**Reading: The Road to Lhasa**

Have you heard of the place Lhasa? It is a city in Tibet and is located in the southwestern part of Mainland China.

**Part 1**

Watch the video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIGva\_-hts4) to understand the background information about Lhasa.

Are the sentences True or False? Put a “T” for the correct sentence and put an “F” for the wrong sentence. The first one has been done for you.

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|  | Sentences | **True (T) /False (F)** |
| 1. | Lhasa is a Buddhist city. | **e.g. T** |
| 2. | Lhasa is an ancient city. There was no electricity until 1959. |  |
| 3. | The local people in Lhasa are unfriendly. |  |
| 4. | Many people visit Lhasa for praying and worshipping. |  |
| 5. | It is usually warm and hot in Lhasa. |  |
| 6. | You can travel to Lhasa by ship. |  |
| 7. | You can see yaks in Lhasa. They look like cows. |  |

**Part 2**

It took a long way to walk to Lhasa in the past. Read an old story and learn the lesson behind the story. You may watch the video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86sioZJL0E4) to help you understand the story better.

**The Road to Lhasa**

An old woman sat beside the road that led all the way to the holy city of Lhasa. One morning, a magnificently-dressed man rode on his horse and said rudely, ‘You, woman, how far is it to Lhasa?’ She said ‘Oh! It’s very, very far. You won’t get there before the night time.’ ‘What? Of course I will. Look at my marvellous horse.’ And he dug in his heels and rode away.

The woman sat beside the road. A little later, a young boy came along, leading his yak. The yak was so big and hairy but the boy was so small and slim. When he saw the old woman, he said politely, ‘Excuse me.’ The old woman said, ‘Yes.’ ‘How far is it to Lhasa?’ ‘Oh! It’s far, very far, but don’t worry. You will get there before the night comes.’ ‘Will I?’ said the boy uncertainly. ‘Yes,’ said the old woman. ‘Go on.’ And the boy gave his yak a gentle tug. They started walking.

They walked up the steep and winding path. Up, up, up into the mountains. As he walked, he was afraid that he might slip and fall down into the rushing river below. But then he found a bridge and he crossed over the bridge. He came to a forest, a BIG forest on the mountain. The wind was very strong. As he walked through, he struggled to go on. The wind was so strong that it knocked him down. CAK~DON~CAK~DON…

But the boy picked himself up and he kept on walking. One step at a time; one foot in front of the other. He went up beyond the trees and then he was in the land of snow. There was no path to follow. There were only stones that other people had piled up to guide the way. The boy was very scared. He thought he might get lost and that he wouldn’t reach Lhasa before the night came. But he kept on walking. One step at a time; one foot in front of the other.

In the afternoon, he walked past the man lying on the ground beside his horse. They were both asleep. They had ridden so hard. They could ride no more. The boy wished that he could also lie down and rest. He was so tired but he knew what he had to do. He gave his yak a gentle tug and kept on walking. One step at a time; one foot in front of the other.

And in the very late afternoon, as he came towards another ridge, suddenly, he heard some sound – the sound of drums, gongs and temple bells. When he got to the ridge and looked over into the next valley, there was Lhasa – the holy city of Lhasa with all its temples and its monks. He had made it all the way to the holy city of Lhasa, walking one step at a time; one foot in front of the other.

Source of the text:

The text was selected and adapted from the resource package “Using Storytelling to Develop Students’ Interest in Reading (CDI, EDB, 2015)” (<https://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/en/curriculum-development/kla/eng-edu/references-resources/PRI_Storytelling.pdf>)

Answer the following questions by choosing the best option.

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| 1. | Who is the main character of the story? |
| A | the magnificently-dressed man |
| B | the old woman |
| C | the small and slim boy |
| D | the yak |
| 2. | What problems did people face on the way to Lhasa? (You can choose more than one answer.) |
| A | It was a long way to walk there. |
| B | It was a busy road. |
| C | It was windy. |
| D | It was very hot. |

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| 3. | In Paragraphs 1 & 2, both the man and the young boy asked the same question, “how far is it to Lhasa?” Why did the old woman give a different answer? |
| A | The man was kind. |
| B | The young boy was rude. |
| C | The woman was not willing to answer any questions. |
| D | The woman wanted to support the polite visitor. |

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| 4. | What can you learn from this story? |
| A | You can achieve your goal if you take small steps and keep trying. |
| B | You can win the game if you keep walking. |
| C | You can make friends if you are kind and polite to the others. |
| D | You can succeed if you are patient enough. |

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| 5. | What were the good qualities of the young boy? (You can choose more than one answer.) |
| A | He was confident. |
| B | He was polite. |
| C | He did not give up easily. |
| D | He was rich. |

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| 6. | Choose suitable words from the text or use your own words to complete the paragraph. |
|  | One morning, a young boy travelled to Lhasa on his yak. Although he was small and slim, he was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He walked up into the mountains and crossed over the bridge. He walked through a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the mountain. In the afternoon, he was very tired. However, he did not give up and kept on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. One step at a time and one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in front of the other. Finally, he heard the temple bells and reached the holy city. |

**Answer Key:**

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| 3. | The local people in Lhasa are unfriendly. | **F** |
| 4. | Many people visit Lhasa for praying and worshipping. | **T** |
| 5. | It is usually warm and hot in Lhasa. | **F** |
| 6. | You can travel to Lhasa by ship. | **F** |
| 7. | You can see yaks in Lhasa. They look like cows. | **T** |

**Part 2**

Answer the following questions by choosing the best option.

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| B | He was polite. |
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| 6. | Choose suitable words from the text or use your own words to complete the paragraph. |
|  | One morning, a young boy travelled to Lhasa on his yak. Although he was small and slim, he was \*brave/hardworking/polite/ courageous. They walked up into the mountains and crossed over the bridge. They walked through a forest on the mountain. In the afternoon, he was very tired. However, he did not give up and kept on walking. One step at a time and one foot in front of the other. Finally, he heard the temple bells and reached the holy city.  \* accept any reasonable answers |