

# THE SURVIVAL ISSUE

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### PERFECTING

#### Grammar Editing: Survival of the Fittest Friendliest

Here are suggested answers to our grammar exercise:

| Most people assume that the well-known phrase "survival of the fittest"           |               |
|---|---------------|
| means that the strong survive while the weak inevitably die off. However,         | 1. 🗸          |
| some scientists believe that instead of aggressive friendliness is the most       | 2. aggression |
| successfully survival strategy of the human species. Animals and plants thrive    | 3. successful |
| on partnerships. In nature, dogs evolved to became tame and depend on             | 4. become     |
| humans. Compared to other aggressive species, dogs coexisters with other          | 5. easily     |
| animals because of its friendliness. Plants also collaborate to reproduce. Plants | 6. their      |
| provides animals with food, while animals provide plants with transportation for  | 7. provide    |
| pollen. Homo sapiens are a friendliest human species that has ever evolved,       | 8. the        |
| which has allowed us to outlast other aggressive human species that are now       | 9. 🗸          |
| extincts. Our ability to cooperate helps us solve complex problems. Being the     | 10. extinct   |
| friendliest, instead of the fittest, is how we survive.                           |               |

### Nature of errors:

- 1. 🗸
- 2. aggression  $\rightarrow$  word class, noun instead of adjective
- 3. successful  $\rightarrow$  word class, adjectives instead of adverb
- 4. become  $\rightarrow$  tenses, present instead of past tense, to form the infinitive "to become"
- 5. easily  $\rightarrow$  word class, adverb instead of adjective
- 6. their  $\rightarrow$  pronoun, plural to correspond with 'dogs'
- 7. provide  $\rightarrow$  subject verb agreement, plural to correspond with 'plants'
- 8. the  $\rightarrow$  article, definite to correspond with superlative adjective 'friendliest'
- 9. 🗸
- 10. extinct  $\rightarrow$  word class, adjective



## SUGGESTED ANSWERS

## PERFECTING

Visual Comprehension: How Might We Make WALK CYCLE RIDE Inclusive for All?

Here are suggested answers to our visual comprehension exercise:

1. The headline reads "How might we make walk cycle ride easier and more inclusive for all?" What is the intended effect of the headline on the reader?

The effect of the question is that it <u>provokes the reader's thoughts</u> about public transportation and <u>encourages them to answer it by reading more about the topic in the poster</u>. [1] Language for impact question – answer must show the full effect on reader, not just the purpose

2. Why does Land Transport Authority want to work with the community to build shared responsibility? State two aims.

i) It is to foster positive social norms. [1]ii) It is to promote inclusivity. [1]

Lifted from text – answers must be in complete sentences

3. Refer to the illustration above the phrase "Join in the conversation". Explain how it supports the message of inclusivity in the poster.

The picture shows a person in a wheelchair wheeling herself up a ramp (at an MRT station). This supports the message of inclusivity as <u>a person with disability is able to move around public</u> <u>roads</u>. [1]

Answer must show the meaning of "inclusivity", not just state it

4. Write down one sentence that summarises the aim of the poster.

"We would like to hear from you on how we can shape the future of land transport together." [1] Answer should have open and closed inverted commas



## SUGGESTED ANSWERS

### PERFECTING

Text Comprehension: Crossing the Digital Divide

Here are suggested answers to our text comprehension exercise:

1. Write down a two-word phrase from Paragraph 1 that describes how digital inclusion has become more widespread in recent years.

"gained traction". [1]

2. Explain what the "digital divide" (line 3) is and how it has become worse. Answer in **your own** words.

It is the <u>difference/distance/separation</u> between those who <u>embrace/are knowledgeable about</u> technology and those who do not/are not. [1] It has become <u>bigger/larger</u> because many <u>had to</u> <u>use technology at home</u> due to the Covid-19 pandemic. [1]

From passage: The **gap** between those who are **comfortable** with technology and have access to it, and those who do not, has **further widened** with many **forced to work and learn from home** as offices and schools were closed to curb Covid-19.

3. From Paragraph 2, why might it be more challenging for senior hawkers to "to get on board the digital bandwagon"?".

It is because these hawkers are <u>older</u> [1], so it may be <u>harder</u> for them to <u>learn new technology</u> at the <u>same speed/pace</u> as others [1].

"Senior"; "get on board the digital bandwagon" – must be explained

4. From Paragraph 3, besides getting hawkers to adopt digital payments, state **two** other ways Digital Ambassadors can help hawkers. Answer in **your own words**.

i) They can <u>address questions</u> by hawkers and give them <u>confidence/encouragement</u>. [1] From passage: be a point of assurance on the ground to answer their queries

ii) They can <u>assist in settling concerns/issues</u> faced by hawkers. [1] From passage: and help solve any problems that may arise.

5i. Give one piece of evidence from Paragraph 4 that Caden can use to explain his position.

There are different types of <u>equipment</u> available to help hawkers in <u>food preparation</u> and to <u>reduce their workload</u>, especially for repetitive tasks, such as chopping of vegetables. [1]



5ii. How can Su Ying support her view? State one detail from Paragraph 5 to back up her claim.

Some hawkers may not consider using these equipment as they prefer <u>preparing food with their</u> <u>hands</u>, which is seen as more <u>sincere</u>. [1]

6. Explain what the writer means by the phrase "cross the Rubicon" (Paragraph 7) when referring to the help given to hawkers.

He means helping hawkers <u>take the next step to embrace technology</u> is like reaching <u>a point of</u> <u>no return</u>. [1]

Accept alternative answers related to 'crossing safely' in the context of hawkers. For example, 'He means helping hawkers to successfully adopt/accept/use new technologies/digital solutions.'

"cross the Rubicon" must be explained in the context of the passage.

7. Using your own words as far as possible, summarise the challenges hawkers face and the steps the government has taken to help them overcome these challenges.

### Use only information from Paragraphs 4 to 6.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin).

Besides having to adopt digital payments and delivery options, hawkers... [15]

|   | From the passage                      | Paraphrased                              |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | [challenge] Some hawkers are          | may not know about resources for         |
|   | unaware of resources various types    | equipment and suppliers.                 |
|   | of equipment that can help in food    |  |
|   | preparation and suppliers' contacts   |  |
| 2 | [steps] a one-stop information and    | An information hub was created to help   |
|   | service centre for hawkers was set up | hawkers with such resources.             |
|   | to provide information on the hawker  |  |
|   | trade                                 |  |
| 3 | [steps] The Hawkers' Productivity     | The Hawkers' Productivity Grant helps    |
|   | Grantallows stallholders to claim 80  | them to buy new equipment at low cost.   |
|   | per cent of the unit cost of food     |  |
|   | preparation equipment.                |  |
| 4 | [steps] The NEA conducted briefings   | The NEA holds talks at hawker centres to |
|   | at hawker centres to help hawkers     | familiarise hawkers with the equipment.  |
|   | understand the types of equipment.    |  |
| 5 | [challenge] she has to wake up at     | Hawkers who put in long hours to         |
|   | 3.30am six days a week to prepare     | prepare food can save much time using    |
|   | food save five to six hours every day | equipment.                               |



# SUGGESTED ANSWERS

| 6 | [challenge] If you put in the effort with | However, some may feel using              |
|---|---|---|
|   | your hands, it's so much more sincere.    | equipment is less                         |
|   |   | genuine/heartfelt/authentic.              |
| 7 | [challenge] senior hawkers least          | Senior hawkers are less likely to embrace |
|   | inclined to adopt technology feel         | technology and may feel isolated.         |
|   | alienated from society                    |   |
| 8 | [steps] hawkers and shops will            | But hawkers and shops may still accept    |
|   | continue to accept cash even as they      | cash payments while using digital ones.   |
|   | provide e-payment options                 |   |
| 9 | [steps] give our senior hawkers more      | They will have more choices to help them  |
|   | options - in the way they prepare         | in their daily work.                      |
|   | food, communicate with customers          |   |
|   | and transact payments.                    |   |

Accept any 8 points for 1 mark each.

Total: 15 marks

- Content: 8 marks
- Language: 7 marks (grammar, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary)



## SUGGESTED ANSWERS

## PERFECTING

Listening Comprehension: Covid-19 Vaccinations—The Next Challenge

Here are the answers for our listening comprehension exercise:

#### Extract 1

You will hear a historian talking about smallpox and how the vaccinations against smallpox were first developed.

1. The first treatment against smallpox involved

A. exposing the sick person's skin to small amounts of smallpox matter.

2. Edward Jenner's method of treating smallpox is less risky because

A. he exposes people to a milder disease.

#### Extract 2

You will hear two friends talking about receiving Covid-19 vaccinations.

1. The boy is hesitant about receiving Covid-19 vaccinations because

C. he is afraid that the vaccinations will expose him to the virus.

2. The girl got her information on the Covid-19 vaccinations from

A. known news sites which she also cross-checked with science journals.

#### Extract 3

You will hear a minister talking about the safety of the Covid-19 vaccinations.

1. According to the minister, the barrier we still have to overcome is

C. the public's fear of unknown side-effects of the vaccinations as they have been developed quickly.

According to the minister, the process of developing the vaccination was fast because
D. of strong funding and partnerships between scientists.