

Year 2024

Otsuma Nakano Junior High School

Entrance Exam

November 10, 2023

English

Attention:

1. This test has two reading tasks and one essay writing task.
2. Write your name and your application ID number on the booklet and your answer sheet.
3. The test duration time is 40 minutes.
4. Write your answers on your answer sheet.
5. The full score scale of this test is 60 points.

Application ID. No.		Name in Kanji	
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Reading 1-A

Instructions: Read the passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

Dolphin Navigation

Mastering ocean navigation is essential for all marine creatures. In comparison to their terrestrial counterparts, marine animals like dolphins face the vast expanse of the sea, leading to unique challenges. Effective swimming techniques, therefore, are not just beneficial but crucial. Among these, dolphins have carved a niche, with their methods distinct from other marine species.

Historically, we believed the swimming dynamics of dolphins and other marine mammals were only slightly different. This presumption, however, lacked extensive research backing. Recent, in-depth investigations have brought to light intriguing insights into dolphin navigation. A)

Dolphins exhibit physical attributes distinct from other marine animals. Their streamlined bodies coupled with their powerful tails contribute to complex yet efficient movements. While this unique anatomy might limit manoeuvring in shallow waters, it offers them remarkable speed and agility, enabling swift changes in direction in deeper depths. B)

One distinct characteristic is their breaching behaviour—leaping out of water, something not commonly seen in other marine creatures. Using underwater cameras and sonar technology, scientists have meticulously recorded these actions, observing dolphins swim rapidly, angle upward suddenly, and propel themselves above the water. C)

While breaching can be energy-draining, its frequency varies among different dolphin species. For instance, spinner dolphins, celebrated for their stunning aerial spins, tend to breach more often compared to the likes of bottlenose dolphins, who prefer engaging in less strenuous activities, such as porpoising or riding the bow wave of boats. D)

1. How do the physical attributes of dolphins contribute to their navigation?
 - a. They allow dolphins to see better underwater.
 - b. They help dolphins communicate with each other.
 - c. They allow dolphins to navigate in intricate yet effective ways.
 - d. They allow dolphins to breathe underwater.

2. What is breaching behaviour in dolphins?
 - a. When dolphins swim rapidly
 - b. When dolphins jump out of the water
 - c. When dolphins ride the bow wave of boats
 - d. When dolphins communicate with each other

3. How do spinner dolphins and bottlenose dolphins differ in their behaviours?
- a. Spinner dolphins exhibit a greater tendency to jump out of the water, whereas bottlenose dolphins prefer less physically demanding activities.
 - b. Bottlenose dolphins exhibit a greater tendency to jump out of the water, whereas spinner dolphins prefer less physically demanding activities.
 - c. Spinner dolphins like to ride the bow wave of boats, while bottlenose dolphins like to porpoise.
 - d. Bottlenose dolphins like to jump out of the water, while spinner dolphins like to breach.
4. Why do dolphins have difficulty manoeuvring in shallow waters?
- a. Because they don't have fins
 - b. Because they are afraid of predators in shallow waters
 - c. Because their bodies are designed for shallow waters
 - d. Because they have streamlined bodies and powerful tails
5. Look at A), B), C), and D). They show where the following sentence could be added to the passage.

“These new studies have revealed that dolphins employ a complex mix of biomechanics, environmental awareness, and possible echolocation adaptations to navigate the open seas effectively.”

Where would the sentence best fit? Choose one to add the sentence to the passage.

- a. A)
- b. B)
- c. C)
- d. D)

Reading 1-B

Instructions: Read the passage carefully. Answer each question by choosing the correct letter.

In an inspiring display of community spirit, local high school students have been dedicating their time to assist the elderly residents in our town. The initiative, known as "Youth for Elders," was conceived by high school seniors Emily Chen and Raj Patel. Motivated by their own grandparents' struggles with isolation during the pandemic, they sought to alleviate similar challenges faced by other seniors in the community. The program, which began at the start of the school year, has already made a significant difference in many lives.

The students involved in "Youth for Elders" assist in various ways. Some offer tech support, helping seniors navigate the digital world, from setting up video calls with distant family members to ordering groceries online. Others help with household tasks or run errands. A few students even share their musical talents, offering mini-concerts to brighten the seniors' day. The response from the elderly community has been overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing gratitude for the students' patience, kindness, and assistance.

The school administration has also expressed support for the initiative, commending the students for demonstrating values of empathy, community service, and respect for elders. With plans to expand the program, the students are currently recruiting more volunteers and reaching out to more seniors in the community. "Youth for Elders" serves as a shining example of the positive impact the younger generation can make, reminding us of the value of connections between the young and the old.

1. Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the article?
 - a. "Local High School Launches Tech Support Program"
 - b. "Students and Seniors: A Symbiotic Relationship"
 - c. "Local Students Volunteer to Assist Elderly Community Members"
 - d. "High School Seniors Plan to Expand Community Service Program"

2. What inspired the creation of the "Youth for Elders" program?
 - a. The founders' own struggles with isolation
 - b. The school administration's request
 - c. The need for tech support among the elderly
 - d. The founders' grandparents' struggles with isolation

3. What is the main purpose of the "Youth for Elders" program?
 - a. To provide tech support to the elderly
 - b. To assist the elderly in various ways and alleviate their loneliness
 - c. To offer mini-concerts to the elderly
 - d. To run errands for the elderly

4. Which task is NOT listed as one the students perform for the elderly?

- a. Tech support
- b. Music performances
- c. Housekeeping
- d. Making video calls to them

5. Which is closest in meaning to “shining” in paragraph 3?

- a. Clean
- b. Bright
- c. Excellent
- d. Young

Writing

The purpose of this essay is to test your ability to write in English.

Instructions:

Answer the following prompt in English (100-150 words):

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students do not need homework in order to learn at school.

Present your ideas clearly and logically, with an introduction, main body, and conclusion, and give at least 2 reasons to support your answer. Your essay should be three paragraphs.

You may use the space below to plan your essay.