

To be completed by candidate

NSN

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School Code

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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

32403 TERM 3

Draw a cross through the box (X) if you have NOT written in this booklet

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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Literacy 2025

32403 Demonstrate understanding of ideas and information in written texts

Credits: Five

WEEK TWO | 8–12 SEPTEMBER 2025

OUTCOMES	
1	Demonstrate understanding of written texts.
2	Evaluate written texts with critical awareness.
3	Process written texts for different purposes.

Enter your National Student Number (NSN) and School Code into the space above.

You should attempt ALL the questions in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–28 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (///). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

QUESTION ONE

Read the article (below and on page 3) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 4 and 5.

Why singing is good for your body and mind**by Michael Mosely**

Singing is something we all do at some

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

know that inflammation is linked in with our mental health.”



Singing and mental health

Dr Fancourt's research has revealed how singing can help people with mental health

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the habit and keep it up.

Glossary

immune system

defends the body against infection or disease

inflammation

the body's response to injury or infection, which could be heat, redness, pain, or swelling

- (a) *But is it something YOU should be doing more often to benefit your health?*

YOU has been put in capital letters to:

- ☐ encourage readers to think about how singing applies to them.
- ☐ make readers question if they are any good at singing.
- ☐ show readers that they probably aren't singing enough.
- ☐ help readers understand that their opinions on singing matter.

- (b) *Lower levels of inflammation improve our immune system's **capacity** to respond to infections.*

In this sentence, which word has the closest meaning to **capacity**?

- ☐ purpose
- ☐ speed
- ☐ ability
- ☐ sensitivity

- (c) The writer most likely wants readers to sing more because it:

- ☐ is the best way to stay healthy and live longer.
- ☐ is an activity that anyone can do without special training.
- ☐ helps people feel more comfortable in social situations.
- ☐ provides physical, mental, and social benefits.

- (d) Which section tells us that singing is more beneficial than listening to music?

- ☐ Boost your mood with singing
- ☐ Singing and mental health
- ☐ Singing and your immune system
- ☐ What's the best way to sing more?

- (e) If a researcher wanted to learn more about how singing affects the immune system, who or what would be the best source?

- ☐ Reading more articles by the writer Michael Mosely.
- ☐ Contacting Dr Fancourt, who has led studies on singing and immunity.
- ☐ Joining a choir to experience the health benefits.
- ☐ Finding a general study on how music influences emotions.

- (f) Two of the studies mentioned in this article have found:

- ☐ how long you have to sing to get positive health benefits.
- ☐ how loud you have to sing to increase your immune response.
- ☐ what types of singing provide the best benefits to your health.
- ☐ what singing does to improve lung function and blood pressure.

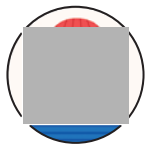
QUESTION TWO

Read the *ASK US* article (below and on page 7) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 8 and 9.

ASK US: All about your teeth!

This month we asked readers for questions about teeth.

Answering our questions is Trei Simati, who gained a history degree at the University of Auckland then a Bachelor of Dentistry at the University of Otago. He has owned *Nifo Dental* in Wellington since 2010. Trei combined his love of dentistry and history in writing *The Absolute Tooth: The Definitive History of Dentistry* earlier this year. When not working, he enjoys going to the beach with his wife and three kids.



Are teeth a type of bone?

Kiwa

No, while teeth look similar to bones, they are made from different materials and have different functions. Bones can heal themselves, are made mostly from collagen, and contain bone marrow, which makes blood cells. Teeth can't repair themselves and are made of calcium. The enamel that coats our teeth mainly consists of hydroxyapatite, which is the hardest substance in your body. However, once the enamel is damaged, it's gone – that's why it's so important to look after your teeth!



How many teeth do we have?

Simon

Over their lifetime, most people have 52 teeth across two sets: 20 primary (baby) teeth and 32 permanent (adult) teeth.

Primary teeth usually start to emerge around six months of age and are fully in place by age three. They begin to fall out around age six, making way for permanent teeth.

Your permanent teeth are made up of eight incisors, four canines, eight premolars, and twelve molars (which includes four wisdom teeth). Wisdom teeth usually **emerge** in early adulthood, although some people never develop them. Your permanent teeth are your last set of teeth – so make sure you brush, floss, and have regular check ups. Check ups are free until you're 18!



Why does the dentist x-ray my teeth?

Billie, Aged six

X-rays are an important tool that dentists have for looking after your teeth. X-rays are like superhero vision! They let us see things in your teeth that we could never see with our bare eyes. So sometimes if little bitty holes start to form, we'll see it on our x-ray and we can fix them up if we need to, or sometimes we'll keep an eye on them for next time.



How did people keep their teeth clean before toothbrushes and toothpaste were invented?

Jasleen, from Wellington

Throughout history, people used a variety of methods and natural substances to care for their teeth as they knew how important teeth were!

Teeth cleaning sticks have been used around the world since the time of the ancient Egyptians.

Before toothpaste, people used natural substances to clean their teeth. The Romans, for example, used a mixture of crushed bones, oyster shells, and charcoal. We are lucky we have much tastier toothpastes today to help keep our precious teeth clean!

(a) What is the main way that teeth and bones are different?

- ☐ Teeth are hard and bones are soft.
- ☐ Bones are made of calcium and teeth from collagen.
- ☐ You have more teeth than bones in your body.
- ☐ Bones can heal themselves and teeth can't.

(b) *Over their lifetime, most people have 52 teeth across two sets: 20 primary (baby) teeth and 32 permanent (adult) teeth.*

The writer uses brackets () in this sentence to provide:

- ☐ the commonly-used names.
- ☐ in-depth definitions of terms.
- ☐ more details about teeth.
- ☐ references that can be checked.

(c) *Wisdom teeth usually **emerge** in early adulthood, although some people never develop them.*

In this sentence, which phrase has the closest meaning to **emerge**?

- ☐ fall out
- ☐ recover well
- ☐ come up
- ☐ become clear

(d) Trei changes the style of his writing to meet the needs of which person?

- ☐ Kiwa
- ☐ Billie
- ☐ Simon
- ☐ Jasleen

(e) Why should Trei Simati's answer to Jasleen's question be trusted?

- ☐ He owns a dental business.
- ☐ He is a parent of three children.
- ☐ He gained a qualification as a dentist.
- ☐ He has written a book on this topic.

(f) If you want to know more about what your teeth are made from, you should read the response to:

- ☐ Simon's question.
- ☐ Kiwa's question.
- ☐ Billie's question.
- ☐ Jasleen's question.

QUESTION THREE

Read Text A, Text B, Text C, and Text D (below and on page 11) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 12 and 13.

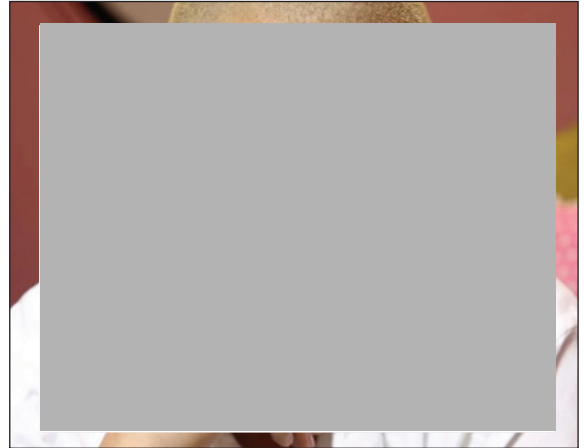
Text A (from an article)

From her aunt's garage to the world stage (3 August 2021)

At age 15, Parris Goebel started a dance group, ReQuest, in her aunt's garage with four friends.

Now she has stars lining up wanting her as their choreographer.

Parris grew up the youngest of four children in Manurewa, Auckland. She loved dance even as a small child. By age eight, she was enrolled in tap, jazz, and ballet classes. But she found her true passion when she started hip hop dance lessons at age 10.



By age 17, Parris had co-founded the *Palace Dance Studio*. **She'd also pioneered a style of hip hop dance called Polyswagg.** This distinctive new style brought Parris international attention after her dance groups won gold eight times at the World Hip Hop Championships.

Since then, Parris has done everything from directing Justin Bieber's music videos to choreographing Jennifer Lopez's dance routine at the 2020 Super Bowl halftime show. Parris has also worked with a long list of artists, including Ariana Grande, Rihanna, Nicki Minaj, and Taeyang.

She's packed so much into her life that she wrote her autobiography three years ago at the age of 25.

Text B (from an article)

Creative New Zealand partnership with Parris Goebel's *Palace Dance Studio* supports 25 young dancers in major European tour 2024 (31 October 2024)

A partnership under Creative New Zealand's Pacific Arts Strategy has helped 25 young

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

young people to dream big," Parris says.

Text C (from an article)**Parris Goebel, Lady Gaga's Coachella choreographer (29 April 2025)**

Parris Goebel is the choreographer behind Lady Gaga's Coachella Valley Music and Arts

[REDACTED] headlining set at Coachella

in 2024.

Text D (from an article)**New Year Honours: Parris Goebel made Member of the
New Zealand Order of Merit (31 December 2019)**

Award-winning choreographer Parris Goebel has become a Member of the New Zealand

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

often passed over for
other sporting codes.

Glossary

choreographer

person who creates a dance

- (a) *She'd also **pioneered** a style of hip hop dance called Polyswagg.*

In this sentence in Text A, which word has the closest meaning to **pioneered**?

- ☐ taught
- ☐ developed
- ☐ watched
- ☐ learned

- (b) *She's packed so much into her life that she wrote her autobiography three years ago at the age of 25.*

An autobiography is a book someone writes about their own life. The writer of Text A most likely thinks:

- ☐ Parris wrote an autobiography because she has achieved a lot at a young age.
- ☐ Parris should have written her autobiography at a younger age.
- ☐ Parris wrote an autobiography because she knows lots of famous people.
- ☐ Parris should have written her autobiography later in life.

- (c) In Text B, what is the name of the dance training programme funded by Creative New Zealand?

- ☐ ReQuest
- ☐ Pacific Arts Strategy
- ☐ Palace Dance Studio
- ☐ The Hip Hop Youth Development Initiative

- (d) Which text has the most recent information about Parris Goebel?

- ☐ Text A
- ☐ Text B
- ☐ Text C
- ☐ Text D

- (e) Which text would you recommend reading if someone wanted to know more about Parris' early life?

☐ Text A

☐ Text B

☐ Text C

☐ Text D

- (f) After reading all four texts, a reader would know that:

☐ Parris has written at least two books about her life so far.

☐ Parris mainly works with musical artists from New Zealand.

☐ Parris' dance groups have won gold at the Hip Hop Dance three times.

☐ Parris has choreographed more than one Super Bowl halftime show.

QUESTION FOUR

Read Text A, Text B, and Text C (below and on page 15) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 16 and 17.

Text A**Amaia's job search**

Amaia is a 13-year-old student at Sunnyside Area School. She is looking for a part-time job. She found these four jobs on the community noticeboard.

1. Monday to Friday. Walk two children (ages 8 and 10 years) to their home each day after school and stay with them until 5:30 p.m. Could suit a student who also goes to Sunnyside Area School.
2. Ten hours weekend work helping in a local orchard in Sunnyside. Training in use of ride-on mower provided.
3. Sunnyside newspaper delivery from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Monday to Saturday.
4. Casual work washing dishes in Sunnyside Surf and Turf restaurant. Friday and Saturday nights. Approximately three hours per night from 6 to 9 p.m.

Text B (from a website)**Hiring Young People – Employment New Zealand****Restrictions on work hours**

If you employ any school-aged students (under the age of 16), their work hours must:

- be outside of school hours only (this is an education requirement)
- not be between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., including at times that interfere with the student doing schoolwork (this is a health and safety requirement).

You and the student's parents can both be fined up to \$1,000 under the Education and Training Act 2020 if you employ school-aged students during school hours – unless you have a certificate of exemption.

Employees under 15 years old

An employee or contractor who is under 15 years old cannot work:

- on a logging site, for example, a forest where trees are being cut down or processed
- on a construction site
- in any area where goods or hazardous substances are being manufactured
- in any area where the work requires lifting heavy weight
- in any area where the work being done is likely to harm you
- with any machinery or assist work with any machinery.

These restrictions do not apply if the person under 15 years is always working in:

- an office in that area, or
- any part of that area used only for selling goods or services.

Employees under 14 years old

- A person under 14 years old cannot work as a babysitter, au pair, or nanny without adult supervision.

This is because it's an offence to leave anyone under 14 years old unsupervised.

Employment agreements

The rules for employment agreements apply to everyone:

- You must provide a copy of the agreement to the intended employee and give them the opportunity to take it away and get advice on the terms.
- Employees under 18 years old can sign an employment agreement, but they should be encouraged to get help when agreeing to the terms and conditions.

Text C (from a website)

About Employment New Zealand

Employment New Zealand is part of the government department Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment. They can help you understand your rights and responsibilities as an employee or employer.

(a) Which of these times could Amaia work according to Text B?

- ☐ Monday 2–4 p.m.
- ☐ Friday 4–6 p.m.
- ☐ Thursday 5–7 a.m.
- ☐ Saturday 8–11 p.m.

(b) Most of the bullet points in Text B:

- ☐ describe everyday workplaces for young people.
- ☐ provide rules for young people to follow at work.
- ☐ explain reasons why young people should not work.
- ☐ give situations where young people cannot work.

(c) Text B is mainly written for:

- ☐ schools and guidance counsellors.
- ☐ employees under 18 years of age.
- ☐ employers of young people.
- ☐ school-aged students and their parents.

(d) Amaia can trust the information in Text B because it:

- ☐ has different sections of information.
- ☐ is written by a government department.
- ☐ provides a lot of details in a list format.
- ☐ has information relevant for different ages.

- (e) Amaia's uncle is a builder and tells her that he might be able to get her a job on a construction site.

Which section has more information about whether Amaia could do this job?

- ☐ Employees under 15 years old
- ☐ Restrictions on work hours
- ☐ Employees under 14 years old
- ☐ Employment agreements

- (f) According to Text B, which job in Text A is suitable for Amaia?

- ☐ Job one
- ☐ Job two
- ☐ Job three
- ☐ Job four

QUESTION FIVE

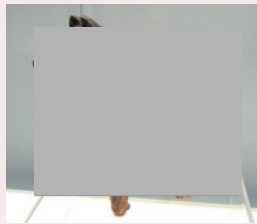
Read the information (below and on page 19) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 20 and 21.

The History of Pets: A Timeline

For thousands of years, humans have formed bonds with animals, shaping their evolution and our own. From ancient wolves to modern pets, this timeline traces the journey of domestication and companionship through history.

20,000 years ago (or longer)

Dogs



*Ceramic dog, China,
1st century*

We don't know precisely when or where dogs were first domesticated by humans as our relationship pre-dates written histories.

Dogs were domesticated from a type of wolf that is now extinct. A 2021 research study of the current evidence suggests that domestication of the dog began in Siberia 19,700–26,000 years ago.

The oldest known dog skeletons, dated about 33,000 years ago, were found in the Altai Mountains of Siberia and a cave in Belgium.

10,000 years ago

Cats



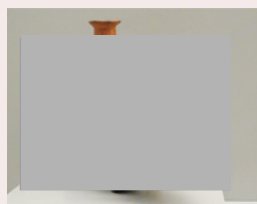
*Bronze cat statue,
Egypt,
664–332 BCE*

Cats were first domesticated from the African wildcat in the Middle East 10,000 years ago.

Cats probably originally adopted humans as much as we adopted them – they moved into our homes to gain access to tasty mice (and we liked that they were able to perform pest control for us!)

7,000 years ago

Guinea pigs

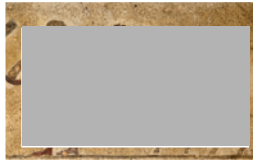


*Ceramic guinea
pig vessel, Peru,
around 1000*

Guinea pigs were first domesticated in South America.

In the early 1500s, Spanish, Dutch, and English traders took guinea pigs to Europe, where they quickly became popular as pets among the upper classes and royalty.

5,000–2,000 years ago **Ancient Egypt**

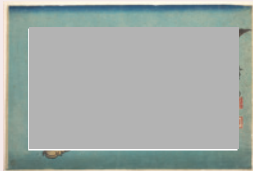


*Painting walking
mongoose and dog,
Egypt, around
2000 BCE*

If you love pets, you'd have loved living in ancient Egypt! Their pets included dogs, cats, monkeys, fish, gazelles, birds, lions, mongooses, and hippos. Crocodiles were even kept as sacred animals in some temples.

“All the inhabitants of a house where a cat has died a natural death shave their eyebrows and, when a dog dies, they shave the whole body including the head.”
Herodotus

2,000 years ago **Fish**

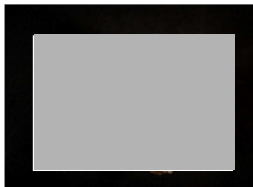


*Koi woodblock print,
Japan, 1842*

Breeding to domesticate fish into koi and fancy goldfish began over 2,000 years ago in Japan and China.

The Chinese kept goldfish indoors in large ceramic vessels during the Song dynasty.

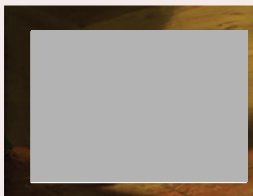
800 years ago **Kurī**



*Kurī carving,
New Zealand,
around 1740*

Kurī were a type of Polynesian dog brought to New Zealand by Māori. Descended from the domesticated dogs of Southeast Asia, kurī may have also shared a **remote** ancestor with the dingo. Kurī were a small, long-haired, calm-natured breed of dog, with short legs and a bushy tail. They howled rather than barked – the Māori word for the sound was ‘auau’.

200 years ago **Rabbits**



*Rabbits, England,
around 1790*

While rabbits had been domesticated and kept in captivity for more than 2,000 years, it was only really in the Victorian era that they were first seen as pets.

Glossary

domestication

adapting animals to live with people, often to keep as a pet

(a) The writer most likely included images of the animals to show how:

- ☐ pets have been a part of our everyday lives through history.
- ☐ pets looked different in the past compared to now.
- ☐ people have become better at making art of pets over time.
- ☐ people who have pets enjoy making art.

(b) *“All the inhabitants of a house where a cat has died a natural death, shave their eyebrows and, when a dog dies, they shave the whole body including the head.”*

Herodotus

This quote was included by the writer to show:

- ☐ dogs are better than cats, even in ancient Egypt.
- ☐ Herodotus owned cats and dogs in ancient Egypt.
- ☐ how important pets were in ancient Egypt.
- ☐ that people in ancient Egypt invented shaving.

(c) *Descended from the domesticated dogs of Southeast Asia, kurī may have also shared a **remote** ancestor with the dingo.*

In this sentence, which word has the closest meaning to **remote**?

- ☐ insignificant
- ☐ unlikely
- ☐ fierce
- ☐ distant

(d) Which section mentions a research study which could be checked by the reader?

- ☐ Fish
- ☐ Cats
- ☐ Dogs
- ☐ Guinea pigs

(e) According to this information, which animal most likely chose to live with humans?

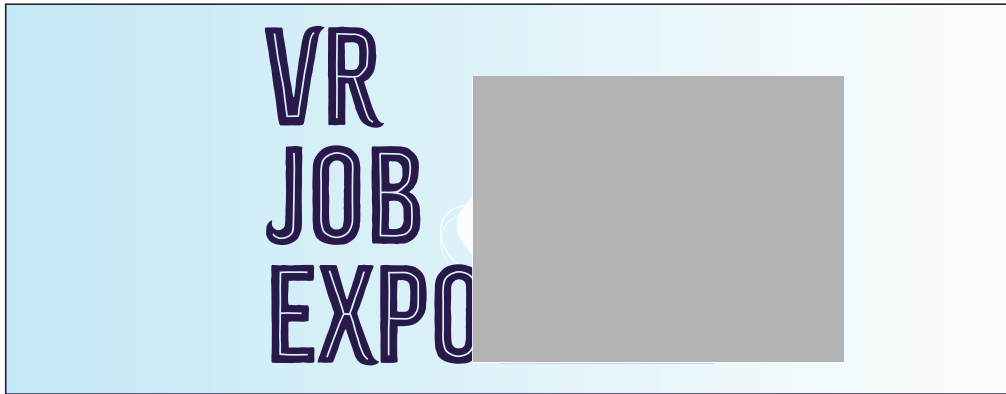
- ☐ Dogs
- ☐ Cats
- ☐ Rabbits
- ☐ Guinea pigs

(f) According to the timeline, which two animals were domesticated around the same time?

- ☐ Rabbits and goldfish.
- ☐ Kurī and koi.
- ☐ Mongooses and dogs.
- ☐ Guinea pigs and cats.

QUESTION SIX

Read both Text A and Text B (below and on page 23) and select (✓) the best answer to all parts of the question on pages 24 and 25.

Text A (from an article)**The Virtual Reality (VR) Job Expo programme**

The VR Job Expo is happening all over Aotearoa New Zealand, so check their website for

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

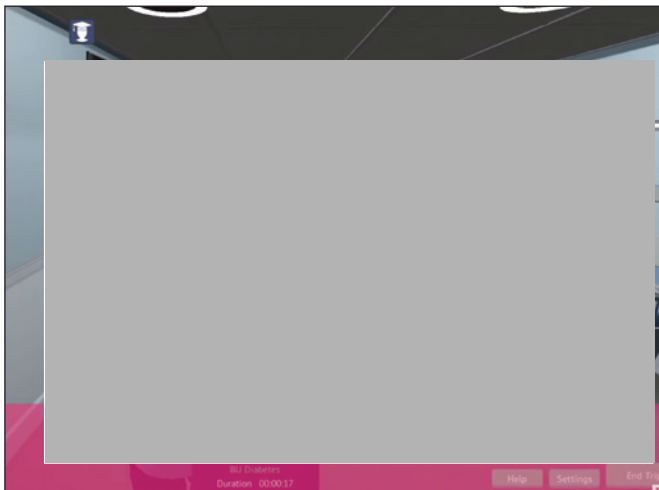
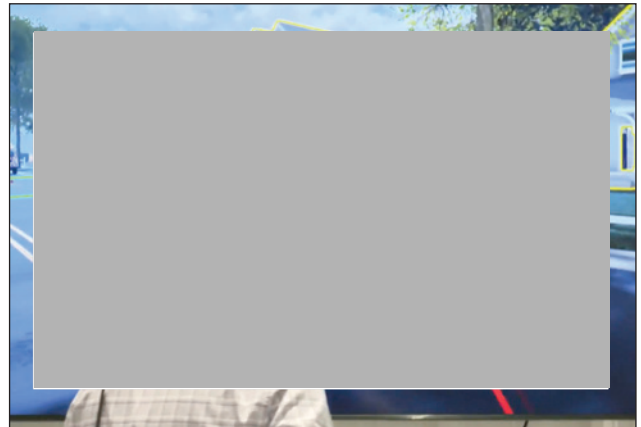
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

they don't want to do. And that way they can put themselves on the right path."

Text B (from an online video)**Virtual reality in the workforce**

Firefighter virtual reality trainer Ray explains that, “VR is not a replacement for learning in the field, but it is a great tool. It gives a similar feel to real fires, but without the pressure. You can hear crackling, background noises that can be distractions in a real situation. When firefighters have finished the simulation, they get feedback. They can see which points they need to improve on. The green line shows what they did right, the yellow what they did okay, and the red are things that they completely missed.”



Nursing lecturer Dr Janet James has positive experiences with VR simulators. In one example, a 52-year-old male ‘patient’ displays various symptoms. The students go through a number of steps and do a number of tests to diagnose that, in this case, he has low blood sugar. They then choose the correct treatments for him. Students find that computer simulation is better than just listening to a traditional lecture. They can more easily visualise the learning, so they can then link the theory with the practice.

- (a) The main reason that the VR Job Expo website link has been provided in Text A is because it is likely to give information about:

- ☐ how to get a job in a different industry.
- ☐ what job vacancies are available locally.
- ☐ how you can find a job expo near you.
- ☐ what training is needed for a new job.

- (b) *Spokesperson Nicola Anderson said, "Trying to find a job can be **daunting**,"*

In this sentence in Text A, which word has the closest meaning to **daunting**?

- ☐ devastating
- ☐ motivating
- ☐ powerful
- ☐ overwhelming

- (c) The writer of Text A talked to Jaxson, Seth, and Bridget about their experiences to show:

- ☐ the range of jobs you can learn about through VR.
- ☐ how employers use VR to test if you can do the job.
- ☐ why VR is the future of work for people in New Zealand.
- ☐ that VR is only a simulation and is not actually real.

- (d) The main purpose of Text B is to:

- ☐ show that knowing how to use VR can help you get a job.
- ☐ persuade you that VR is better than training at work.
- ☐ explain how VR can be used in training for jobs.
- ☐ describe how VR will replace people's jobs.

(e) Both Text A and Text B show that virtual reality:

- ☐ is a widely used workplace training tool.
- ☐ can help people learn more about a job.
- ☐ is a good way to reduce pressure at work.
- ☐ can help people find new job opportunities.

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The assessment continues on the following page.**

Acknowledgements

Material from the following sources has been adapted for use in this assessment:

Question One

(text): www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2VZPZmq2pRSMT2YHWbQdW7/why-singing-is-good-for-your-body-and-mind;
(image): stock.adobe.com/1304924303

Question Two

(text): www.lantzychildrensdentistry.com/top-10-questions-about-your-teeth
(images): dental chart, stock.adobe.com/575585655
Pikisuperstar avatars, www.freepik.com/free-vector/pack-people-avatars_7085146.htm

Question Three

(image) www.stuff.co.nz/entertainment/arts/118516856/parris-goebel-gets-new-year-honour-ahead-of-massive-2020-for-the-dance-star
Text B: www.creativenz.govt.nz/news-and-blog/2024/10/31/20/16/00/partnership-with-parris-goebels-palace-dance-studio;
Text C: www.vanityfair.com/style/story/parris-goebel-interview
Text D: www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/406432/new-year-honours-parris-goebel-made-member-of-the-new-zealand-order-of-merit

Question Four

Text B: <https://www.employment.govt.nz/starting-employment/hiring/hiring-young-people>

Question Five

(text): ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uuid:e31cc7b2-7912-47ac-89f5-ebc883f31160;
(images): Dog, commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Green_glazed_pottery_dog_Eastern_Han_25CE_220CE.jpg; Cat, commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ancient_Egyptian_bronze_statue_of_a_reclining_cat_and_kitten.jpg; Guinea pig, read.uolpress.co.uk/api/proxy/ingestion_sources/0f4db1d7-0ba1-42d5-a0c4-1e9c01e46860; Dog and mongoose, www.livescience.com/59022-egypt-tomb-with-leashed-mongoose-drawing.html; Koi, www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/36696; Kurī, www.canterburymuseum.com/explore/our-stories/mans-best-friend-in-pre-european-new-zealand; Rabbits, artuk.org/discover/artworks/rabbits-92721

Question Six

Text A: www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/475305/virtual-reality-gives-job-seekers-insight-into-a-variety-workplaces;
(image): VR job expo banner, stock.adobe.com/637280252;
Text B: Firefighting VR, www.youtube.com/watch?v=3g-hvOp7xNE; nursing VR, www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKpw1RbZ1hA&t=8s