



sample

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# Introduction to Exam Skills





# Making a reference

To find out what a specific word (usually a pronoun like 'me' and 'his') refers to in the text.





## Rephrasing

To find a word or phrase in the text that has the same or similar meaning to a specific word or phrase in the question.





### Analysing the information

To gather information from different parts of the text and then check if each option is correct or not.





## **Understanding connection between ideas**

To find the relationship (e.g. cause and effect) between one thing in the question and another thing in the text.





# Identifying the main idea

To find the general idea of the text and summarise it in a few words.





(sample)

Read the text quickly and choose the best answer.

Wow! Great day today! I had a fantastic time because the Christmas activities at our school were fun. Mrs Lam organised a treasure hunt because of the festival. She hid instructions in the classrooms. It was a race among five groups and each group had four people. All four of us liked watching fireworks so we chose the group name 'Fireworks Four'.

Q: Why did the writer have a great time?

- A. She joined a fun activity.
- O B. There was a fireworks display.
- O C. She watched a race.
- O D. She talked with Mrs. Lam.

# B. Exam Skill Revealed

Read below and learn more about the exam skill.

The exam skill you use here is

Understanding connection between ideas

How?

- Identify the keywords in the question.
- Look for the keywords in the text. Circle the nearby connectives (e.g. because, so, but).
  - Understand the relation between the two clauses before and after the connectives.
- Here, the keywords are 'Why' and 'organise', and the nearby connective is 'because'.

	sample	•
Date:		

# Now, try to use the exam skill step by step and answer the questions below.

1.	Why die	d the	writer	have	a	great tin	ne?
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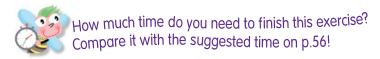
 $\bigcirc$  B. Mrs Lam gave them the name

O D. the name sounds nice

O C. all four of them like watching fireworks

	Try the exam skill : Understanding connection be	tween ideas
	(a) What are the keywords in this question?	
	<ul><li>(b) Where do these words or related words appear in the text?</li><li>(c) What connective can you find nearby?</li></ul>	Line(s)
	○ A. She won the race.	
	O B. She enjoyed the activities.	
	○ C. She saw some fireworks.	
	O D. She was on holiday.	
2.	The writer called themselves 'Fireworks Four' because _	·
	Try the exam skill : Understanding connection be	tween ideas
	(a) What are the keywords in this question?	
	<ul><li>(b) Where do these words or related words appear in the text?</li><li>(c) What connective can you find nearby?</li></ul>	Line(s)
	A. four is their lucky number	





#### Read the whole diary. Answer the questions on the following page.

13th February 20XX

1

10

15



Wow! Great day today! I had a fantastic time because the Christmas activities at our school were fun. Mrs Lam organised a treasure hunt because of the festival. She hid instructions in the classrooms. It was a race among five groups and each group had four people. All four of us liked watching fireworks so we chose the group name 'Fireworks Four'.

We ran, shouted and looked for the instructions. Our Maths teacher, Mr Ng, got angry so we stopped running. He said it was dangerous to run. None of the groups could find the last instruction but suddenly Sam saw it under a desk! We ran to take it and then went to Mrs Lam. She gave us the winning prize. It was a big box of chocolates! We felt so proud because we won. We shared them so we got five yummy chocolates each.

I hope we can play treasure hunt at school again!



Check it up!

Check the meanings of the words in blue in Vocabulary Index on p.54-55!

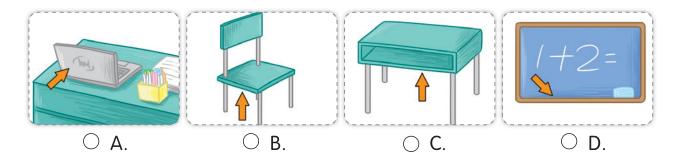
<ol> <li>Why did the students stop runnir</li> </ol>	ng?
--	-----

- A. Mr Ng was unhappy with them.
- B. They were tired.
- $\bigcirc$  C. They found the treasure.
- O D. Mrs Lam told them to stop.

#### 2. The writer's group won because \_\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the other groups ran slowly
- $\bigcirc$  B. Mrs Lam helped them
- O C. she was smart
- D. Sam found the last instruction

#### 3. Where did Mrs Lam hide the last instruction?



4. How many students were in the treasure hunt?

There were \_\_\_\_\_ students in the treasure hunt.

- 5. What was the prize?
- 6. Why was the writer proud?

#### Use the exam skill!

What is the connective that joins the two clauses? Think about what the connective can explain.

#### Use the exam skill!

Sometimes the reason is not stated directly in the text. Read between the lines to find the answer.

#### Use the exam skill!

Look for the keyword in the text and find out the reason.



# Read the letter. Answer the questions on the following page (10 marks @2 marks)

Constitution of the Consti

Dear Pauline (30 years old),

How are you? I am Pauline from 20 years ago. I want to tell you about the hopes I have for you.

Next year, I plan to join the badminton team to keep myself healthy. Do you still play sports? I hope you do because exercising is important.

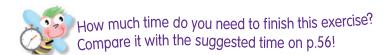
I want to be a vet so that I can help the poor and sick animals. Are you a vet now? I hope so because that means I achieved my dream. Do you have a pet? I would like a dog because they are cute. But Mum says that our house is too small.

Are there any robots that work in your time? I watched a film about the future and there were many of <u>them</u>. They help people do housework. I think that cleaning the house is tiring so I hope a robot can do it for me!

Love,

Pauline (10 years old)





Check it up!

Check the meanings of the words in blue in Vocabulary Index on p.54-55!

5

10

15

Marks: \_

		Date:
1.	Pauline thinks that dogs are  O A. small	O B. poor
	O C. clean	O D. lovely
2.	In line 12, what does 'them' re	fer to?
	O A. people	O B. robots
	○ C. films	O D. houses
3.	Why does Pauline want a robot	to do the housework?
	○ A. Robots are good at doing	y housework.
	O B. She does not know how t	o do housework.
	○ C. She thinks doing housew	ork is tiring.
	O D. She is too busy to do hou	isework.
4.	Which of the following is <b>TRUE</b>	about Pauline?
	$\bigcirc$ A. She was 30 years old wh	en she wrote the letter.
	$\bigcirc$ B. She wants to join the voll	eyball team.
	$\bigcirc$ C. Her dream job is a vet.	
	$\bigcirc$ D. She has a pet dog.	
5.	What is the letter about?	
	O A. Pauline's hopes for the fu	uture
	O B. Pauline's family and frien	ids
	<ul><li>C. Pauline's hobbies</li></ul>	



Which skill did you use for each question? Fill in the question numbers.

O D. Pauline's school life

	Making a reference	Rephrasing	Analysing the information	Understanding connection between ideas	Identifying the main idea
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You can quickly link up with these exam skills when you see these question types. The highlighted words are indicators.

Which of the following is **TRUE** about all three tours?

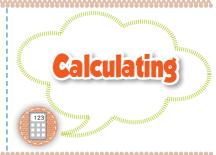
- A. They are at least half an hour.
- B. They are available every day.
- C. They are charged per person.
- O D. They may be cancelled due to bad weather.



There are books at Kiki Bookshop.

○ A. 1000

- O B. 2000
- C. 3000
- D. <mark>4000</mark>



When does Tommy usually go on vacations?

- A. in spring
- O B. in summer
- C. in autumn
- D. in winter



In line 4, what does 'unusual' mean?

- A. strange
- B. international
- C. beautifulD. best

