

End of Primary Benchmark

2017

English Reading Comprehension

30 marks

50 minutes

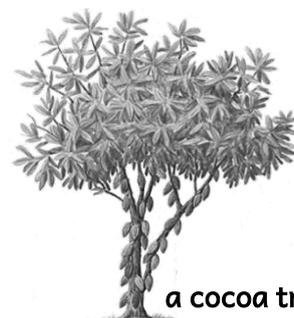
Read this process carefully and answer the questions on the opposite page.

How Chocolate is Made



a sapling

Do you know that chocolate comes from trees? In the beginning, the chocolate starts as a cocoa tree sapling. This sapling grows into a tree.



a cocoa tree



cocoa beans in a pod

Cocoa beans grow in a pod. A pod is the fruit of a cocoa tree. When the pods are ripe, farm workers gather them. Then, they clean and dry the cocoa beans.

Factory workers make chocolate from the cocoa beans. They roast the cocoa beans in ovens and then they use a machine to break up the roasted cocoa beans. After this, a large grinding machine crushes the bitter insides of the beans into pieces.

A large factory machine mixes the ground cocoa beans with sugar. Factories make milk chocolate, white chocolate and dark chocolate.



Another machine then pours the chocolate mixture into moulds. Then chocolate sets in the moulds. These moulds come in different shapes and sizes.

Finally, a machine packs and seals the chocolate. This keeps the chocolate fresh. The chocolate is ready to be shipped to shops and supermarkets all around the world.

1. Look at these pictures. Then put them in order to show the steps of making chocolate as explained in the text. Number them 1 to 4.

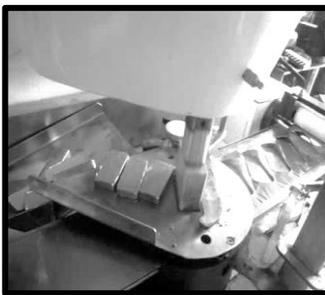
2 marks



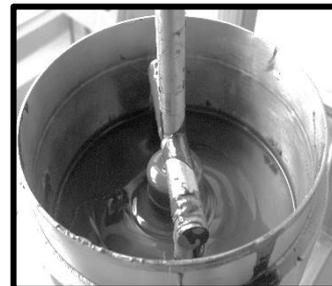
shaping the chocolate



grinding the beans



wrapping the chocolates



mixing the ingredients

2. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

- (a) A cocoa tree produces cocoa (powder, butter, beans).
- (b) The insides of the beans are (bitter, sweet, salty).

3. True (T), False (F), or No Information Given (NIG)

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) Chocolate is made all over the world.			
(b) A cocoa tree sapling becomes a tree.			
(c) The gathered cocoa beans are ready for eating.			
(d) Machines are used to crack and grind the cocoa beans.			
(e) The cocoa beans are the only ingredient in chocolate.			
(f) Cocoa beans are gathered in summer.			

Read the following text which is divided into two sections. Then, answer the questions that follow each section.

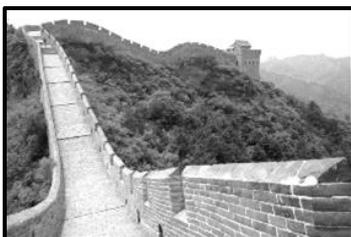
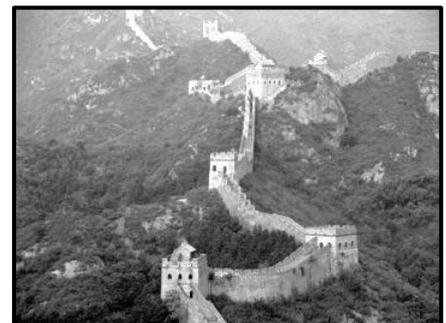
Section 1

Anna and Robert are on holiday in China with Mr Wells. You are going to read about their visit to the Great Wall of China.



Anna, Robert, and the other children went up the stone steps with Mr Wells. These led to one of the towers of the Great Wall of China. When they were high up on the tower, Mr Wells said, “The Great Wall is one of the wonders of the world. Look at how perfectly square all the stones seem to be! The Wall is about six metres thick at the base and around four metres thick at the top. In most places it reaches a height of eight metres.”

Seen from on high, the Wall looked like a **vast**, twisting snake. It stretched over hills and valleys until it disappeared over the horizon, looking like a path in the countryside. In fact, in the past, the Great Wall was also a road. It ran for six thousand kilometres to the northern borders of China.



“All transport in this hilly region depended on the Wall,” said Mr Wells. “On top of it there was even room for five horses with carts full of **goods**.”

Emperor Qin Shi Huang built the Great Wall to protect his new empire. The emperors who came after him, rebuilt the Wall, little by little, over hundreds of years. In some parts, it doubled in size. When attackers came close to the Great Wall, the soldiers on the towers lit fires to make smoke signals. Very soon, the news reached the Emperor and armies arrived to defend China.



Questions on Section 1

(9 marks)

1. Where did the stone steps lead to?

1 mark

2. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

(a) 'looked like a **vast**, twisting snake'

The word **vast** in this phrase means (fast, huge, scary).

(b) 'with carts full of **goods**'

The word **goods** in this phrase means (products, sweets, food).

3. Fill in the blanks.

1 mark

(a) The Great Wall of China is thicker at the base than at the _____.

(b) Most of the Wall is _____ metres high.

4. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

(a) Emperor Qin Shi Huang built the Great Wall to be (part of his palace, one of the wonders of the world, part of his country's defences).

(b) With the passing of time, the Great Wall (fell down, became greater, burnt down).

5. True (T), False (F), No Information Given (NIG)

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) Anna and Robert live in China.			
(b) The stones of the Great Wall have different shapes.			
(c) The Great Wall was built in a perfectly straight line.			
(d) There were six hundred towers along the Great Wall.			
(e) The Wall had space for more than three horses with carts.			
(f) The Great Wall was rebuilt by different emperors.			

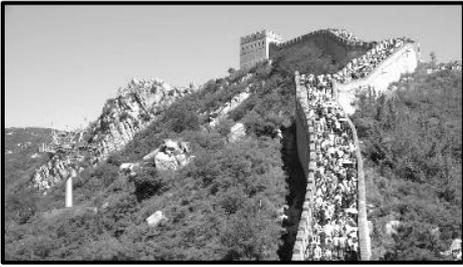
6. Give **TWO** reasons why the soldiers lit fires.

2 marks

(a) _____

(b) _____

Section 2



It is easy to feel a sense of wonder when you stand on the fortifications of the Great Wall, gazing at the **stunning** landscape. As a tourist attraction, the Great Wall now **draws** millions of visitors to China.

Mr Wells turned to the children: “Can you name one thing that is typically Chinese, apart from the Great Wall?”

“Rice!” replied both Anna and Robert together.

“Good! Rice fields have changed the face of China. In many regions the land looks like a wet jigsaw of squares and terraces.



Rice needs a constant

temperature to grow. That is why the rice fields are flooded with water. A Chinese legend says that one of the gods saw the people dying of hunger. In his anger at the sight, he pulled out his teeth. The wind carried the teeth to a **swamp**, and there the water transformed them into grains of rice. And that was how the first rice plants came to grow.”



Anna sighed, “China is an amazing country! Rice, the Great Wall ...”

“And the Great Canal we visited yesterday,” interrupted Robert.

“The total length of the Great Canal is 1,776 kilometres. It is made up of a network of canals, which makes it the longest canal in the world,” reminded them Mr Wells.



The holiday was almost over and Mr Wells took the children to a traditional Chinese restaurant. The children were a little sad, which is a natural feeling when something pleasant comes to an end. Their moods, however, changed when the first plates of food arrived. They were delighted by the flavours of Chinese cooking – especially by the rice!

(Adapted from *366 Wonders of the World* by A. Bertino and F. Valla)

Questions on Section 2

(11 marks)

7. Underline the correct answer. 1 mark

(a) 'gazing at the **stunning** landscape'

The word **stunning** in this phrase means (surprising, large, spectacular).

(b) '**draws** millions of visitors to China'

The word **draws** in this phrase means (attracts, paints, carries).

8. What do Anna and Robert think is typical of Chinese culture, apart from the Great Wall? 1 mark

9. To what does Mr Wells compare the Chinese landscape? 1 mark

10. True (T), False (F), No Information Given (NIG).
Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box. 3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) There are many rice fields in China.			
(b) Rice needs the same temperature to grow.			
(c) The rice fields are flooded with water in summer.			
(d) A legend says that a god sowed the first grains of rice.			
(e) The Great Canal is more than two thousand kilometres long.			
(f) A network of two hundred canals makes up the Great Canal.			

11. Why, according to an old Chinese legend, was one of the gods furious? 1 mark

12. Underline the correct word. 1 mark

A **swamp** is an area full of (magic, water, stones).

Questions on Section 2 (continued)

13. What, according to the legend, was changed by water into the first grains of rice? 1 mark

14. (a) How must the children have felt about most of their holiday? 2 marks

(b) Give a reason from the text which shows this.

Questions on the two sections (4 marks)

15. Why was the Great Wall useful in the past? Give TWO reasons. 2 marks

(a) _____

(b) _____

16. List TWO main attractions in China that Mr Wells spoke about and write an important feature about each from the text. 2 marks

Main attraction in China	An important feature
(a)	
(b)	

END OF READING COMPREHENSION PAPER