

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
LITERACY AND NUMERACY**

**YEAR**

**9**

**LANGUAGE  
CONVENTIONS**

**18**

**2009**

**STUDENT TO COMPLETE**

Please print your first name and last name below.  
Write in capital letters.

\_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME

Are you a boy or girl?

boy

girl

What is your date of birth?

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of your school?

\_\_\_\_\_

**SESSION 1**

**0:45**

Time available for students  
to complete test: 45 minutes

Use 2B or HB  
pencil **only**



# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

## TEACHER TO COMPLETE

Is this student Aboriginal?

yes

no

Is this student a Torres Strait Islander?

yes

no

Does this student have a language background other than English?

yes

no

School Code \_\_\_\_\_

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

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meant to be blank**

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

## PRACTICE QUESTIONS

The spelling mistake in this sentence has been circled.  
Write the correct spelling for the circled word in the box.

**P1** We went to scool.

This sentence has one word that is incorrect.  
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

**P2** We bought fresh bred.

Shade one  
bubble. 

**P3** Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Do you have            pet?

a

if

he

she

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Cats and dogs*. The text has a gap.  
Choose the correct word or words to fill the gap.

## Cats and dogs

Some people like cats  
they like dogs.

**P4**

- more
- more best
- more than
- more better

**Shade two  
bubbles.**



**P5** Where do the **two** missing full stops ( . ) go?

We are having a party It will be fun



# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

1 The nineteenth-century bilding was heritage listed.

2 The bravary of our lifesavers at the beach is legendary.

3 Doing daily sit-ups is an excellent way to strengthen the stummick muscles.

4 It was the begining of the school year.

5 Tiny particals of dust were floating in the sunlight.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**6** When Kim saw the advertisement on television, she knew what she wanted for her birthday.

**7** The hostel was not big enough to acommidate all the backpackers.

**8** All donations to charities are greatfuly received.

**9** Nurses take a consientous approach to patient care.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *The Christmas Island red crab*.  
The spelling mistakes have been circled.  
Write the correct spelling for each circled word  
in the box.

## The Christmas Island red crab

**10** Christmas Island is home to many unique speacies. The most famous of these is the Christmas Island red crab.

**11** Tourists visit the island for the red crabs' anuell migration to the sea to spawn.

**12** At the peak of the migration season, the crabs cover the island so denssley that they can be seen from the air.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Sun protection*.

The spelling mistakes have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

## Sun protection

**13** I occasionally wonder about some of my friends.

**14** They still go out into the sun without the appropriat protection.

**15** They know that this inevitably causes skin damage.

**16** Why do people do this when the damage is preventibel ?

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Why do we yawn?*

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.

Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

## Why do we yawn?

- 17** Imagine you are at a meeting in a crowded and poorly ventilated room.

- 18** If someone starts yawning, so do you, because yawning is an infectious and involuntary action.

- 19** One suggestion as to why people yawn is that it elevates the amount of oxygen in their bloodstream.

- 20** Extra oxygen might help to alleviate fatigue.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.  
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

**21** The coach made the team watch  
a vidio of the previous game.

**22** The chemical structure of many  
plastics makes them flexable.

**23** The detective was certain of the  
identity of the suspect.

**24** The volcanic eruption spread  
lava across the region.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.  
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.**

**25** The catastrophic storm and subsequent flooding cost billions.

**26** The perimeter of a circle is its circumfrance.

**27** The author has created an admirable character who has intelligents and curiosity.

**28** The survey committee was asked to exclude any irelevant data.

**29** The persistant winds and associated downpour caused havoc.

**30** For our health project, we had to record our kilojul intake for an entire week.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Shade two  
bubbles.



**31** Where do the **two** missing commas ( , ) go?

The computers which were donated by local



businesses are located in the library.



**32** Which sentence is correct?

Shade one  
bubble.



- Helen paid for that tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for this tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for them tickets with my money.
- Helen paid for those tickets with my money.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Shanaka Fernando*. The text has some gaps. Choose the correct option to fill each gap.

## Shanaka Fernando

Shade one bubble. 

In 2007, Melbourne's Shanaka Fernando was awarded the Australia's Local Hero Award **33** of his work as the founder of the not-for-profit restaurants, Lentil as Anything.

- for recognising
- in recognising
- for recognition
- in recognition

Shanaka made a speech when he accepted his award. His comments on the meaning of being Australian **34** .

- is interesting
- were interesting
- was interesting
- will be interesting

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

“I didn’t know the answer to the question of what it means to be Australian until quite **35**,” said Shanaka.

- recently
  - before
  - now
  - soon
- 

“I went out into country Victoria with refugees for a tree planting weekend, and I came into contact **36** I considered an amazing spirit of community and openness.

- with who
  - with which
  - with what
  - with where
- 

To be Australian **37** welcoming of others. It is to encourage each other to shine and to reach our full potential.”

- is I think to be,
  - is, I think to be
  - is I think, to be
  - is, I think, to be
-

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Shade one bubble.



**38** Where should the missing apostrophe ( ' ) go?

The cross-section of a fallen tree shows its growth rings,  
which indicate the trees age.

**39** Which option correctly completes the sentence?

■ running out of oil—the backbone of modern economies and the fuel of western civilisation.

Were

We're

Where

We're

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**40** Which sentence uses speech marks ( “ and ” ) correctly?

- “Quietly he asked,” Where did you leave it?”
- Quietly he asked, “Where did you leave it?”
- “Quietly he asked, where did you leave it?”
- Quietly he asked”, where did you leave it?”

Shade one bubble. 

**41** Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The first of Tim Winton’s novels that I read

 ***Blueback.***

am

are

was

were

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**42** Which sentence is correct?

- Regarding Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- In regards to Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- Comparing with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- In comparison with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.

**43** How could this sentence be rewritten correctly with the same meaning?

“Does Jacinta want to use the computer this morning?”  
Ben asked his dad.

- Ben asked his dad did Jacinta want to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked Jacinta if she wanted to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked Jacinta that she wants to use the computer this morning.
- Ben asked his dad whether Jacinta wanted to use the computer this morning.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**44** Which words correctly complete the sentence?

Digital cameras, [REDACTED],  
are now widely used.

- since considering expensive technology
- once considered expensive technology
- which once considered expensive technology
- in spite of considering expensive technology

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Aaron* and answer questions 45 and 46.

Shade one bubble. 

## Aaron

Walking over a hill, Aaron saw that the thin bitumen road levelled out below to wind through the low land like a struggling eel. He stood for a minute, taking it all in: grey cloud, green ground, patches of sunlight, the lake.

**45** In the first sentence, the word ***struggling*** is used as

- a verb.
- a noun.
- an adverb.
- an adjective.

**46** In the second sentence, a colon ( : ) is used to

- introduce an idea.
- introduce a list.
- separate items in a list.
- separate two complete ideas.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**47** Which word in this sentence is a pronoun?

Shade one bubble. 

They stayed away for a while, blunted and dormant.



**48** Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The ten warmest years have all occurred  1990.

within

since

about

during



**49** Which sentence is correct?

- The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.
- The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**50** Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Shade one bubble. 

Plucking the strings of a guitar makes            vibrate,  
and each produces a different range of notes.

it

them

that

those

**51** Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- “Sorry I’m late, he apologised, but my car wouldn’t start.”
- “Sorry I’m late” he apologised “but my car wouldn’t start.”
- “Sorry I’m late,” he apologised, “but my car wouldn’t start.”
- “Sorry I’m late,” he apologised, “But my car wouldn’t start.”

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**52** Which words correctly complete the sentence?

Shade one bubble.



\_\_\_\_\_ sustained, a rainforest requires a rainfall of at least 1500 millimetres a year.

- If they have
- In order to be
- So that they can
- Therefore being

**53** Which option correctly completes the sentence?

Council plans for the new pool were approved \_\_\_\_\_ on Monday.

- last Friday: work will begin
- last Friday, work will begin
- last Friday; work will begin
- last Friday! work will begin

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

- 54** Which punctuation mark should be used in **both** spaces in this sentence?

Shade one bubble.



The three sports [ ] cricket, netball and tennis [ ] were played enthusiastically by the family.

— (dash)

: (colon)

... (ellipsis)

; (semicolon)

**END OF TEST**

# YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

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