LESSON ONE
### Finding Main Idea
1. The article mainly describes
   - A the behaviour of crocodiles and alligators.
   - B similarities and differences between crocodiles and alligators.
   - C the many differences between crocodiles and other reptiles.
   - D the reptiles that are related to crocodiles and alligators.

### Recognising Cause and Effect
4. A reptile’s body temperature is always the same as that of its surroundings because
   - A reptiles bask in the sun for hours.
   - B reptiles prefer warm climates.
   - C reptiles are warm-blooded.
   - D reptiles are cold-blooded.

### Recalling Facts and Details
2. Alligators are commonly found
   - A along the coast in warm areas of the United States and in China.
   - B in the swamps and rivers of China and the Americas.
   - C throughout coastal areas of Australia and America.
   - D on all continents wherever there is water.

### Comparing and Contrasting
5. Which of these tells how the jaws of an alligator are different from the jaws of a crocodile?
   - A The alligator does not have a jaw, but the crocodile does.
   - B The alligator has a round jaw, but the crocodile has a pointed jaw.
   - C The alligator doesn’t show teeth when its jaw is closed, but the crocodile does.
   - D The alligator has a small jaw, but the crocodile has a large jaw.

### Understanding Sequence
3. What can you do first to tell the difference between a crocodile and an alligator?
   - A determine each reptile’s body temperature
   - B compare the jaws of each reptile
   - C estimate the length of each reptile
   - D examine the skin of each reptile

### Making Predictions
6. Predict what would happen if there was a dramatic decrease in temperature in an alligator’s habitat.
   - A The alligator would dwell in only the water instead of on both land and water.
   - B The alligator would maintain a lower body temperature.
   - C The alligator would not be able to tolerate the change and would die.
   - D The alligator would adapt to the cooler temperature.
### Finding Word Meaning in Context
7. In the article, *distinguish* means
   - A. ‘examine the similarities’.
   - B. ‘determine the differences’.
   - C. ‘compare the lengths’.
   - D. ‘maintain a safe distance’.

### Identifying Author’s Purpose
10. The article was written mainly to
   - A. describe how to determine if a reptile is a crocodile or an alligator.
   - B. explain why crocodiles and alligators are classified as reptiles.
   - C. entertain readers with interesting facts about crocodiles and alligators.
   - D. convince readers to keep a safe distance from dangerous reptiles.

### Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences
8. Information in the article suggests that
   - A. a crocodile spends all of its time in the water.
   - B. a crocodile prefers warmer temperatures than an alligator.
   - C. an alligator’s body temperature can vary.
   - D. an alligator is considered more dangerous than a crocodile.

### Interpreting Figurative Language
11. The phrase *rounded like a worn crayon tip* is an example of
   - A. a pun.
   - B. a metaphor.
   - C. a simile.
   - D. an exaggeration.

### Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion
9. Which of these is an *opinion*?
   - A. Crocodiles live in Australia.
   - B. Crocodiles have a pointed snout.
   - C. Crocodiles like to bask in the warm sun.
   - D. Crocodiles are fascinating reptiles.

### Summarising
12. Which of these is the best summary of the article?
   - A. Crocodiles and alligators are identical in most ways.
   - B. Crocodiles and alligators may appear similar, but there are several differences between them.
   - C. Crocodiles and alligators are members of the same family of reptiles.
   - D. The main difference between crocodiles and alligators is the surface of their skin.
LESSON
TWO
### Finding Main Idea

1. The article tells mainly about
   - A the early years of Toni Collette.
   - B the musical career of Toni Collette.
   - C the life of Toni Collette.
   - D the education of Toni Collette.

### Recognising Cause and Effect

4. Why did Toni pretend her appendix was about to burst?
   - A because she wanted to get in to the National Institute for Dramatic Art
   - B because she wanted to be allowed to leave home
   - C because she was bored and wanted more attention
   - D because she wanted to be allowed to join her band

### Recalling Facts and Details

2. Toni left her studies early because she
   - A found the course too hard.
   - B landed a big role.
   - C started her first band.
   - D wanted to travel with the Australian Theatre for Young People.

### Comparing and Contrasting

5. An amateur is most like
   - A a beginner.
   - B an expert.
   - C an actor.
   - D a professional.

### Understanding Sequence

3. Which of these did Toni do first?
   - A She starred in *The Sixth Sense*.
   - B She became famous for her role in *Muriel’s Wedding*.
   - C She played all over Australia with her band.
   - D She became a mother.

### Making Predictions

6. Predict which of these might occur if Toni Collette continues to gain fame as an actress.
   - A Toni will give up music and her family.
   - B Toni will decide to retire.
   - C Toni will go back to finish her course.
   - D Toni will gain more respect and win more awards for her work.
Finding Word Meaning in Context

7. In the article, what is the meaning of the word *destined*?
   A. ‘doomed’
   B. ‘instructed’
   C. ‘permitted’
   D. ‘fated’

Identifying Author’s Purpose

10. The purpose of the article is to tell readers
   A. what childhood experiences Toni Collette had.
   B. why Toni Collette chose to become an actor.
   C. when Toni Collette first acted.
   D. how Toni Collette went from being a young girl in New South Wales to a famous actor known all over the world.

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

8. Toni probably learnt most of what she knows about acting from
   A. classes at the National Institute of Dramatic Art.
   B. working as an actor herself from a young age.
   C. being in her band.
   D. Christian Bale.

Interpreting Figurative Language

11. The phrase *made her a well known face all over the world* means that Toni
   A. had become an actor that people recognised.
   B. was someone everyone felt they knew.
   C. tried to meet as many people as she could.
   D. tried to put her face everywhere.

Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

9. Which of these is an *opinion*?
   A. Toni Collette showed a talent for acting at an early age.
   B. Toni Collette went to the National Institute of Dramatic Art.
   C. Toni Collette is the greatest Australian actress of all time, and much better at everything than Cate Blanchett.
   D. Toni is short for Antonia.

Summarising

12. What is the best summary of the article?
   A. Toni Collette was very good at pretending to be in pain.
   B. From an early age, Toni Collette was a born performer and grew up to be a famous actor.
   C. Sacrifice and determination were the keys to Toni Collette’s success.
   D. Without the support of others, Toni Collette would never have reached her goals.
LESSON
THREE
Finding Main Idea
1. An appropriate title for the fable is
   A. 'A Trip to Market'.
   B. 'Life in Ancient Greece'.
   C. 'Unkind Strangers'.
   D. 'A Painful Lesson'.

Recognising Cause and Effect
4. At the beginning of the fable, the countryman said that the man and his boy were fools because
   A. they were overloading the donkey.
   B. they weren't taking advantage of the donkey.
   C. they were mistreating the donkey.
   D. they were carrying the donkey.

Recalling Facts and Details
2. Who told the man and his boy that they should be ashamed of themselves?
   A. a man in the crowd near town
   B. one of two women they passed
   C. a countryman they met along the way
   D. an old man who had seen all that had happened

Comparing and Contrasting
5. A woman compared the boy to a
   A. hulking brute.
   B. lazy lout.
   C. contented king.
   D. bound slave.

Understanding Sequence
3. Which of these occurred second?
   A. The boy and man both rode the donkey.
   B. The man rode the donkey.
   C. The boy rode the donkey.
   D. The donkey walked beside the boy and the man.

Making Predictions
6. Predict how the man and boy will most likely react next time they are given advice by strangers.
   A. They will follow whatever advice they are given.
   B. They will ignore advice from all strangers.
   C. They will listen only to the first stranger they encounter.
   D. They will follow only the advice of the last stranger.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finding Word Meaning in Context</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. In the fable, <em>encountered</em> means</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
|   A. ‘laughed at’.
|   B. ‘battled with’.
|   C. ‘noticed’.
|   D. ‘came upon’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identifying Author’s Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10. The fable was written mainly to</td>
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</table>
|    A. teach a lesson about trying to accommodate the wishes of others.
|    B. describe life in ancient Greece.
|    C. instruct others on good manners.
|    D. entertain readers with a humorous tale from the ancient world.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8. There is enough information in the fable to show that</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|    A. the boy was afraid to speak up to his father.
|    B. the donkey never would have fallen into the river if the boy was stronger.
|    C. the man and his son have difficulty thinking for themselves.
|    D. most strangers are eager to provide unwanted advice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interpreting Figurative Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. Which of these best explains the moral of the fable?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|    A. If you try to satisfy everyone, you will satisfy no one more than yourself.
|    B. If you make your own decisions, no one will bother you.
|    C. If you try to make everyone happy, you’ll make no one happy.
|    D. If you follow the advice of others, nothing will work out as planned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9. Which of these is an <em>opinion</em>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Some people thought that the man and his boy overloaded the donkey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. The countryman should have kept his remarks to himself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. The donkey fell into the river and was drowned.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. The man and the boy were laughed at as they approached the town.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summarising</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12. What is a good summary of the fable?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. A father and son learn to scoff at those who would scoff at them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. A man and a boy discover that it is often impossible to satisfy many people at one time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. A father and son share a burden on the way to market.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. A man teaches his son an important lesson on the way to town.</td>
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LESSON
FOUR
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finding Main Idea</th>
<th>Recognising Cause and Effect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What is the book review mostly about?</td>
<td>4. What caused the sleepless nights inside Blandon Castle?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ how to write novels for young readers</td>
<td>□ a series of frightening events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a mysterious castle on the coast of Scotland</td>
<td>□ the discovery of a mysterious gemstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a book recently published for young readers</td>
<td>□ the odd behaviour of the caretaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ the many works of an author named Sebastian Oliver</td>
<td>□ a mysterious disappearance</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recalling Facts and Details</th>
<th>Comparing and Contrasting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. According to the book review, <em>Empty Rooms</em> is</td>
<td>5. According to the book review, how does Oliver's second novel compare to his first?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a complex mystery.</td>
<td>□ His second novel is not crafted as well as his first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a tense thriller.</td>
<td>□ Both novels are equally thrilling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a tragic drama.</td>
<td>□ His second novel is far superior to his first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ an intriguing biography.</td>
<td>□ His second novel is a thriller, and his first was a biography.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Understanding Sequence</th>
<th>Making Predictions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. The first thing to happen in <em>Empty Rooms</em> is</td>
<td>6. Predict how the story will most likely end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Walter begins speaking in an unusual language.</td>
<td>□ Walter will send his children to live with relatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Anne and Brad try to solve the mystery of Blandon Castle.</td>
<td>□ Anne and Brad will also fall under the mysterious power of the amber gemstone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a mysterious disappearance occurs at Blandon Castle.</td>
<td>□ The housekeeper will reveal all the secrets of the castle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ the children discover a secret passageway.</td>
<td>□ Anne and Brad will uncover the reasons for the unexplained occurrences at the castle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Finding Word Meaning in Context

7. In the book review, *medieval* means  
   - A. 'eric in appearance'.  
   - B. 'from the Middle Ages'.  
   - C. 'located in an ancient place'.  
   - D. 'impressive architecture'.

### Identifying Author’s Purpose

10. The book review was written mainly to  
    - A. describe how to solve a mystery.  
    - B. inform parents about a popular new book appropriate for small children.  
    - C. persuade young readers of thrillers to read Sebastian Oliver’s new book.  
    - D. entertain readers with opinions about a new book.

### Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

8. From the book review, you can conclude that  
   - A. *Empty Rooms* will outsell Sebastian Oliver’s first book.  
   - B. *Empty Rooms* is based on the real-life experiences of Sebastian Oliver.  
   - C. *Empty Rooms* is not a book for young readers who are easily frightened.  
   - D. *Empty Rooms* is the perfect choice for readers interested in the history of Scotland.

### Interpreting Figurative Language

11. In this book review, *take the bull by the horns* means  
    - A. 'to struggle with an aggressive animal'.  
    - B. 'to grapple with a serious problem'.  
    - C. 'to confront a villain'.  
    - D. 'to escape unharmed'.

### Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

9. Which of these is an opinion?  
   - A. *Empty Rooms* is certain to hold readers on the edge of their seat.  
   - B. *Empty Rooms* revolves around a businessman named Walter Holden.  
   - C. *Empty Rooms* takes a dramatic turn when the children discover a gemstone.  
   - D. The setting for *Empty Rooms* is Blandon Castle, located on the Scottish coast.

### Summarising

12. What is the best summary of the book review?  
    - A. A medieval castle is the setting of a new book by Sebastian Oliver.  
    - B. The plot of a new novel is original and suspenseful.  
    - C. A businessman and his family find mystery and intrigue in a castle.  
    - D. Sebastian Oliver masters the craft of writing for his audience.
LESSON
FIVE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Finding Main Idea</th>
<th>Recognising Cause and Effect</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong> Which of these best expresses the main idea of the letter?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) School closings often result in enormous savings to a state.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) A minister for education is not qualified to make a school-closing proposal.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) School closings always result in costs to the taxpayer.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) A school closing plan may not be as prudent as some people believe.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4.</strong> According to the letter, which of these would be a result of the school closing?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) Hundreds of families would leave the Chifley School neighbourhood.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(B) Present classrooms would quickly become overcrowded.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) School populations would decrease dramatically.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(D) Existing schools would need to be expanded.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong> Who is the writer of the letter?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) a distressed city official</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(B) an angry taxpayer from the Watson School neighbourhood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) a concerned member of a school organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(D) a worried member of the minister’s staff</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5.</strong> In the letter, the current school-closing issue is compared to</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) a steady rise in taxes due to building expenses.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(B) a school closing that occurred ten years ago.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(C) the construction of a new school five years ago.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(D) a poor decision recently made in another area.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.</strong> Which of these happened first?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) Anita Russo wrote a letter to the editor to protest the closing of the Chifley Primary School.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(B) The Watson School was closed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) A new school was constructed in a nearby neighbourhood.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) Dr Baker made a proposal to close the Chifley Primary School.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.</strong> Predict what will probably occur if enough residents oppose Dr Baker’s plan.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) Dr Baker will feel obligated to enact his current plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) The government will replace the minister.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(C) Dr Baker will develop a new plan, but will not share it with the public.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) Dr Baker will be forced to review the plan with a new set of advisors.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Finding Word Meaning in Context

7. In the letter, the word *absurd* means
   A. ‘ridiculous’.
   B. ‘conceived’.
   C. ‘practical’.
   D. ‘brazen’.

Identifying Author’s Purpose

10. What is the author’s purpose in the last paragraph?
   A. to describe what occurs each time a school is closed
   B. to explain the advantages of a school plan proposed by Dr. Baker
   C. to inform residents how they can save over two million dollars annually from the school budget
   D. to convince others that Dr. Baker’s plan needs further inquiry

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

8. You can conclude that
   A. Dr. Baker developed the school-closing plan without the counsel of others.
   B. Anita Russo has several children who currently attend the Chifley School.
   C. the school population in the Chifley School neighbourhood could rise to over 900 students in six years’ time.
   D. the minister is inexperienced in matters of the school budget.

Interpreting Figurative Language

11. What does the phrase *off the mark* mean?
   A. ‘far from being accurate’
   B. ‘impossible to establish’
   C. ‘without much consideration’
   D. ‘aware of the facts’

Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion

9. Which of these is an *opinion* expressed in the letter?
   A. The Watson School was closed ten years ago.
   B. The projected savings to the city with the closing of the school is misleading.
   C. The population in the Chifley School neighbourhood is growing rapidly.
   D. The minister of education has proposed closing the Chifley Primary School.

Summarising

12. Which of these best summarises the letter?
   A. A school-closing plan could result in significant cost savings.
   B. Construction of new schools is often necessary when other schools are closed.
   C. A school-closing plan may not save as much money as is being suggested.
   D. School budgets can always be readjusted to save costs in other ways.

You have now completed Lessons 1–5.