



Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2023

YEAR 7

ENGLISH SOURCE BOOKLET

In this booklet, you will find the texts which you need to read to be able to answer the reading comprehension and literature questions in the Main Paper.

Source A

← → ↻ ⬆ http://www.blogger.com/myblog.2343222567093

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Let's talk...Inventors

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Welcome! Are you looking for inspiration and ideas to make the world a better place? Look no further. Here are three teenagers who made it happen.

Though most adults would associate teenagers with sleeping in late, taking
5 selfies, generally not cleaning up and playing computer games, some of us do
use their time wisely. Some teenagers not only excel in school, but their
creativity has led to some interesting inventions that could transform our lives.

First up on our list of inventors is Shubham Banerjee from Belgium. At 13 years
of age, Shubham succeeded to create a working Braille printer after learning
about the price of braille printers. Shubham used a Lego Mindstorms EV3 kit
10 and about €5 of hardware from an ironmongery to do the job. He called it the
Braigo V1.0, and is considerably cheaper than other Braille printers on the
market that tended to come in at \$2,000 a piece at the time! That's quite a
discount. With around 285 million visually impaired individuals across the globe
according to the World Health Organisation, this device could prove invaluable
15 in the near future. Shubham launched a start-up in 2015, called Braigo Labs,
with his parents and is now the manager at this company. Braigo Labs have
since released an app and web platform that continues to grow to further
develop this innovative technology.

20 Our next teenage inventor is Remya Jose, a 14-year-old from India. Remya was
asked to do the laundry because her mother had become ill. Clearly, Remya was
less than impressed with the amount of time and energy needed to hand wash
clothes in the nearby river. She took some recycled bicycle parts to create an
appliance that saves time, energy and keeps you fit, all at the same time. This
25 device will definitely be useful in areas lacking electricity, or those who wish to
save time on exercising and chores. Remya has just about the coolest job ever
as a Serial Innovator for the National Innovation Foundation in India.

The last entry on our list could clean up the world's oceans. Dutch inventor
Boyan Slat, aged 19, came up with a solution to help clean up our oceans. He
believes the booms could collect and remove around 20 billion tonnes of plastic
30 waste from the world's oceans. His idea was of using a series of floating booms
with processing platforms which collect floating plastic whilst allowing fish and
plankton to pass through unharmed. The collected plastic could easily then be
recycled. Boyan is now a student at Delft University of Technology in the
Netherlands, his home country.

35 These inventions came from the minds of some really bright teens. The next
time you think about those meddling teenagers in your neighbourhood,
remember that our age group is responsible for several incredible inventions.

Which is your favourite invention on this list? Do you know of any invention that
we missed? Leave your comments under the blog. These teens made it happen.
40 So can you!





A. WORLD WIDE WEB

Sir Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web in 1989.

The country with the most internet users is China with over 640 million users.

B. THE PRINTING PRESS



Johannes Gutenberg, a German Blacksmith and publisher invented a mechanical movable type of printing machine in 1439. This made it possible to produce a lot more books in a day as it was much faster than when books were handwritten.

C. THE WHEEL

The wheel was developed quite late, in the Bronze Age around 3500 BC. At that time humans had domesticated animals and had already built sail boats.



D. WRITING



Writing was invented a long time ago in two places: ancient Sumer around 3200 BC and Mesoamerica around 600 BC.



F. THE LIFT

Mechanisms for vertical transport date back thousands of years. In 236 BC, Greek mathematician Archimedes designed a basic lift operated with the use of ropes, pulleys and a capstan. The lift as we know it was created in 1854 by Elisha Otis.



E. THE CLOCK

The clock was first used in Egypt around 4000 BC. The first mechanical clock was made by Yi Xing of China in 725, after the sundial, water clock, and hourglass were used by the Egyptians and Chinese for a long time to keep track of time.



Source C

One morning, Mr Stink simply appeared in town and took up residence on an old wooden bench. No one knew where he had come from, or where he might be going. The town folk were mostly nice to him. They sometimes dropped a few coins at his feet, before rushing off with their eyes watering.

5 But no one was really *friendly* towards him. No one stopped for a chat.

At least, not till the day that a little girl finally plucked up the courage to speak to him – and that’s where our story begins.

10 “Hello,” said the girl, her voice trembling a little with nerves. The girl was called Chloe. She was only twelve and she had never spoken to a tramp before. Her mother had forbidden her to speak to ‘such creatures’. Mother even disapproved of her daughter talking to kids from the local council estate. But Chloe didn’t think Mr Stink was a creature. She thought he was a man who looked like he had a very interesting story to tell – and if there was one thing Chloe loved, it was stories.

15 Every day she would pass him and his dog in her parents’ car on the way to her posh private school. Rain or shine, he was always sitting on the same bench with his dog by his feet. As she sat on the leather of the back seat with her poisonous little sister Annabelle, Chloe would look out of the window at him and wonder.

20 Millions of thoughts and questions would swim through her head. Who was he? Why did he live on the streets? Had he ever had a home? What did his dog eat? Did he have any friends or family? If so, did they know he was homeless?

25 Where did he go at Christmas? If you wanted to write him a letter, what address would you put on the envelope? ‘The bench, you know the one – round the corner from the bus stop’? When was the last time he had had a bath? And could his name *really* be Mr Stink?

Extract adapted from *Mr Stink* by David Walliams