

Answer Key

Text 1

1. (Moderate)
They provide a QR code so donors can easily sign up. [1]
2. (Challenging)
It is to show how well-supported the event is (so as to encourage more donors)/ to increase the trustworthiness of the event/ to thank the sponsors for supporting the event [1]
3. (Simple) *Tick the following features* [1 mark for each]

the name of the event
the use of the phrase "Blood Donation, A Celebration"
the mascot holding the Singapore flag

Text 2

4. (Challenging) (Accept other sensible answers)
She could see the stars very clearly. [1]
5. (Moderate)
 - steep and rocky
 - braced themselves lest anything untoward happened
 - skidded and slid[3]
6. (Simple)
From text: "breathless" and "did not have the strength or energy"
Could not breathe properly [1]
Was tired/too weak [1]
[2]

7. (Moderate) (Accept other like-minded answers)

Phrase	Danger the author is implying
Going up would take longer	The slope and steep terrain might make them slip and fall while climbing
they might run out of daylight	They may take too long to climb up and end up in the desert at night

8. (Simple) (Tick the following)

“the sun beat down unmercifully”

“they had been walking forever”

“forge their own paths through cacti”

[1 for each tick]

9. (Moderate)

(Meaning of ‘frigid’) The desert is cold at night.

(Answer must show understanding of the opposite of ‘scorching’)

[1]

10. (Challenging) (Accept other like-minded answers)

(a) He wanted to get the driver’s attention.

[1]

(b) He was desperate

[1]

11. (Moderate) (Accept other sensible answers)

They did not die in the desert.

[2]

12. (Moderate) (*Key ideas: Accept other sensible answers)

Support for Student A	Support for Student B
they could have waited at the ranch	the terrain can get steep and unstable
Cathy’s husband was breathless	it can get really hot
Cathy’s husband had no strength or energy to climb back up	
Both had run out of water	trail markers are hard to spot
they should have researched better (trail markers) /	the nights are really cold
brought a map and compass (dead end; gotten nowhere) /	
packed for a night trek (frigid, shivering)	

Text 3

13. (Moderate) [1 mark for each]
 Paragraph 2: G
 Paragraph 3: F
 Paragraph 4: D
 Paragraph 5: B
 Paragraph 8: C
14. (Simple)
 The reef is under extreme threat as parts of it are severely damaged. [1]
15. (Challenging)
 Superficial/ignorant. (Accept other like-minded answers) [1]
16. (Simple)
 If the algae are overexposed to heat and light, they produce oxygen in toxic amounts [1] which may kill the corals [1]. [2]
17. (Moderate)
 The world's temperature was not as high then compared to today. [1]
18. (Challenging) [15] : 8 marks for Content + 7 marks for Language

No	P/C	Para	Points from the text	Suggested Paraphrasing
1	P	4	total coral coverage has halved	lost half the coral population
2	C	4	agricultural run-off degrading water quality	due to farming spillage polluting the water
3	C	4	plagues of crown-of-thorns starfish which thrive on run-off and feed on the corals	increasing coral-eating starfish population
4	C	5	global warming is the number one threat to the reef	global warming is its primary concern/danger
5	C	6	Mass coral bleaching has just hit the Barrier Reef for a second year in a row	large-scale coral bleaching has happened twice consecutively
6	C	6	Bleaching occurs when <u>heat-stressed corals expel the algae zooxanthellae</u>	bleaching happens as algae is released by corals when it is too hot
7	C	6	zooxanthellae, when over-exposed to heat and light, produce oxygen in toxic	The algae produce oxygen in lethal amounts

			<u>amounts</u>	
8	C	6	If water temperatures stay too high too long, they begin to die	If temperatures do not decrease the corals start dying
		7	As temperatures cool off, or else they die	
9	C	8	The Great Barrier Reef has now had four major bleaching events in recent history: 1998, 2002, 2016 and 2017	It has faced four major bleaching events within 20 years
10	P	8	the result included the highest ever recorded coral die-off	including the most coral death ever recorded