

LPF Reading Exemplar

School Website

Task Description

In this task, students read two web pages from the website of St Mildred's Secondary School, namely the Homepage and the 'About our school' web page , which contained information for both existing and prospective students. They then responded to questions related to the two web pages.

Preparation

Before the reading activity, students discussed the following questions to activate their prior knowledge about school websites:

- Referring to the layout of the texts, where do they come from? Why do you think so?
- What kind of information is usually found on a school's website? Why is such information included in it?

Learning Outcomes: CVO s 4-5

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CVO '4

Understanding and inferring information, ideas and feelings in a range of simple texts, using and integrating a small range of reading strategies as appropriate

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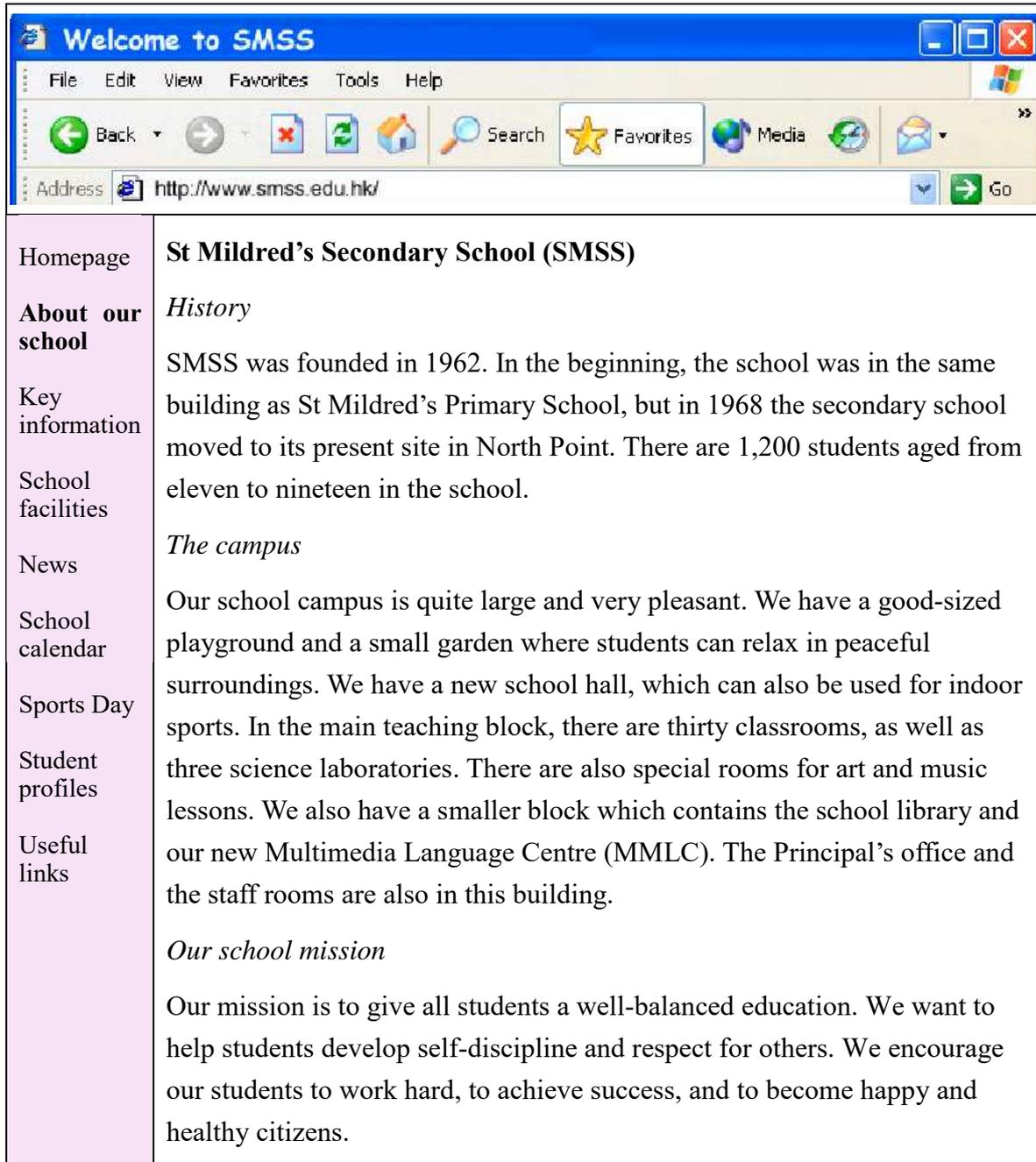
CVO '5

Understanding and inferring information, ideas and feelings and opinions in a range of texts with some degree of complexity, using and integrating a small range of reading strategies as appropriate

Questions	When students respond to the questions appropriately, they can:																			
<p>1. The website is for _____.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A. teachers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> B. students</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> C. parents</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D. <i>all of the above</i></p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deduce the intended readers of the website by using semantic clues, e.g. the headings at the two sides of the web pages 																			
<p>2. Find these words and phrases on the Homepage. Match each one with the correct meaning. The first one has been done for you as an example.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="178 1249 831 1697"> <thead> <tr> <th>Words and phrases on the Homepage</th> <th>Answers</th> <th>Meaning</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a) improve (line 4)</td> <td>5 (given)</td> <td>1) small problems at the beginning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b) teething troubles (line 18)</td> <td>1</td> <td>2) became comfortable in a place</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c) settled in (line 19)</td> <td>2</td> <td>3) already know</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d) intake (line 20)</td> <td>4</td> <td>4) new students</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e) be familiar with (lines 32-33)</td> <td>3</td> <td>5) make better</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Words and phrases on the Homepage	Answers	Meaning	a) improve (line 4)	5 (given)	1) small problems at the beginning	b) teething troubles (line 18)	1	2) became comfortable in a place	c) settled in (line 19)	2	3) already know	d) intake (line 20)	4	4) new students	e) be familiar with (lines 32-33)	3	5) make better	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work out the meaning of words by using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> semantic clues, e.g. the component parts 'in' and 'take' in the word 'intake', and the association between 'Form 1' and 'new' syntactic clues, e.g. the association between 'Form 1 intake' and 'new students' in the repeated structure 'to help...' 	
Words and phrases on the Homepage	Answers	Meaning																		
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<p>3. Why did the principal want to help new students? Write down the phrase that gives you this idea.</p> <p><u><i>'teething troubles' or 'troubles in the first few weeks'</i></u></p> <p>Explain the phrase in your own words.</p> <p><u><i>There were some problems with this year's new students.</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work out the meaning of the idiomatic expression 'teething troubles' by using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> semantic clues, e.g. the meaning of the word 'troubles' and of the root of the word 'teething' syntactic clues, e.g. the contrast between the subordinate clause about the 'teething troubles' and the main clause about how the students 'settled in well' after 'the first few weeks' 															
<p>4. Was the Multimedia Language Centre finished at the right time?</p> <p><u><i>No</i></u></p> <p>Write down the word that gives you this idea.</p> <p><u><i>Finally</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deduce the information that there was delay in the completion of the setting up of the Multimedia Language Centre by using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> semantic clues, e.g. the adverb 'finally' and the exclamation mark syntactic clues, e.g. 'finally' as an adverb giving additional meaning to the word 'ready' and leading to the conclusion that the multimedia centre was not finished at the right time 															
<p>5. The statements below are either FACT or OPINION. Refer to the web pages and tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the correct box for each statement. The first one has been done for you as an example.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">Fact</th> <th style="text-align: center; width: 10%;">Opinion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a). The school has 3 laboratories.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b). The examination results were excellent.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c). The students are aged from 11 to 19.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d) The campus is very pleasant.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Fact	Opinion	a). The school has 3 laboratories.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b). The examination results were excellent.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c). The students are aged from 11 to 19.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d) The campus is very pleasant.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>ATM 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> distinguish facts from opinions by using semantic clues, e.g. the adjective 'pleasant' as an opinion, the interpretation of which can be very subjective and vary between people
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a). The school has 3 laboratories.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>														
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Text 1



Homepage	St Mildred's Secondary School (SMSS)
About our school	<i>History</i>
Key information	SMSS was founded in 1962. In the beginning, the school was in the same building as St Mildred's Primary School, but in 1968 the secondary school moved to its present site in North Point. There are 1,200 students aged from eleven to nineteen in the school.
School facilities	
News	<i>The campus</i>
School calendar	Our school campus is quite large and very pleasant. We have a good-sized playground and a small garden where students can relax in peaceful surroundings. We have a new school hall, which can also be used for indoor sports. In the main teaching block, there are thirty classrooms, as well as three science laboratories. There are also special rooms for art and music lessons. We also have a smaller block which contains the school library and our new Multimedia Language Centre (MMLC). The Principal's office and the staff rooms are also in this building.
Sports Day	
Student profiles	
Useful links	<i>Our school mission</i>
	Our mission is to give all students a well-balanced education. We want to help students develop self-discipline and respect for others. We encourage our students to work hard, to achieve success, and to become happy and healthy citizens.

Text 2

Homepage of the St Mildred's Secondary School website

<p>Homepage</p>	<p>15th December</p>	<p>School uniform</p>
<p>About our school</p>	<p><i>Dear Students and Parents</i></p>	<p>All students must wear winter uniform from November to April, and summer uniform from May to October.</p>
<p>Key information</p>	<p><i>Welcome to St Mildred's Secondary School website. We hope that you will find it useful. If you think we can improve it, please send us your ideas.</i></p>	<p><u>more</u> (2)</p>
<p>School facilities</p>	<p>Last term was a busy one with all students taking either their public or school exams in May or June. The results have been excellent; my congratulations and thanks to all students and teachers!</p>	<p>School rules</p>
<p>News</p>	<p>We had our annual sports day on 1st March: the whole school took part and as usual the weather was kind to us. <u>more</u> (1)</p>	<p>Students can bring mobile phones to school but they must be switched off in lessons.</p>
<p>School calendar</p>	<p>Students in Form 5 continued the SMSS tradition of doing voluntary work for two weeks at the end of the school year. This year, some students chose to work on environmental projects. Because of their efforts, more trees have been planted on the school campus and the garden has been tidied up.</p>	<p><u>more</u> (3)</p>
<p>Sports Day</p>	<p>At the beginning of the first term, 250 new students joined us from local primary schools. After some teething troubles in the first few weeks, they settled in well and have become part of the SMSS family. To help next year's Form 1 intake, I've written some notes to help new students.</p>	<p>SMSS News</p>
<p>Student profiles</p>	<p><i>New Students</i></p>	<p>The builders finished the new school hall on 30th March. The first basketball match was on 1st May.</p>
<p>Useful links</p>	<p>Before you start at SMSS</p> <p>Next year, there is an Orientation Day for you and your parents in July. The day starts at 9:30 a.m. with a talk by the principal. Refreshments will be available from 9:00 a.m. Form 2 students will then show you round the school before you have a meeting with your new class teacher at 11:00 a.m. The Orientation Day will end at 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p><u>more</u> (4)</p>
	<p>When you start at SMSS</p>	<p>The new Multimedia Language Centre was finally ready in November!</p>
	<p>All new students coming from primary schools start in Form 1. You will be in a class with about 40 other students. You may be familiar with some of the students but others will come from different primary schools. You will see your class teacher at the beginning of the day for roll call but you will have other teachers for different lessons.</p>	<p><u>more</u> (5)</p>

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