Year 6

Thinking Literacy

SAMPLE

Gunter Schymkiw

A
FIVE SENSES
PUBLICATION

About *Thinking Literacy Year 6*

Thinking Literacy Year 6 is a student workbook that is designed to increase literacy and problem solving skills across a wide range of curriculum areas. This book has been specifically written for students in Year 6 and each different set comprises a series of multiple choice questions aimed at developing and/ or reinforcing a particular skill. Each question is aimed at allowing the student to reach an understanding of a problem and comprehend clearly.

This book comprises:

- fifty-two sets of questions
- each set has ten questions
- chronologically arranged sets that become more difficult
- the final sets are aimed to fully extend students' abilities
- all answers to the questions

Students can access these sets at their own level and work through them at their own pace, according to particular needs. *Thinking Literacy Year 6* is full of useful activities that will assist students to develop and practise their literacy and thinking skills in an enjoyable and systematic way.

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SAMPLE

Set 1

Write the correct ending or answer in your book

1. The true lover of beauty sees it in the lowliest flower, meets it in every path, sees it:

- **(a)** everywhere.
- **(b)** rarely.
- **(c)** with increased scarcity.
- **(d)** foolishly.

2. The Vatican is an independent country entirely contained within the boundaries of the city of Rome. With an area of less than half a square kilometre it is:

- **(a)** the world's smallest country.
- **(b)** the world's largest country.
- **(c)** much bigger than Australia.
- **(d)** not big enough to be considered a country.

3. A colloquial expression that means 'to ignore someone' is:

- **(a)** to throw in the towel.
- **(b)** to sit on the fence.
- **(c)** to give the cold shoulder.
- **(d)** to let the cat out of the bag.

4. Latin was the language spoken in ancient Rome. Many words in our language come from Latin. The Latin word *hibernare* meant *to spend the winter.* From it we get the word *hibernate.* Animals which hibernate are not active during winter. They find a shelter and spend the winter:

- **(a)** in a sleep-like state.
- **(b)** hunting from this shelter.
- **(c)** day.
- **(d)** waiting for the sun to come back.

5. George had spent hundreds of hours restoring the old car to its former glory. Now he was actually driving it on the road. He felt happy when he noticed people looking at it with cheerful:

- **(a)** contempt
- **(b)** joy
- **(c)** anger
- **(d)** admiration

6. Biological control uses animals to hunt and control the numbers of pest species. An example might be releasing large numbers of the beetles known as ladybirds in an orchard that had problems with:

- **(a)** teenagers.
- **(b)** the sap sucking insects called aphids.
- **(c)** branches.
- **(d)** themselves.

7. Kyle's progress at school was causing concern. His mother rang the school to ask if she could:

- **(a)** have some lessons herself.
- **(b)** have an interview with his teacher.
- **(c)** cause an interruption.
- **(d)** ring the doctor.

8. What am I? You can feel me but you can never see me. I am never there when things are quiet or still. Even though I do not have arms I can still lift things and move them. Everyone knows when I am on the move even if they cannot see me. I am:

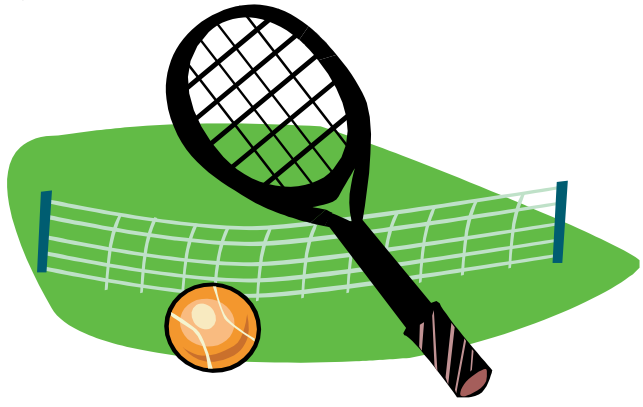
- **(a)** a piece of glass.
- **(b)** a crane.
- **(c)** the wind.
- **(d)** a bulldozer.

9. Which two words are closest in relationship to tennis and racquet?

- **(a)** *football* and *goal.*
- **(b)** *golf* and *ball.*
- **(c)** *cricket* and *bat*
- **(d)** *softball* and *pitcher.*

10. Polio was a crippling disease that affected many people. Nowadays it is not common because in 1954 a doctor named Jonas Salk developed:

- **(a)** the disease.
- **(b)** a vaccine.
- **(c)** a needle.
- **(d)** a new name for it.



SAMPLE

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Set 2

Write the correct ending or answer in your book

1. Stephen can laugh at his nautical mishap now but he certainly did not laugh at the time it happened. He was terrified when:

- **(a)** his boat sank.
- **(b)** he was lost in the forest.
- **(c)** he caught a beautiful salmon.
- **(d)** he lost his race.

2. Charles Sturt led an expedition that followed the Murray River downstream to its mouth at Lake Alexandrina. The journey back was far more difficult because the explorers had to row:

- **(a)** further.
- **(b)** with the flow.
- **(c)** against the current.
- **(d)** in boats.

3. The average depth of the ocean is approximately three and a half kilometres. The Marianas Trench, a deep trench in the Southern Pacific Ocean near the Philippines Islands, reaches a depth of eleven kilometers and:

- **(a)** is shallow in comparison.
- **(b)** is below the national average.
- **(c)** is the ocean's deepest point.
- **(d)** dries up quickly in hot weather.

4. Emma turns twenty in four year's time. Her grandfather is four times as old as she is now. He is:

- **(a)** eighty years old.
- **(b)** forty years old.
- **(c)** sixty-four years old.
- **(d)** twenty-four years old.

5. The sun is an average sized star but it appears to be bigger than other stars because:

- **(a)** other stars are closer to us.
- **(b)** it is closer to us than other stars.
- **(c)** it shines during the daytime only so we can't see other, bigger stars.
- **(d)** it is made of different materials so it appears bigger.

6. The following sentence contains either a single error or no error at all. If the sentence contains an error, select the underlined part that must be changed to make it correct. If the sentence contains no error, select choice D.

The alligator is **related with (A)** the crocodile, but has a **broader (B)** head and **blunter (C)** snout :

- **(a)** A
- **(b)** B
- **(c)** C
- **(d)** D

7. The saying *'Great oaks from little acorns grow'* means :

- **(a)** great people or ideas often have humble beginnings.
- **(b)** acorns are the fruit of oak trees.
- **(c)** oak trees grow to great size if you water them often.
- **(d)** haste makes waste.

8. Today you can do more than just talk on a telephone. Many people use their phones to send written:

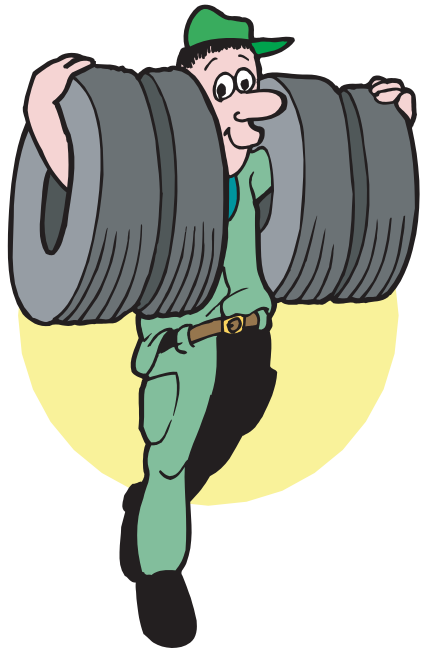
- **(a)** calls.
- **(b)** letters.
- **(c)** dial tones.
- **(d)** text messages.

9. When purchasing a car the most important things to consider are its:

- **(a)** performance and reliability.
- **(b)** colour and tyre width.
- **(c)** size and spark plugs.
- **(d)** style and fuel.

10. The tyres of the first cars were made of solid rubber. In 1888 John Boyd Dunlop, a Scottish veterinarian invented pneumatic tyres. These improved travelling comfort greatly and are still in use today. Instead of riding on solid rubber, vehicles fitted with these ride on a cushion of:

- **(a)** air.
- **(b)** elastic.
- **(c)** springs.
- **(d)** water.



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Set 3

Write the correct ending or answer in your book

1. People often confuse the spelling of 'practice' and 'practise'. One way to help you remember is to think of the words 'advice' and 'advise'. There is such a thing as 'advice', so the word is a noun. The same applies to 'practice'. It, too, is:

(a) advise.
(b) the noun or thing.
(c) the verb.
(d) something you do.

2. One is to ten as hundred is to:

(a) thousand.
(b) ten.
(c) million.
(d) twenty.

3. We now know so much about the human body and diseases that it is very difficult for doctors to know everything. Usually a general practicioner will identify the part of your body that may be affected by an illness but then refer you to a doctor who:

(a) is a specialist in that area
(b) is better.
(c) operates.
(d) works in a hospital.

4. To grow plants successfully in our gardens they need to have soil, water, air, sunlight and fertilizer. It is also best if weeds are removed because they will take away nourishment meant for our crop plants. Weeds are our plants:

(a) friends.
(b) competitors.
(c) neighbours.
(d) agriculture.

5. Angry children are like men standing on their heads because:

(a) they see all things the wrong way.
(b) they cannot listen like this.
(c) they cannot be helped.
(d) you cannot see them.

6. Our houses are a little bit like a war zone. We spend time and money battling to keep cockroaches away from our kitchens, flies off our food and termites from eating the timber. These are all:

(a) really quite harmless.
(b) unwelcome visitors in our homes.
(c) sent to annoy us.
(d) working together to bring about our downfall.

7. Winston Churchill was Britain's Prime Minister during World War II. His speeches to the British people during the war inspired them to resist courageously. He showed great:

(a) diversity.
(b) leadership.
(c) courtesy.
(d) activity.

8. The soprano is the highest human singing register. The term, soprano, generally refers to:

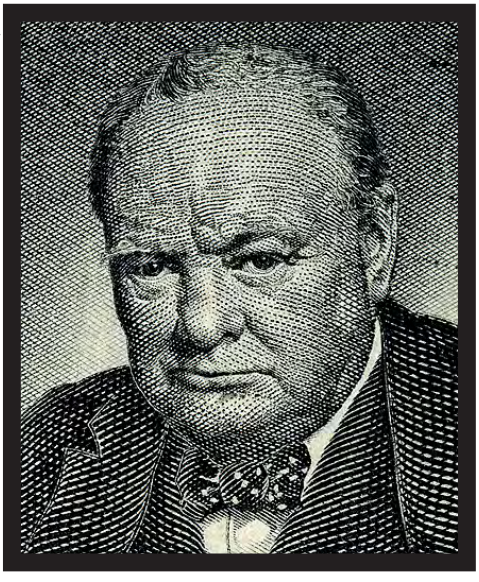
(a) female voices.
(b) a song.
(c) opera.
(d) deep voices.

9. Just as a large truck uses more fuel than a small vehicle like a motor bike, so too:

(a) a fox terrier eats more than a Great Dane.
(b) an earthworm eats its own weight every day.
(c) a bull is larger than a goat.
(d) a big person needs more food than a small person.

10. *Tai Chi* is a gentle form of exercise that is sometimes called *Chinese Boxing*. Like all exercises:

(a) it can be used to render enemies helpless.
(b) it is a martial art.
(c) it has health benefits.
(d) it originated in China.



Winston Churchill

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Answers

SET 1
1. (a) everywhere
2. (a) the world's smallest country
3. (c) to give the cold shoulder
4. (a) in a sleep-like state
5. (d) admiration
6. (b) the sap sucking insects called aphids
7. (b) have an interview with his teacher
8. (c) the wind
9. (c) cricket and bat
10. (b) a vaccine

SET 2
1. (a) his boat sank
2. (c) against the current
3. (c) is the ocean's deepest point
4. (c) sixty-four years old
5. (b) it is closer to us than other stars
6. (a) A
7. (a) great people or ideas often have humble beginnings
8. (d) text messages
9. (a) performance and reliability
10. (a) air

SET 3
1. (b) the noun or thing
2. (a) thousand
3. (a) is a specialist in that area
4. (b) competitors
5. (a) they see all things the wrong way
6. (b) unwelcome visitors in our homes
7. (b) leadership
8. (a) female voices
9. (d) a big person needs more food than a small person
10. (c) it has health benefits

SET4
1. (c) driving on the road is a privilege, not a right
2. (b) on the basis of observable factual evidence
3. (c) if everyone behaved in a criminal manner
4. (c) to make things out of metal
5. (a) Supermex
6. (c) to sit alone
7. (c) the queer old Dean
8. (b) to outshine others
9. (c) like a paddle wheel steamer
10. (c) the Sopwith Camel

SET5
1. (c) about gravity
2. (b) it is good to be small
3. (b) laziness often begins in small ways, but, if it becomes habit, can have very serious consequences
4. (a) water
5. (a) conflagration
6. (b) Lester
7. (b) understood that it was wise to plan for the future
8. (a) guilty
9. (b) impeded
10. (d) enlightened times

SET 6
1. (b) but fear itself
2. (b) Saturday
3. (d) wetlands
4. (c) premiums
5. (c) people working together can achieve more than people working by themselves
6. (b) Anthony
7. (b) no-one is loved: they are all liked
8. (d) the piece of meat fell from his mouth and sank slowly to the bottom of the stream
9. (a) Albert
10. (a) ceremony

SET 7
1. (c) English sweat
2. (d) microchip technology
3. (d) a kind deed is often repaid with a kind deed
4. (b) Friday
5. (c) for goodness
6. (a) adulthood
7. (c) let the cat out of the bag
8. (a) for being poisonous
9. (d) I
10. (b) merchandise

SET 8
1. (c) fish
2. (c) 5 cents
3. (d) the Leader of the Opposition
4. (a) should be high off the ground
5. (c) and it returned to the heart through the veins
6. (b) was rewarded by the ant's gratitude
7. (c) grand daughter
8. (c) army, navy and air force
9. (d) of how fast glaciers travel
10. (b) coaches carrying paying passengers

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