

Section A

Text 1

Study the poster below and answer Questions 1-3.

Want to Shine at ChildAid?

BIGGER, BETTER BRIGHTER

BE PART OF SINGAPORE'S BIGGEST CHILDREN'S CHARITY CONCERT. JUST LIKE THESE YOUNG TALENTS, YOU CAN SPREAD THE JOY OF GIVING AND HELP THE LESS FORTUNATE SIMPLY BY UNVEILING YOUR TALENT.

SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES TODAY

EMAIL A VIDEO OF YOUR PERFORMANCE WITH YOUR NAME, AGE, CONTACT AND A WRITE-UP ON WHY YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THIS CHARITY CONCERT TO: childaid@sph.com.sg

BEFORE 18 MAY 2012

Please ensure your file attachment does not exceed 15Mb.

ChildAid 2012
THE ELECTRIC EDITION
7 & 8 Dec 2012

Charlotte Cheng
ChildAid 2008

Lucas Neo & Shannen Tan
ChildAid 2010

Amni Mustfiraah Rashid
ChildAid 2008 & 2009

Selina Tang & Gabriel Lim
ChildAid 2008 & 2009

Zidann Zailizan
ChildAid 2008 & 2009

BENEFICIARIES

PROUDLY ORGANISED BY

OFFICIAL VENUE PARTNER

Money Fund
GOT HEART
STRAITS TIMES

The Business Times
Budding Artists Fund
Presented by SPH

STRAITS TIMES. THE BUSINESS TIMES
Publications of sph

MARINA BAY Sands
SINGAPORE
EVERY MOMENT REWARDED

www.straitstimes.com/childaid

Source: <http://www.jooja.com/portfolio/bigger-better-brighter-childaid-2012>

Refer to Text 1 on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1 – 3.

1 The poster has a tagline “Want to Shine at ChildAid?” Who do you think is the target audience of the poster?

[1]

2 What are the benefits of joining ChildAid?

[1]

3 The poster is informal and persuasive. It achieves this by using three of the following features. (Tick 3 boxes only.)

The pictures of children playing musical instruments or dancing or singing

The logo of ChildAid in the form of musical notes

The words ‘Bigger, Better, Brighter’

The logos of the organisers and beneficiaries

The use of the question “Want to Shine at ChildAid?”

[3]

Section B

Text 2

The text below is a real-life account of Jacques Cousteau's encounters with sharks. He was a famous underwater explorer who loved filming sea creatures. Read it carefully and answer Questions 4 – 14 in the Question Paper Booklet.

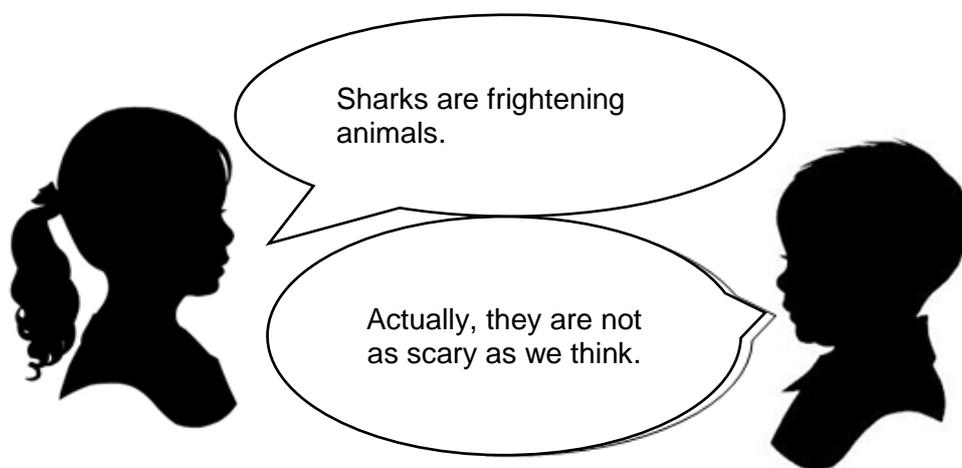
- 1 I have encountered many sharks, and despite the bad press they get, the ones I met did not find me enticing enough as a meal. My first experience with them was on a dive near Tunisia. They were awesome gunmetal creatures and swam in pairs behind their loyal servant fish. My stomach had turned upon the sight, and the first instinct was to take flight. My diving partner did something strange. She played dead. Frozen with terror, I thought we were going to be the main course of the day. Fortunately, the sharks passed by haughtily, and never bothered a second glance. Later, I found that they were lemon sharks, and would rather spend their time foraging the bottom of the reefs than be enticed by a human bait. 5
- 2 That sparked off my love for these marine marvels. I began religiously keeping a shark journal and kept records of hundreds of shark encounters, from the harmless hammerheads to the predatory varieties like the Great White. I can offer two conclusions: the better acquainted we become with sharks, the less we know them, and no one can really tell what a shark is going to do. 10
- 3 Once, I sailed *The Cousteau* in the open sea between the islands of Boavista and Maio. The site had been marked to warn off mariners of its dangers, but our ship was attracted to such challenging spots. We dropped anchor by the treacherous reef to dive into the wild, untamed waters. Where there is a reef, there is abundant marine life. 15
- 4 Small carpet sharks greeted us in large numbers when we went into the water. Deeper to the bottom, we met some extremely large swell sharks; a class that is supposed to be rather mild, sleeping in rocky caverns. Since the camera demanded some lively action, I swam into the caves and pulled at their tails to wake them. They shot past us, and vanished into the blue, playing their small parts competently. 20
- 5 I then caught sight of a lone nurse shark circling ominously not too far away. It was a magnificent specimen, and I could not resist taking a crack at it. I summoned my crew and conveyed through sign language that we were permitted to relax our neutrality, and use the super-harpoon gun we had on us. The weapon had a spear with an explosive head, and pretty impressive traction. The harpoon found its mark. It struck the shark squarely on the head, and within two seconds, the tip exploded. The force of the detonation threw us back against the rocks. 25 30
- 6 Incredulously, our quarry swam away, unperturbed by the spear which was sticking out from its head like a flagstaff. After a few strokes, the harpoon shaft fell to the bottom, and the shark moved on, apparently unharmed. How was it even alive?
- 7 The incident left me shaken. I almost paid the ultimate price for my folly, but I developed a newfound healthy respect for the shark; especially the ones not likely to attack Man. The nurse shark is not as vicious as the Great White shark, but its resilience was incredible. The only conclusion we could draw was that the harpoon went clean through the head and exploded externally, because no internal organ could have survived such a blast that nearly incapacitated us from the distance. It truly demonstrated the shark's extraordinary vitality. 35

Adapted from "The Living Sea" by Jacques Cousteau

Refer to Text 2 of the Insert for Questions 4-14.

4	(a)	What do you think is 'the bad press' (line 1) that sharks get?	[1]								
	(b)	According to the writer's encounter in paragraph 1, how was this proven wrong?	[1]								
5		In paragraph 1, the writer describes his reaction as well as that of his partner upon seeing the shark as 'My stomach had turned upon the sight and the first instinct was to take flight. My diving partner did something strange. She played dead.' Identify the phrases in the given sentences which suggest:									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reaction</th> <th>Matching Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Remained motionless</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Became frightened</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wanted to swim away immediately</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reaction	Matching Description	Remained motionless		Became frightened		Wanted to swim away immediately		[3]
Reaction	Matching Description										
Remained motionless											
Became frightened											
Wanted to swim away immediately											
6		What does the phrase ' religiously ' (line 10) suggest about the writer's attitude towards journal writing?	[1]								
7		The writer says that 'the better acquainted we become with sharks, the less we know them, and no can really tell what a shark is going to do.' (lines 13 -14). What does this tell you about the nature of sharks?	[1]								
8		Pick out 3 phrases in paragraph 3 that describe the conditions of the open sea between the islands of Boavista and Maio.	[3]								
9		What was the main purpose of their dive that day?	[1]								
10		What does the phrase 'magnificent' specimen' (line 26) suggest about writer's attitude when he saw the lone nurse shark?	[1]								

11	(a)	"We were permitted to relax our neutrality."(line 27) According to the writer, how have they behaved towards sharks in their previous encounter?	[1]
	(b)	Why do you think they behaved differently this time?	[1]
12		The writer says, " <i>Incredulously</i> , our quarry swam away, <i>unperturbed</i> " (line 32). Describe the contrasting reactions between the writer and the shark when the harpoon was fired.	[2]
	(i)	Writer:	
	(ii)	Shark:	
13		Pick out a sentence that shows that the explosion was a powerful one	



Student A

Student B

Which student do you agree with? Give four pieces of evidence from the text to support your opinion.

[3]

Section C

Text 3

The article below is by a writer who wrote about the discovery of the legendary Terracotta Army in China.

- 1 Proud and silently potent, the buried terracotta army of Qin Shih Huang emerges from their dusty resting ground. The local workers had dug near the ancient capital of Changan (Xi'an), and were slowly scraping dirt from the rows of clay heads sprouting like cabbages from the floor of the earthen pit. The dig, the first extensive excavation on the grounds of the Qin emperor's mammoth mausoleum, was one of China's most dramatic archeological discoveries. 5
- 2 The tomb of Qin Shih Huang lies somewhere spread over sprawling area, surrounded by his troops. It is speculated that it took 11 years and 7000 workers to complete it, and that it contained buried treasures that had accompanied the mighty yet paranoid ruler in his afterlife. It is believed that the architects of the tomb were sealed alive to ensure its secrecy. 10
- 3 The digs yielded more than 8000 elegantly-crafted soldiers and their horses. They are one of the most mysterious creations of the ancient world. These composed sentinels stood in parallel pits, each representing the different sections of the army – infantry, cavalry and officers. They were further supported with real weapons of war, from bronze lances, and arrows, to horse-drawn chariots, inlaid in gold and silver. The imposing manner of these figurines represent the full dominance of the Qin army. They stand tall and proud in full battle array; formidable and brutal, ready to quell the enemy. It takes little imagination to visualize their human counterparts in war. 15
20
- 4 However, the beauty of the soldiers lies in the faces which reflect a myriad of emotions and human qualities. Though the terracotta class were mass produced, and came from some kind of assembly line, they were transformed once the artisans took over. Under skilled hands, the master craftsmen had painstakingly given each soldier an identity. No two are alike. These life-sized figures are captured in several poses, including standing infantry and kneeling archers. Each figure's head is unique, showing a variety of facial features and expressions, and even hair styles are different. What is startling is how their eyes convey the reflections of their minds. They vividly depict life as if they could breathe on their own. The unearthed figures, with their elegant demeanour, represent Oriental sculpture at its peak. 25
30
- 5 It is remarkable that one is able to discern the generals from the ranks of soldiers and warriors by paying attention to the dress codes and facial expressions. A dignified and strongly-built leader of the troops has double-layered robes covered by battle regalia. He bears a solemn and thoughtful look. A foot-soldier clasping a weapon in his hand, appears frank and open, while another may stare angrily ahead with knitted brows; intent on destroying his foe. Experts believe that these facial expressions also hold the key to the origins of the soldier. They can tell apart the farmer from Shaanxi, the educated scholar from Sichuan, or even a shepherd from the northern regions. 35
40
- 6 When the terracotta soldiers were built, they donned the unbelievably bright colours. These have corroded due to the passing of time. The imposing army must have presented a magnificent scene prior to being buried in the trenches. The craftsmen had used a special technique of painting which brought out the natural shine and colour of human skin. Moreover, the greatest attention was paid to the eyes. The readily distinguishable black pupils in the yellowish brown irises reflect the fact that traditional Chinese sculpture and painting considered the eyes as the most important factor required to make a statue appear life-like. With that 'reality', the army would really have served their roles in protecting the ruler in the hereafter. 45
50

Adapted from National Geographic "Terracotta Warriors"

Refer to Text 3 for Questions 15 - 19

15 Match the paragraphs with the headings.
Write the correct letter **(A-F)**. The first one has been done for you. There is one other letter you will not need to use.

DO NOT USE ANY LETTER MORE THAN ONCE.	
Paragraph 1C.....
Paragraph 2
Paragraph 3
Paragraph 4
Paragraph 5
Paragraph 6
A	The expressions distinguish rank and background
B	The terracotta warriors represent a full army
C	The discovery of the terracotta army in the emperor's tomb
D	The terracotta warriors had a life of their own
E	The master craftsmen made each warrior different
F	The skill of the craftsmen were in the details of their of painting
G	The massive scale of the tomb
[5]	

16	Pick out two phrases from paragraphs 1 and 2 that would support the idea that the dig was an 'extensive' (line 4) one.	[2]
17	According to paragraph 3, what made the figurines represent the full dominance of the Qin army?	[2]

18	What features distinguishes the ordinary soldier from a high-ranking one? [1]	
19	<p>The terracotta army is one of China's most dramatic and impressive archaeological discoveries.</p> <p>Using your own words as far as possible, summarise the <u>characteristics</u> of the unearthed statues <u>that make them remarkable</u>.</p> <p>Use only the material from paragraphs 4-6.</p> <p>Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form.) It must not be longer than 80 words, not counting the words given to help you begin.</p> <p><i>The terracotta army found near to Emperor Qin's mausoleum is...</i></p>	