
THERESA NUZZO SCHOOL MARSA

Half-Yearly Exams 2015-2016

GRADE 5 ENGLISH

READING COMPREHENSION

Monday, 1st February, 2016

Time: 50 mins

Name: _____

Class: _____

Register Number: _____

Marks

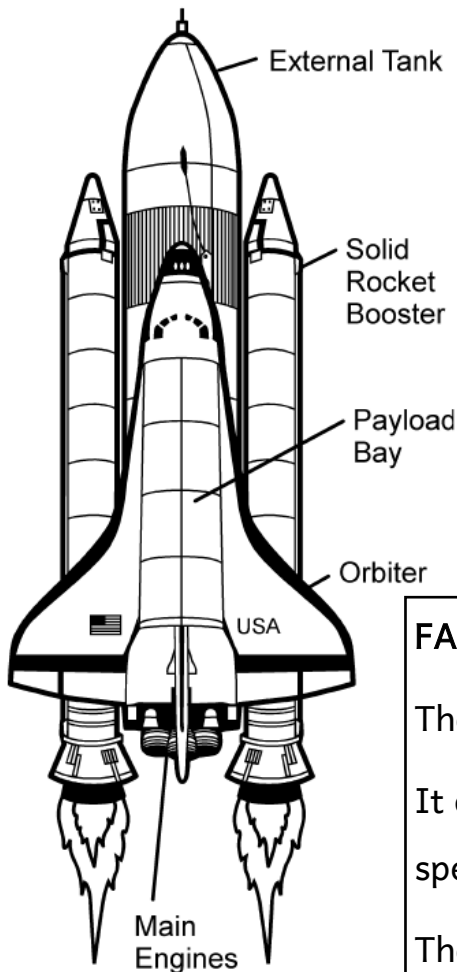
TOTAL

(max. 30 marks)

GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 1

Look at the information about the **SPACE SHUTTLE**

(6 marks)



The space shuttle is a USA rocket that acts as a plane. An orbiter is attached to two solid rocket boosters. The external tank contains the necessary fuel to boost the rockets into space. When it reaches the space the rockets and external tanks detach from the orbiter which is left to go around the earth in space. After it completes its mission it lands back to earth as a normal aeroplane.

FACTS

The space shuttle is 56 metres long.

It only takes 8 minutes for the Space Shuttle to reach a speed of more than 27,000 km per hour.

The last launch of a space shuttle was in September 2010.

Underline the correct word in the brackets.

(1 mark each)

1. The Space Shuttle was built in (**the USA**, England, Brazil).
2. The Orbiter lands like (a shuttle, a rocket, **an aeroplane**).
3. The external tank holds the (astronauts, **fuel**, rockets).

Fill in the blank spaces with numbers.

(1 mark each)

1. The shuttle can reach a great speed after only **8** minutes.
2. **2** solid rocket boosters are attached to the orbiter.
3. The length of the space shuttle is **56** metres.

GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 2

SECTION 1**(10 marks)****A MARTIAN COMES TO STAY**

It was on the second day of Peter's holiday with his grandmother that the Martian came to the cottage. There was a knock at the door and when he went to open it there was this small green person with webbed feet and eyes on the end of stumpy antennae who said, perfectly politely, "I wonder if I might bother you for the loan of a spanner?" **(paragraph 1)**

"Sure," said Peter. "I'll ask my gran."

Gran was in the back garden, it being a nice sunny day. Peter said, "There's a Martian at the door who'd like to borrow a spanner."

Gran looked at him over her knitting. "Is there, dear? Have a look in grandad's toolbox, there should be one there." **(paragraph 2)**

That's not what your grandmother would have said? No, nor mine either, but Peter's gran was an unusual lady, as you will discover. Grandad had died a few years earlier and she lived alone in this isolated cottage in the country, growing vegetables and keeping chickens in her garden, and Peter liked going to stay with her more than almost anything he could think of. Gran was not like most people. She did not get excited about anything and was what you might call open-minded, which accounts for everything that happened next. **(paragraph 3)**

A. Answer these questions**(1 mark each)**

1. Why did the Martian come to Peter's house?

He wanted to borrow a spanner.

2. What was Gran doing when the Martian knocked at the door?

She was knitting.

3. Why was Peter at Grandma's house?

He was on holiday.

B. Find from the passage: (½ mark each)

1. An adjective from paragraph 1: **second/small/green/webbed/stumpy**.
2. A verb from paragraph 2: **said/ask/borrow/looked/should**

C. Tick: True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG) (½ mark each)

		T	F	NIG
1	Peter was very excited to see the Martian.		✓	
2	The Martian had three eyes.			✓
3	The weather was cold and windy.		✓	
4	Grandma lived in a cottage in the countryside.	✓		
5	Grandma grew vegetables in her garden.	✓		
6	Peter did not know where the spanner was.	✓		

D. Underline the correct answer. (½ mark each)

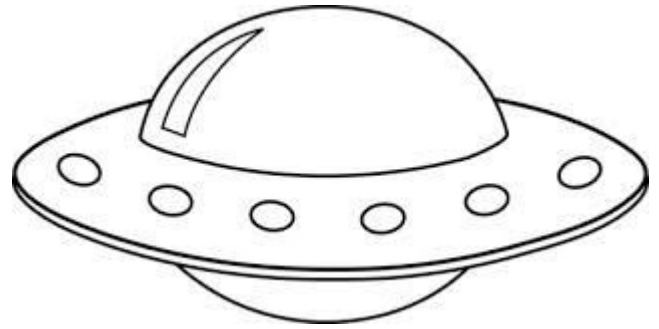
1. Grandma's cottage was (in, **away from**, next to) the city.
2. The Martian had (long, big, **webbed**) feet.
3. The Martian's eyes were placed on his (**antennae**, face, chest).
4. Grandma said that Peter should look for the spanner (in the shed, **in the toolbox**, in the garden).

E. Choose the correct answer: (½ mark each)

1. "Grandad had died a few years earlier." (par. 3) That means grandma was a
 orphan
 widow
 widower
2. "Isolated" (par. 3) means that the cottage
 was next to other cottages.
 was very big.
 was on its own.

A MARTIAN COMES TO STAY *(continued)*

Peter found the spanner and took it back to the Martian, who held out a rather oddly constructed hand and thanked him warmly. (paragraph 4)



“We’ve got some trouble with the gears or something and had to make an emergency landing. And now the mechanic says he left his tools back at base. I ask you! It’s all a mystery to me - I’m just the steward. Anyway - thanks a lot. I’ll bring it back in a minute.” And he padded away up the lane. There was no one around, but then there wasn’t likely to be: the cottage was about two kilometres away from the village and hardly anyone came by except the occasional farm tractor and the odd holiday maker who’d got lost. Peter went back into the garden. (paragraph 5)

“Should have offered him a cup of tea,” said Gran. “He’d have had a fair journey, I shouldn’t wonder.”

“Yes,” said Peter, “I didn’t think of that.”

In precisely three minutes’ time there was a knock at the door. The Martian was there, looking distinctly agitated. He said, “They’ve gone.”

“Who’s gone?” said Peter.

“The others. The spaceship. All of them. They’ve taken off and left me!” worried the Martian. (paragraph 6)

A. Answer these questions:

(½ mark each)

1. Why did the Martians need a spanner?

Because the spaceship had problems with the gears/to fix the problems with the gears.

2. Why didn’t the Martians have a toolbox in the spaceship?

Because the mechanic forgot the tools back at base.

B. Underline the correct answer

(½ mark each)

1. The Martian said that he was going to (keep, post, **bring**) the spanner back.
2. The Martian was (**a steward**, a mechanic, the captain) of the spaceship.
3. Sometimes a (**tourist**, mayor, lion) comes up to the countryside.
4. Peter (offered, **did not offer**, gave) the Martian a cup of tea.
5. The Martian came back after (three seconds, **three minutes**, three hours).
6. The Martian was (**worried**, happy, afraid).

C. Match column A with Column B to make correct sentences. The first one is done for you as an example.

(½ mark each)

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
1	Peter found the spanner	2	thanked Peter.
2	The Martian	4	should have offered him a cup of tea.
3	After the Martian took the spanner,	1	in Grandad's toolbox.
4	Grandma said that Peter	5	of offering the tea to the Martian.
5	Peter did not think	3	Peter went back to the garden.

D. Answer these questions:

(½ mark each)

1. How far was the cottage from the village?

About two kilometres away

2. Why was there no one around when the Martian came?

Because anyone hardly ever goes there.

3. Why did Gran wish that she had offered the Martian a cup of tea?

Because he would have had a long journey.

4. Why was the Martian agitated when he came back?

Because the other Martians had left him.

NOW, ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT BOTH SECTIONS

E. Put these sentences in order. The first one was done for you. (½ marks each)

2	The Martian went to look for help
5	The Martian thanked Peter and went to the spaceship.
1	The spaceship had to make an emergency landing
4	Peter gave the spanner to the Martian.
3	Peter went to look for the spanner
7	The Martian came back to Grandma's house because his friends had gone.
6	Grandma said that Peter should have offered the Martian a cup of tea.

F. Answer these questions

1. Why was Peter's grandma an unusual lady? (1 mark)

She never got excited. She was very calm when

2. Do you find the story strange? Why? (2 marks)

Yes because Peter and his grandma did not make any news of having a Martian at the door. This doesn't usually happen.

No because it is very polite to lend something to someone no matter who he/she is. It should happen all the time.

Do not accept: Because Martians do not exist.