S4 English Practice Paper: Reading Comprehension and Writing (12 questions, 100 marks, 75 minutes) — Answers

S4　English Language　|　時限：75 分鐘　|　總分：100 分　|　共 12 題

甲部 閱讀理解（一）

The Repair Cafe on Tai Nan Street

Every Saturday afternoon, a small shop in Sham Shui Po opens its doors to broken things. The Repair Cafe was started in 2019 by two retired technicians who were tired of watching usable lamps, fans and radios go into the bin. Hong Kong households throw away about 3,600 tonnes of electrical waste every year, and a large share of it still works or can be fixed.

Inside, six volunteers sit at long tables with screwdrivers, testers and boxes of spare parts. A visitor arrives with a fan, a rice cooker or a bicycle, and waits while a volunteer explains what has gone wrong. Nothing is repaired without a conversation, because the rule of the cafe is that the owner must watch and learn. A small donation pays for the parts; the labour is free.

The cafe saves more than money. Last year it kept 1,100 items out of the landfill, and its monthly workshops taught 400 residents how to replace a plug or a fuse safely. For Mr Chan, a regular visitor, the value is different. "I came to fix a lamp," he says, "but I stayed because I met my neighbours."

細閱以下文章，然後回答第 1 至 4 題。

1. According to paragraph 1, what are the two reasons why the Repair Cafe was started?

答案：Two retired technicians were tired of seeing usable lamps, fans and radios thrown away (2 marks); Hong Kong households discard about 3,600 tonnes of electrical waste a year and much of it can still be fixed (2 marks); clear explanation in own words (2 marks); accurate, complete sentences (2 marks).

2. In paragraph 2, find a word that means "people who give their time without being paid".

答案："volunteers" (2 marks); explained as people who help in the shop without being paid (2 marks); correct spelling (2 marks); complete sentence (2 marks).

3. Why does the writer say that the cafe "saves more than money"? Explain with reference to paragraph 3.

答案：It saves money for owners, but it also keeps goods out of the landfill: 1,100 items were saved last year (2 marks); the monthly workshops taught 400 residents to replace a plug or fuse safely (2 marks); visitors also meet their neighbours, so it builds community (2 marks); quotation from Mr Chan supports this (2 marks).

4. Do you think the monthly workshops are a good idea? Give one reason based on the passage.

答案：A clear position (1 mark); a reason taken from the passage, e.g. 400 residents learned to repair items, less electrical waste, neighbours meet (3 marks); the reason is explained and linked to the position (2 marks); accurate language (2 marks).

乙部 閱讀理解（二）・數據分析

Sleep, screens and school

In March a group of S4 students surveyed 240 classmates about their sleep. The results suggest that most of them sleep less than the eight to ten hours recommended for teenagers.

Hours of sleep a night | Students | Percentage
Less than 6 hours | 36 | 15%
6 to 7 hours | 84 | 35%
7 to 8 hours | 96 | 40%
More than 8 hours | 24 | 10%
Total | 240 | 100%

Students who slept less than seven hours were twice as likely to report falling asleep in class. The most common reason they gave was using a phone in bed: 152 students chose it, while 61 blamed homework and 27 blamed noise from the street.

The Student Council has asked the school to begin lessons at 8:30 a.m. instead of 8:00 a.m., arguing that a later start would help the 6-to-7-hour group. Teachers point out, however, that the school bus timetable and the public examination timetable cannot be changed easily.

細閱以下文章及數據表，然後回答第 5 至 8 題。

5. How many of the 240 students slept less than 7 hours a night?

答案：36 + 84 = 120 students (working 2 marks, answer 2 marks, unit 1 mark); clear calculation shown (3 marks).

6. What percentage of the students slept between 7 and 8 hours?

答案：40% (3 marks); 96 / 240 x 100% = 40% shown (5 marks).

7. Using the midpoints 5.5, 6.5, 7.5 and 8.5 hours, calculate the mean sleep time of the 240 students.

答案：Mean = (36x5.5 + 84x6.5 + 96x7.5 + 24x8.5) / 240 = 1,668 / 240 = 6.95 hours (working 4 marks, total 1,668 for 2 marks, answer 6.95 for 2 marks).

8. Give one argument for and one argument against starting lessons at 8:30 a.m., using the passage.

答案：For: 152 students use a phone in bed and a later start would let them sleep longer, so fewer fall asleep in class (4 marks). Against: the school bus timetable and the public examination timetable cannot easily be changed (4 marks). A position without evidence from the passage scores at most 3 marks.

丙部 寫作

根據以下指示完成第 9 至 12 題。

9. Write an email inviting a friend to a beach clean-up on Saturday. Include the date, the meeting place and what to bring.

答案：Format (salutation, invitation tone, closing, name) 4 marks; all three content points, i.e. date, meeting place, what to bring, 3 marks; friendly tone and accurate sentences 2 marks.

10. Write an article for the school magazine explaining how students can reduce plastic waste in school. Give two concrete suggestions.

答案：Headline and paragraphs 2 marks; two concrete suggestions, e.g. water dispensers, reusable cutlery instead of disposables, 4 marks; likely effect explained 2 marks; accurate language 1 mark.

11. Write a letter to the editor complaining about late-night noise near your home. Explain the effects and ask for action.

答案：Letter format (salutation, body, signature) 3 marks; when the noise happens and how it affects the writer 3 marks; a specific request for action 2 marks; formal tone 1 mark.

12. Write a blog description of a busy market in the morning, using details from at least three senses.

答案：At least three sensory details (sight, sound, smell) 3 marks; a vivid, specific scene 3 marks; paragraph organisation 2 marks; grammatical accuracy 1 mark.

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