**Assessment Task for Reading**

**Topic: Harry Potter**

This assessment task focuses on developing senior secondary students’ reading skills.

This set of materials contains the following:

* **The reading text**
* **A set of questions**
* **Suggested answers**

**Reading Text**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| There are seven Harry Potter books by JK Rowling and I have read them all. I keep the books on a shelf in my bedroom and it’s like having seven best friends! When I have some spare time or I feel a bit unhappy, I read my favourite parts again and they always cheer me up.  My uncle gave me the first book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, for my birthday. I couldn’t put it down. I read it in a day! It’s a fantastic story about a young boy called Harry Potter who doesn’t know he is a wizard or that he can do magic. He’s an orphan so he lives with his aunt and uncle and their son. They are all very unkind to Harry.  One day, Harry gets a letter inviting him to go to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. At Hogwarts, students have lessons about how to make magic spells and they play quidditch \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Harry makes two best friends at the school: Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley. Lots of mysterious and exciting things happen so the three friends have many adventures together. The story moves very quickly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and there is an unexpected surprise at the end.  I have enjoyed the whole series because the characters get older in each book. I feel we are growing up together. In the seventh book, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, a lot of questions from the first six books are answered. However, I didn’t like this final book as much as the others. It isn’t as funny as the other books and the bit at the end which tells you about what happens to Harry, Hermione and Ron when they are adults is boring.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Ron Weasley is the funniest. Hermione is my least favourite character because she is very big-headed in the early books.  I would recommend the Harry Potter books to anyone. All my friends and family have enjoyed them because they are a mixture of adventure, fantasy and humour.  *by* Danny Lau | 5  10  15  20 |

**END OF READING TEXT**

**Questions**

**Refer to the text and answer Questions 1-10. Write your answers in the spaces provided. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.**

1. Put the following in the correct places in the text. Write the letters in the spaces provided.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | all the characters are interesting and |
| b. | which is a sport |
| c. | so it is never boring |

1. Do you think Harry Potter enjoyed living with his aunt and uncle? Why?

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

1. What are the two things the writer does not like about *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*?

(a) *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

(b) *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

1. Which character does the writer like most? Why?

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

1. Match the words in A with their definitions in B. The first one has been done for you.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A |  | B |
| wizard (line 6) |  | describes someone who thinks they know everything |
| orphan (line 6) |  | a group of books |
| series (line 14) |  | a man or boy with magic powers |
| big-headed (line 20) |  | a child whose parents are dead |

# The writer says that keeping the books in his bedroom is ‘like having seven best friends’ in line 2 because

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | a. | he believes the characters are real. |
| 🞏 | b. | the books make him feel happy. |
| 🞏 | c. | he hasn’t got any real friends. |
| 🞏 | d. | the books are for lonely children. |

# In lines 4 and 5, ‘I couldn’t put it down’ means:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | a. | the writer’s parents made him read the book because it was a present. |
| 🞏 | b. | the writer didn’t want to lose the book. |
| 🞏 | c. | the writer read the book quickly because he liked it. |
| 🞏 | d. | the writer’s uncle wanted to ask him questions about the book. |

# Danny wrote ‘I feel we are growing up together.’ in lines 14 and 15*.* This sentence tells us that the writer thinks the characters are his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

# Which is the best summary of the writer’s opinion?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | a. | The Harry Potter books are quite good and some people will enjoy them. |
| 🞏 | b. | I loved the Harry Potter books and I think other people will enjoy them too. |
| 🞏 | c. | The Harry Potter books are OK for young children but not for teenagers. |
| 🞏 | d. | All the Harry Potter books are very good. |

# Below are the titles of four other books. Which one would the writer probably enjoy most?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | a. | Magician: The true-life story of the century’s greatest magician |
| 🞏 | b. | School’s Out for Summer! The story of a summer camp |
| 🞏 | c. | The Mysteries of the Mountain: A fantasy adventure story |
| 🞏 | d. | Star Space Voyage: The greatest sci-fi novel of the year! |

**END OF QUESTIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Suggested Answers** | |
| 1. | (line 9 and 10)… play quidditch b .  (line 12) The story moves very quickly c  (line 19) a Ron Weasley is the funniest. |
|  |  |
| 2. | No, because they were unkind to him. |
| 3. | (a) it isn’t as funny as the other books.  (b) the part about the characters as adults is boring. |
| 4. | He likes Ron Weasley most because he is the funniest. |
| 5. | orphan: a child whose parents are dead  big-headed: describes someone who thinks they know everything  series: a group of books |
| 6. | b |
| 7. | c |
| 8. | friends |
| 9. | b |
| 10. | c |

**END OF SUGGESTED ANSWERS**