. not at all
   D. Their planks get damp and buckle.
   E. Their cargoes get damaged by the rain.
10. What cargo is the Al Shamsa carrying? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. dates and raisins
   B. tea and oranges
   C. pistachio nuts and dates
   D. washing powder and milk powder
   E. radios and flashlights

11. Who is Kamir? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. a friend of the film crew
   B. an agent for the port and customs department
   C. a friend of the captain
   D. a relative of the captain
   E. an employee of the captain

12. Why did the bad news from Hassan Suleyman take a few moments to sink in? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Michael wasn’t concentrating on what he was being told.
   B. Michael was admiring the freshly painted Al Shamsa.
   C. Hassan didn’t speak clearly.
   D. Michael was worried Hassan was going to fall overboard.
   E. Hassan’s smile gave the impression nothing was wrong.

13. What day of the week is the 10th of October? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Monday
   B. Wednesday
   C. Friday
   D. Saturday
   E. Sunday

14. Why does the oil slick silence everyone on the dhow? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. because it is very smelly
   B. because they are all eating
   C. because they realise the effect it will have on the environment
   D. because it is hard for the dhow to sail through it
   E. because they all want a sleep

15. What word best describes how Michael Palin is feeling on Day 24? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. chilly
   B. excited
   C. disappointment
   D. comfortable
   E. elated

16. What best describes the weather for most of the journey? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. dry
   B. humid
   C. sunny
   D. rainy
   E. thunder

17. Why do you think the ship’s crew might be disappointed that Michael Palin and his film crew went to bed early on the seventh night? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. They knew it was the last night they could enjoy their company.
   B. They wanted to play a trick on them.
   C. They needed to clear the area where their beds were.
   D. They wanted to play loud music.
   E. They were going to have a party for them.
18. What suggests that Michael Palin made friends with the crew of the Al Sharmia? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Keelin helps him off the Al Sharmia.
   B. He waves goodbye to them.
   C. He decides he won’t ever see them again.
   D. He trusted his life to them.
   E. He has collected their addresses so he can keep in contact.

Answer these questions about the meanings of words or phrases as they are used in the extract.

19. What is the closest definition to the word ‘nostalgic’ (line 98)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. sentimental
   B. old
   C. Thoughtful
   D. tired
   E. imaginative

20. What did the taxi drivers mean by ‘Three days on a dhow, fifteen in hospital’? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. It would be an easy journey to make.
   B. The journey might make you very ill.
   C. Michael Palin might like to visit a hospital after being on the dhow.
   D. It would be safer to travel by taxi.
   E. The sea crossing would be more comfortable than spending time in hospital.

21. What does it mean when the sea is described as being ‘trending’ (line 44)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. calm
   B. dark and heavy looking
   C. choppy
   D. smelly
   E. rough

22. What is the closest meaning to ‘elation’ (line 56)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. dejection
   B. delight
   C. trauma
   D. relief
   E. broadness

Answer the following questions about these words and phrases.

23. The following are what type of words? humid small murky cracked
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. nouns
    B. verbs
    C. adverbs
    D. adjectives
    E. pronouns

24. Which of these words is an adverb? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. comfortable (line 61)
    B. sail (line 72)
    C. vigorously (line 88)
    D. chopati (line 43)
    E. activity (line 22)
Here he’s with friends and family and though no one gets rich, everyone is in it together.
Which of these words is a preposition? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
A  Here
B  though
C  everyone
D  in
E  together

In this extract there are a number of spelling mistakes. In your answer booklet, mark the letter
where the spelling mistake is underlined. If there isn’t a spelling mistake, mark the letter X.

Donald MacGregor didn’t believe in the dreaded monster, the Water Horse. The monster was
able to assume any form at will.

26  He had one daughter called Morag, whom he loved dearly. Each year
A  B  C  D  X
27  she used to accompany her father to their summer dwelling.
A  B  C  D  X
26  and all though the long, light days she would sit at the door of the sheiling
A  B  C  D  X
26  with her spinning-wheel.
A  B  C  D  X
29  Then, as approaching darkness deepened, the purple shadows in the heather,
A  B  C  D  X
30  she would go down to the lochside to call in the cattle. As she went barefooted over the hill,
A  B  C  D  X
31  she told herself that there was nothing to fear; for had not her father told her
A  B  C  D  X
30  that she should not be afraid?
A  B  C  D  X
32  And yet she shivered as the waters of the loch lapped against their grassy margins.
A  B  C  D  X
33  and peered distrustfully into the shadows cast by the rowan trees that grew there.
A  B  C  D  X

From Morag and the Water Horse by Barbara Ker Wilson

In this extract mistakes have been made in the use of punctuation and capital letters. In your
answer booklet, mark the letter where the mistake is underlined. If there isn’t a mistake, mark
the letter X.

The girl actually followed me up the path and stood behind me while I rang the bell.

34  She annoyed me I needed to be on my own for this. “Do you want
A  B  C  D  X
35  something?” I asked her. “My tea,” she said. “And it’s no good ringing the bell.
A  B  C  D  X
36  One’s out and the others in bed.” “Oh,” I felt completely defeated. She unlocked the door and
A  B  C  D  X
37  I turned away. “You can come in and wait, if you want,” she said.
A  B  C  D  X
So that was how I got into horsehoe Cottage.
| 38 | I gazed round it, wondering which room I'd been born in. It smelt of polish and flowers, and the A B C D X |
| 39 | It was dirty and dark with beams across the ceiling. The walls were covered with paintings of A B C D X |
| 40 | I quite like painting, but I'm not much good at it. I'm not much good at anything except diving A B C D X |
| 41 | I followed the girl into the kitchen, which was really old-fashioned and dark. Mum would have A B C D X |
| 42 | called it groovy, but it was cheered up by a blazing wood fire, even on that June day. |
| D | I'd never been in a house with a proper fire before, though in the lounge we got a gas one. A B C D X |
| 7 | that pretend to be cool. What's your name?" the girl asked me. A B C D X |

From *The Snake-Shell* by Berlie Doherty

In this extract, the letter below the best word or words needs to be chosen. So the extract makes sense and uses correct English. Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

**Alice in Wonderland:** from a distance, was watching two footmen.

**Then they both bowed bowing bow bow low, and their curls got entangled together.**

**Alice laughed so much at them that they thought she had to run back into the wood for fright.**

**Alice went timidly up to the door, and knocked.**

"There is no sort of use in knocking," said the Footman, "and that for two reasons."

"First, because I'm on the same side as to of like from the door as you are; secondly because they're making such a noise inside, no one everyone somebody could possibly hear you."

From *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll
"The Silver Sword" by Ian Serraillier describes the plight of Ruth (12), Edek (11) and Brona (9) who lived in Poland during the Second World War. These three children learnt what it really meant to survive after their father and mother were taken from them by the Nazis.

They made their new home in a cellar at the other end of the city. They had tunnelled their way into it. From the street it looked like a rabbit’s burrow in a mound of rubble, with part of a wall rising behind. On the far side there was a hole in the lower part of the wall, and this let in light and air as well as rain.

They quickly made their new home as comfortable as they could. Edek, who could climb like a monkey, scaled three storeys of a bombed building to fetch a mattress and some curtains. The mattress he gave to Ruth and Brona. The curtains made good sheets. On wet days they could be used over the hole in the wall to keep the rain out. With floorboards he made two beds, chairs, and a table. With bricks from the rubble he built a wall to divide the cellar into two rooms, one to live in and one to sleep in. He stole blankets from a Nazi supply dump, one for each of them.

Here they lived for the rest of that winter and the following spring.

Food was not easy to find. Ruth and Brona had Polish ration cards and were allowed to draw the small rations that the Nazis allowed. But, except when Edek found casual work, they had no money to buy food. Edek had no ration card. He had not dared to apply for one, as that would have meant breaking his age. Everyone over twelve had to register, and he would almost certainly have been carried off to Germany as a slave worker. Whenever possible they ate at the soup kitchens which Polish Welfare had set up. Sometimes they begged at a nearby convent. Sometimes they stole from the Nazis or scavenged from their garbage bins. They saw nothing wrong in stealing from their enemies, but they were careful never to steal from their own people ...

In the early summer they left the city and went to live in the woods outside. It was cold at night out in the open. They slept huddled together in their blankets under an oak tree which Edek had chosen for the shelter of its branches. There was not much rain that summer, though they had one or two downpours in May. After that Edek cut down some branches, lashed them together and made a lean-to. This was thick enough to keep out all but the heaviest rain.

Life was much healthier here than in the city. The sun browsed their limbs. There were plenty of other families to play with, some of them Jews who had escaped from the Warsaw ghetto. They could run about freely and hold their classes under the trees, without having to keep a look-out for police patrols. Ruth had started a school. Sometimes she had as many as twenty-five children there. She would have taken more, but they had no paper, very few books, and no books at all.

Occasionally they received a smuggled copy of a secret journal specially published for children by the Polish Underground press. It was called Biedronka, "The Ladybird", and was full of the kind of stories and pictures and jokes that children enjoy. The grubby finger marks showed that other families had seen it before them. When Ruth’s children had finished with it, there was nothing left but a few tattered strips.

Because of the kindness of the peasants, food was more plentiful. Though they were forbidden to store food or to sell it to anyone but the Nazis, they gave the children whatever they could spare. They hid it, too, in cellars, in haystacks, in holes in the ground. With the help of the older children they smuggled it to the towns and sold it to the Poles on the black market.

Edek was one of the chief smugglers. In return for his services, he was given all the food he needed for the family. One of his dodges was to go off to town with a plate of better stew into the lining of his coat. But he could only do this on cool days or at night. On hot days the butter melted. So he preferred to work at night if he could. In time the Germans became wary and posted patrols.
on all the main roads into the city. After that he cut across country, using paths and rough tracks. He was well aware of the penalties if he was caught. A younger child might get away with a beating. But boys as strong as he would be carried off to Germany, for the Nazis were getting short of labour at home.

Another of Edek’s dodges was the cartload of logs which he drove into the suburbs. Some of the logs were split, their centres scraped out and packed with butter and eggs, then glued together again. Once he drove his cartload into a police patrol which was searching everything on the road. They emptied the logs on to the pavement. Edek didn’t stay to see if the glue would stand up to that treatment. He dived into the crowd and made off. Police whistles were blowing and the chase had started, when some kind friend lifted him up and pitched him head first into a garbage cart. Here he lay hidden, under onions and dust and rotting vegetables.

After that, Edek did all his smuggling at night.

69 There came a morning, towards the end of August, when he failed to return. Ruth questioned other families in the forest, but no one had seen him. After some days of searching, she traced him to a village ten miles away. Edek had called at a house there while the Secret Police were searching for hidden stories. They had found cheese sewn into the lining of his coat. After setting fire to the house, they had taken him away in the van, with the house owner as well.

65 Ruth returned to the forest with a heavy heart, dreading to break the news to Bronia.

Edek had been their life-line. Food, clothes, money — they depended on him for all these. In the city he had made a home out of a ruin. In the woods no tree gave better shelter than the oak he had chosen. And after dark, when the wind blew cold and the damp oozed out of the ground, none knew better than he how to keep the fire in unextendable till dawn, so that the glow from the embers should warm them all night as they slept.

Now Ruth and Bronia must fend for themselves. It was an ordeal before which the bravest spirit might quail.

From The Silver Sword by Ian Serraillier

1 Who was Bronia? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A Edek’s older sister
   B Ruth and Edek’s mother
   C Edek’s friend
   D Edek’s younger sister
   E a German guard

2 In which country is this extract from the story set? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A Poland
   B Switzerland
   C Germany
   D Great Britain
   E Austria

3 Where did the children make their new home? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A in a pile of rubble
   B on the third floor of a building
   C in a cellar
   D in a friend’s house
   E on the first floor of a bombed-out building

4 Why did the children visit the Polish Council of Protection often? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A They wanted to track down their mother.
   B They could get a warm meal there.
   C They wanted to get more details about Germany.
   D They wanted up-to-date news on the war.
   E They enjoyed visiting their friends.

PLEASE TURN OVER
5. Where had the children's mother been taken? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. to earn some money
   B. to learn new skills
   C. to a ghetto
   D. to work on the land
   E. to hospital

6. Why weren't the curtains Edok found used as curtains? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. They didn't fit the windows.
   B. They were needed as sheets.
   C. There were already curtains at the windows.
   D. There weren't any windows.
   E. They were used to divide the area into two rooms.

7. Why didn't Edok have a ration card? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. He didn't want one as he enjoyed the food at the soup kitchens.
   B. He didn't want the authorities knowing his age.
   C. He lost his ration card in the rubble.
   D. He preferred to buy his own food.
   E. He wasn't ever hungry, so didn't need one.

8. Why do you think the children saw 'nothing wrong' in stealing from the Nazis? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. because they knew the Nazis didn't like Polish food
   B. because the Nazis shouldn't be so careless and leave food lying around
   C. because the Nazis were wasting the food
   D. because they had nicer food
   E. Because of the Nazis the children were in the terrible situation they were in.

9. Why did Edok choose the particular oak tree for them to sleep under? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. He liked the look of it.
   B. It had a good root system that made it look stable.
   C. Its branches provided good protection from the weather.
   D. It was hollow.
   E. It was close to other families.

10. Why do you think slates were useful to the children in Ruth's class? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. They were used to eat off.
   B. They were used to sit on.
   C. They kept out draughts.
   D. They were used to write on instead of paper.
   E. Ruth used them to keep records of the children.

11. Why did the Bednikas need to be a 'secret journal'? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. The magazine was printed underground.
   B. The Germans hadn't given their permission for it to be published.
   C. The magazine was printed in Poland.
   D. Children published the magazine and the adults wouldn't have liked it.
   E. Ruth knew it had been printed on stolen paper.
12. How did Ruth know that others had already read Biedronka? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. The story had been read before.
   B. Someone had coloured the pictures.
   C. It was a well-known book.
   D. The cover was closed.
   E. Someone had told her.

13. In which of the following places did the children hide food?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. 1 and 2
    B. 2 and 3
    C. 2 and 4
    D. 1 and 4
    E. 3 and 5

14. Why did Edek often choose to smuggle at night? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. So the butter wouldn’t melt.
    B. So the Germans wouldn’t recognise him.
    C. Because he overslept each morning.
    D. So he could carry more goods.
    E. So he could sleep during the day when Ruth was teaching.

15. How did Edek manage to avoid capture after the cartload of split logs was searched?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. He walked away quickly.
    B. He pretended he was one of the crowd.
    C. He hid in a garbage can.
    D. He met a friend.
    E. He hid until nighttime.

16. Which of these words would not describe how Edek would have felt when he was caught by the secret police? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Unlucky
    B. bad-tempered
    C. Stunned
    D. Scared
    E. Rehearsed

17. Which of these words best describes Ruth’s mood on tracking down Edek?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Frustrated
    B. Terrified
    C. Confident
    D. Thoughtful
    E. Courageous

18. What best describes the effect the experiences detailed in the extract have on Bedia?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. She is lonely.
    B. She has to act older than she really is.
    C. She enjoys camping out.
    D. She is always hungry.
    E. She doesn’t like being told what to do.
10 What is the closest meaning to ‘disclosing’ (line 20)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A announcing
   B revealing
   C uttering
   D registering
   E writing

20 What is meant by the ‘black market’ (line 43)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A a free market
   B an expensive market
   C a market that happens at night
   D an illegal market
   E a Polish market

21 What is the closest definition to the word ‘quail’ (line 73)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A to be challenged
   B to lock forward to
   C to prepare for
   D to run from
   E to show fear

22 What is meant by ‘a heavy heart’ (line 65)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A a very large heart
   B great sadness
   C joyfulness
   D a fat heart
   E a more deep

23 Which of the words in the following sentence is an adjective? ‘The curtains made good sheets.’
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A The
   B curtains
   C made
   D good
   E sheets

24 What class of words are these?
   themselves him they she
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A adjectives
   B common nouns
   C verbs
   D pronouns
   E adverbs

25 ‘Now Ruth and Bronia must tend for themselves.’ Which of the following words is a verb?
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A Now
   B and
   C Bronia
   D themselves
   E tend
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<thead>
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In this extract mistakes have been made in the use of punctuation and capital letters. In your answer booklet, mark the letter where the mistake is underlined. If there isn't a mistake, mark the letter X.
At right, still take a packet of ginger, one of chocolates and the shortcake and those chocolates and sweets."

He laid a pound note on the counter. Slowly the girl counted out the change. It was fish money, which Alex was not yet used to, but he scooped it up without checking and seeing the bag.

With their purchases marched to the door. Come on, you two....

From *The Growing Summer* by Noel Streatfield

In this extract, the letter below the best word or words needs to be chosen, so the extract makes sense and uses correct English. Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

Ben wouldn’t wouldn’t wouldn’t wouldn’t would’ve. wait for the end of the day when his mum and dad were where was would when collecting him from school.

It was his birthday and he had been promised to promise sold promised a new horse of his choose like choice wait prefer.

He had dreamt waiting dreaming wish hope about this moment.

His horse was going to be as if like his best a better as much like friend.

They were going to be considered complete careful calm constant companions.

But first he had to weight wait weight wish waited for his mum and dad to collect him!
Talking about a revolution

Sitting in my old, heavily-beamed cottage, it seems that the 21st century is a long way off, as I gaze over miles of green English countryside. But it’s due to a revolution that I have the freedom to live here, high in the Chiltern Hills – a revolution in information and electronics.

When the Queen ascended to the throne, the information explosion hadn’t even been predicted. Computers were the size of buses, and phoning abroad was a tricky business. Now I can e-mail anywhere in the world in an instant, if I want to check a fact, I go into a search engine on the internet. When a radio station wants an interview I re-route my ISDN telephone line – which usually brings the internet into my computer – to a mixer. To me, this is one of the greatest advances in science and technology that has taken place since 1952. And these have been countless others.

Fifty years ago, Britain was a very different place, one that our Victorian and even Georgian ancestors would have recognized. People lived little as they had in the past. In fact, a lot of people hanker after those “good old days”, but in many respects they are an illusion. Advances in medical science over the past 50 years have meant that we are living longer, and in many cases, more healthily. We’re learning to control disease. And we are getting a better understanding of how life itself works.

Part of the reason for our heightened concern for the environment of both our nation and our planet is because we can accurately monitor changes from space. From the vantage-point of satellites – many built in Britain – we can now see the devastation to the rain forests, or industrial pollution, as it happens. Satellites have brought many far-reaching changes into our daily lives. Instant communications, a choice of hundreds of television channels and more accurate weather forecasts are all the result of a host of satellites parceling the high frontier.

Space is, of course, another major breakthrough of the past 50 years. When England’s Astronomer Royal heard rumours that Russia had launched Sputnik in 1957, he dismissed them as “utter bilge”. What would he have thought, just 12 years later, when men were walking on the Moon? Today, we have sent spacecraft probes to every planet of our Solar System except distant Pluto; around 400 people have flown into space; and we’re on the dawn of space tourism, when anyone with the necessary money will be able to see the Blue Planet from orbit.

There will be places where we can never go, but that hasn’t stopped astronomers from performing some exquisite hands-off detective work. During my lifetime, which virtually coincides with the Queen’s reign, I have seen a breakthrough in our knowledge of the cosmos as dramatic as when Galileo first pointed a telescope to the heavens.

Thanks to cutting-edge technology, new windows on the Universe have opened up. Radio astronomy, as exemplified by the huge telescopes at Jodrell Bank and Cambridge, is one of the British-driven initiatives which look at the cosmos that light does not reveal. So too, does X-ray astronomy – also pioneered in Britain – which seeks out cosmic violations such as black holes and exploding stars. Over the past 50 years, British astronomers have helped build up a picture of the way our Universe works – and these discoveries are being used by physicists to build up a description of it and of what makes it tick.

Dr Heather Couper (Broadcaster and writer on astronomy and science)
Taste of the times

Although the war had ended nearly eight years before, times were still tough when the Queen was crowned. Rationing did not end until the following year, and I remember the horrified silence that greeted my brother dropping our whole family’s weekly egg ration (four eggs in a paper bag) onto a stone floor. My mother scooped them up.

Sweets were rationed too. Once, sorry for some prisoners of war digging a trench in the Edgware Road, I held out my bag of forfeits for them each to take one. The first one took the whole bag.

Never mind, said my mother, you'll get another bag next month, and they won’t.

If the diet was dull, it was healthier than it has ever been since, with plenty of potatoes, bread and vegetables and precious little protein. Our steady progress to fattest nation in Europe began with the end of rationing in 1954.

By the Seventies, supermarkets were selling local shops with bulk buys and TV dinners. Frozen veg was now more popular than canned. By the Eighties, we'd learnt that olive oil was not just for roasting garlic and we could buy ready-washed salad and chilled tamati. By the Nineties the supermarkets were selling fresh Indian curries, and by the end of the century the affluent customer didn't need to cook at all.

Preparing food had been getting easier if you had the money. Food mixers, pressure cookers, automatic coffee machines, and, above all, freezers made life simpler. By the boom-time Eighties the wealthy boasted designer kitchens, often with machines to make ice-cream, pasta, bread and cappuccino.

Prue Leith, OBE (chef, restaurateur and author)

1. In what year did the Queen celebrate her Golden Jubilee? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A 2000
   B 2002
   C 2052
   D 1952
   E 1992

2. Which of the following does not describe where the writer of the first article lives? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A in the countryside
   B in a beamed cottage
   C in a Victorian house
   D in the Chiltern Hills
   E in England

3. How quickly can an e-mail be sent? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A in a minute
   B in a second
   C in an hour
   D in a day
   E in a week

4. How does the writer of the first article check her facts? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A using e-mail
   B on the radio
   C in a book
   D on the telephone
   E using the Internet
5. Why do you think the fact that Dr Heather Couper can hold a radio interview from her home is such a great advantage to her? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. It saves her a great deal of time when she would be travelling to and from interviews.
   B. She can have a cup of tea while giving the interview.
   C. She can work at the same time as talking on the radio.
   D. It means she doesn't miss her favourite television programmes.
   E. If she is ill she can stay in bed and give the interview.

6. What was life like in Britain 50 years ago? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. much the same as now
   B. nothing like the Victorian times
   C. much the same as now but with better medical care
   D. very different from now
   E. much the same as now but with worse medical care

7. In which area of science have the most significant advances been made which enable us to live longer than we used to? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. medicine
   B. astronomy
   C. environmental
   D. electronics
   E. industrial

8. What has led the human race to be more aware of the environment now than 50 years ago? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. We enjoy activities outside more.
   B. We do projects on the environment in schools.
   C. Devastation in the rain forests worries us.
   D. Satellites enable us to see the damage being done to our planet.
   E. Satellites bring us hundreds of television channels.

9. According to the first article, which of the following are ways in which satellites have enhanced our daily lives?
   1. They provide more accurate weather forecasts.
   2. They provide more information about space.
   3. They enable us to receive many television channels.
   Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. 1 and 2
   B. 2. 3 and 4
   C. 1 and 4
   D. 1. 3 and 4
   E. 1. 2 and 4

10. In what year did men first walk on the moon? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. 1952
    B. 1957
    C. 1968
    D. 1969
    E. 1970

11. When does the writer believe we will be able to take holidays in space? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. in 12 years
    B. We already have, since 1957.
    C. anytime from now on
    D. in 50 years
    E. never
12. Which planet is the blue planet? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. Earth
   B. Pluto
   C. Mercury
   D. Mars
   E. Venus

13. Approximately how old is the writer of the first article? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. 45
   B. 50
   C. 55
   D. 60
   E. 65

14. How does the work at Jodrell Bank benefit us? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
   A. It helps us see exploding stars.
   B. It provides us with clear radio stations.
   C. It makes the money that enables us to travel into space.
   D. It gives us an insight into the Universe
   E. It provides money to finance investigations into the Universe.

15. Why was there a 'horrid silence' when Prue Leith's brother dropped some eggs?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Because he had made a mess.
    B. Because he was being naughty when he dropped them.
    C. Because they were very expensive.
    D. Because he had broken the only eggs the family would get for a week.
    E. Because he slipped and hurt himself.

16. Why does Prue Leith suggest that the diet was much healthier during rationing?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. A lot of protein was eaten.
    B. Sweets were rationed.
    C. It included a lot of vegetables and bread.
    D. Eggs were rationed.
    E. Both sweets and eggs were rationed.

17. How do you think local shopkeepers felt with the onset of the Seventies?
    Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Excited as they could now sell frozen vegetables.
    B. Worried they wouldn't have enough room for all the new products being sold.
    C. Happy as they were already stocking olive oil for earsache.
    D. Concerned as supermarkets began to take their trade.
    E. Pleased they could get rid of a lot of their canned vegetables as people were buying frozen ones instead.

18. Which of the following appliances had the greatest impact on the foods that were bought and eaten during the Seventies? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.
    A. Pressure cookers
    B. Freezers
    C. Ice-cream making machines
    D. Automatic cookers
    E. Food mixers

PLEASE TURN OVER