

Complete English 3 – Comprehension suggested answers

1 Dinosaur!

Retrieve and record

1. Tyrannosaurus Rex
2. Big. The text uses the word enormous to describe it.
3. The teacher.
4. In the museum
5. Yes. It made a swishing noise.

Inference

1. Because the tail moved.
2. He was excited to go in.
3. The text describes him as backing away, and says, "He tried not to scream." Also, Mrs Brady says that he looks terrified.
4. Answer could include: Because he thought a skeleton came alive. / Because he was wrong. / Because he was scared of nothing.
5. Answer could include: Because it is just a skeleton. / Because dinosaurs are extinct.

2 The siege of Baghdad

Retrieve and record

1. He could hear the sound of horse's hooves, and he could hear the war cries.
2. February 1258
3. Mosques, palaces and libraries (answer may also include the House of Wisdom, which was a library and academy, like a type of school)
4. The House of Wisdom
5. To steal what was inside.
6. They broke through the walls. (Answer may include more detail, such as breaking the walls with rocks from a siege engine, or slipping through gaps they made in the defences.)

Inference

1. Answer could include: Because they were inside the buildings that were set on fire. / Because the Mongols did not value them/think they were worth anything. / Because the Mongols could not read.
2. Answer could include: Yes, because he is writing the story from the point of view of looking back on it. No, because the story ends when he decides to leave and we never find out what happened next, so he was not there to write that part.

3. To steal anything of value.
4. Answer could include: To scare their enemies. / To let their enemies know they were coming. / So they would be less afraid as they went into battle.
5. To break down the walls protecting the city.

3 I do like to be beside the seaside

Retrieve and record

1. Seafood and candy floss
2. Answer could include: A place for people to get air without trailing their clothes in the sand. / A place that is raised above the sand. / A place that sticks out of the beach and that is raised up.
3. They were able to have holidays, railway owners built lines to the seaside, railways advertised seaside holidays.
4. Yes, because lots of new businesses opened up, such as hotels and shops.
5. Railway owners.

Inference

1. Answer could include: They may not have had many clothes. / It was hard to wash their clothes. / They did not want to return home covered in sand.
2. Answer could include: So people would ride their trains to the seaside. / So they could sell seaside holidays. / So they could sell tickets to the seaside.
3. Answer could include: They did not have bathing costumes. / They did not know how to swim. / It was cold.
4. Answer could include: Good, because it meant more business and money for the towns. / Bad, because it meant more buildings blocking the view and more people crowding in.
5. The cities were crowded and polluted/dirty.

Speech and style notes

2. You can have students make an actual postcard from card, and use drawings or illustrations that they have printed out to illustrate the other side of the postcard

4 A stormy night at the broch

Retrieve and record

1. Tomag is his little brother.
2. Yes. pale, trembling
3. Cold. The story uses words like terrible storm, fierce gale, mournful howl (to describe the wind)
4. Among the sheep in the corner of the room.
5. Lots of buildings. The story describes outbuildings around the main house and a boundary wall.

Inference

1. Answer could include: Yes, because the writer says, "Even though I was safe inside..."
2. She laughed and was sitting calmly.
3. Answer could include: Because he was worried that something had happened to his brother. Because he felt responsible for looking after his brother. Because he cares about his brother.
4. It was too windy – the wind drowned out his voice so his brother could not have heard him.

Speech and style notes

1. Important events should include: A storm rages. His mother can't find Tomag. Everyone looks around for Tomag. The narrator goes outside to look for Tomag. The narrator gives up his search. Tomag is found.

5 An edible town

Retrieve and record

1. Any four of: onions, carrots, berries, courgettes, raspberries, apricots, beans, peas, blackcurrants, strawberries, cherries, fennel, salad leaves (note that mint, rosemary and thyme are also mentioned, but these are herbs, not fruits or vegetables)
2. On the way to school, by children
3. There were signs saying "Help yourself" and 'Free Vegetables' (also, there was a newspaper article)
4. Form of answer may include: All over town. / Everywhere you look. / in front of the police station, by the canal, next to the doctor's surgery, outside the college, in the supermarket car park, by the health centre, in unused places, roadsides and odd places

Inference

1. Yes, because a lot of people were picking and eating the fruits and vegetables. Yes, because the article says that everyone was involved in healthy eating.
2. People began to really notice by June. It may have taken this long because this is when the plants had grown bigger and could be recognised as fruits and vegetables.

3. Answers could include: Because it was free. / Because the food tasted good. / Because it was easy to pick and eat the foods. / Because it was interesting.
4. Because spring is planting season (so they probably came to see how and where the foods were planted so they could get started on planting in their own towns right away).

Speech and style notes

1. You may want to remind students about the 5 W's in reporting – who, what, where, when and why

6 Mammoth encounter

Retrieve and record

1. 3
2. Behind a rock/boulder
3. He is crushed by the mammoth
4. Man 1 agrees to wait for the signal. / The stage instructions say that both men end by hiding behind their boulder.
5. Og is crushed offstage – the stage instructions say *offstage*. Man 1 and Man 2 talk onstage.
6. The scene is set in the Stone Age wilderness – the text at the beginning states this.

Inference

1. To kill the mammoth. / for protection
2. In the Stone Age, men did most of the hunting.
3. For: Mammoths do not go looking for trouble. / They can be killed by a group when they are exhausted.
Against: The mammoth killed Og. / They can stomp on or spear people. / They can only be killed by a group or when they are exhausted.
4. When there is only one person, the mammoth can focus on that person but in a group, they can surround the mammoth and attack from different directions at once.
5. Because the mammoth is very big and can move fast when it is not tired.

A strange flower

Retrieve and record

1. The flower had wilted.

2. Bad. Answers could include: It smelled like a rotting corpse or a dead body. / The narrator says the smell was dreadful and horrible and nearly made him sick. / The narrator describes the smell as a stink and as almost unbearable.
3. Lots of plants and animals. The narrator describes seeing a lot of different plants and animals. / The narrator says the variety of life in the rainforest is astonishing.
4. The hum and whirl of insects. The call of a monkey or bird.
5. Answers could include: Yes, because insects crawled on the flower. No, because other animals were not around the flower.
6. Because they describe it as smelling like a dead body.

Inference

1. They might be hidden among or under the plants.
2. So they could carry pollen from the flower to other plants to pollinate them.
3. Answers could include: Because it is deep in the rainforest. / Because it is hidden among the other plants in the rainforest. / Because it only blooms for a very short time.
4. Answers could include: Because it might get trampled on or eaten. / Because it does not get any/much light on the forest floor.
5. Answers could include: It fell from a plant higher up. / It grows that way.

Speech and style notes

1. You may want to remind students about the 5 W's in reporting – who, what, where, when and why.
2. You may like to point out that insects do not have eyes like ours, so they would see different types of things, and might rely on other senses.

8 Maya books

Retrieve and record

1. Recording history and religion, weather, astronomy and calendars.
2. Spanish invaders destroyed many of them.
3. Using a natural glue made from gums
4. Outlines
5. Christianity

Inference

1. So the writing would show up more clearly.
2. Because they made a lot of books on different subjects and kept libraries.
3. So they could plan the best times for planting and harvest. / To know what the weather will be like at different times of the year.

4. Answers could include: Only important people because they would be the only ones who were taught to read. / Many people because there were libraries and many types of books.
5. Answers could include: No, because the books were important to the Maya. Yes, because the books were against their religion.

9 Snowdrifts

Retrieve and record

1. 2,800cm/28m of snow in one winter.
2. Because of the large amount of snow that falls and moves.
3. Fluffy, light
4. Because there might be cars with people in them in the snow drifts.
5. Alps, Rockies (also: Mt Baker)

Inference

1. The snow can harden and trap people. / The snowdrifts can make it hard for people to get shelter, warmth and food. / The snowdrifts are hard to move or travel in.
2. Because it is heavy and hard to move.
3. Because people could be trapped and it would be difficult to rescue them. / The roads can't be cleared.
4. The people in the mountain areas could be cut off and not be able to get the things they need, like food, for long periods of time.
5. Answers could include: I wouldn't be able to do anything. / It would not be possible to get food and other supplies. / I couldn't go to school or see friends. / No one could get to work. / It would be hard to get medical care.

Speech and style notes

- 2 You may want to remind students about the 5 W's in reporting – who, what, where, when and why

10 Making a living in India

Retrieve and record

1. Middle class homes
2. Because there is work for people, which would otherwise be done by machines.
3. A carrier / Someone who carries things
4. It (just about) pays for food. It does not pay for rent/a place to live.
5. Back-breaking

Inference

1. Because you can carry more and make more money.
2. Because all you need is a pole and some string.
3. Because they do not have workshops/stores/businesses or homes to work in.
4. They do things that would be done by machine in richer countries. / The pay is very small. / There are no/fewer programmes to help people like the NHS and council support
5. They don't have any other options/job that they can do. / It is very hard to find other kinds of work.

11 Journey to the Moon

Retrieve and record

1. Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Mike Collins
2. Like a blue marble
3. There were craters and rocks where they wanted to land, and they had to miss them so they didn't crash, without using up all their fuel.
4. They took away moon rocks. They left an American flag.
5. 8 days in total

Inference

1. One had to remain behind to launch the lander
2. Because they returned safely. / Because the US had won the space race. / Because they brought back moon rocks and took photos. / Because they learned a lot.
3. Sample answer: No, because they needed information about space from earlier missions so they would know where to land and how to prepare for the trip.
4. Students' own answer.
5. Sample answer: Because people reached the Moon and returned safely, showing that it was possible and learning about space. I don't agree, because there are achievements on Earth that were also important. I do agree, because it was very difficult and required a lot of people to work together and to invent many things.

12 Change in Victorian times

Retrieve and record

1. Charles Dickens
2. Any two of: steam engines, railways, telephones, underground railway, motor car, electric light bulbs

3. Florence Nightingale
4. Sewage Act
5. First underground railway

Inference

1. 21
2. They would have been healthier because working in mines was dangerous and unhealthy
3. Students' own answer.
4. Yes, because they can inspire new laws by showing differences between rich and poor. No, because it only people can change things, not books.
5. Answers could include: Yes, because there were many new inventions. No, because life was more difficult/there were fewer modern things.

13 Making a Viking meal

Retrieve and record

1. Three or four dollops
2. Spring or summer. She wanted to weave more of her cloak so that it would be ready in time for autumn.
3. Because it's easy and they eat it every day
4. She brushed the flour with her hands.
5. She stirs it.

Inference

1. Her clothes and hands are dirty. / She plays with pigs.
2. Answers could include: Yes, because it tasted like normal. No, because it tasted like normal/it did not taste special.
3. Answers could include: Her old one has worn out. / She has changed size. / Her old one is dirty/was ruined.
4. Answers could include: They did not have other types of food. / It is filling and healthy. / It is easy to make.
5. Sample answer: Yes, because the porridge came out just like normal. Yes, because Thora is happy with the porridge.

14 Frogs

Retrieve and record

1. In water, on land (also ponds, in bushes, near plants, under leaves)

2. Hiding under plants, jumping away
3. Using colouring to hide/disguising by blending in
4. They do not have lungs
5. By flicking out their sticky tongues

Inference

1. Some of their food is on land.
2. Because they are described as laying a large number of eggs in water.
3. An animal that lives in the water for the first part of its life and then on land for the next part. / They live both on water and on land.
4. No, because they need plants to hide under. They need to stay near plants to hide under the leaves so other animals can't spot them.

Sequencing

c, b, d, a

15 Greek school diary

Retrieve and record

1. 11 (10 plus the narrator)
2. He says it is his first day at school.
3. A poem
4. Because he is really good at playing the lyre
5. So they could know how to fight if they had to.
6. The narrator only talks about boys going to the school

Inference

1. The narrator describes it as hot. / There is a covered walkway for shade.
2. Answers could include: Because they did not have papers and rubbers. / They needed a way to practice their work.
3. Wednesday, because that day he has his favourite lesson.
4. Answers could include: Friday, because he has music that day and he is not good at music. / Monday, because they study history and the other boys know more dates.
5. Yes, because he describes it as a scary monster that likes to eat people.

16 The Battle of Stamford Bridge

Retrieve and record

1. A Saxon soldier
2. The Vikings
3. I was exhausted but it all seemed worth it when I saw the shocked look on the Vikings faces.
4. He has an idea about how to defeat the tall Viking.

Inference

1. Because it is difficult/may fail
2. The Saxons. Because the narrator says that he turned the battle in favour of his lord (the Saxon lord).
3. So he could ride on it to get under the bridge.
4. Answers could include: He describes him as terrifying and looking like a giant. He describes the Viking as having already killed many people single-handedly.
5. After the Viking warrior is killed, the Saxons start to win the battle.

17 I remember, I remember

Retrieve and record

1. False. The poem describes it as a little window.
2. Red and white
3. In the morning
4. In/among the lilacs
5. The fir trees

Inference

1. Because he was a child – he was small. / He was a child and did not know better.
2. Happy
3. Sad
4. True
5. The words 'I remember' and he says 'when I was a boy' suggesting that he is no longer a boy. / He describes what happened in his youth in the past tense.

Sequencing

d, c, a, b

18 River Nile fact sheet

Retrieve and record

1. 2
2. The White Nile and Blue Nile meet
3. Mediterranean
4. River
5. The flood brought fertile silt to the fields. / Let the Egyptians grow more than one crop a year and feed a lot of people

Inference

1. Because rivers often flow downhill
2. Because it allows crops to be grown/life in the desert.
3. To make it easier to get water for drinking/sanitations, etc.
4. So they could grow food/for drinking and cooking/to raise animals/for industry
5. Answers could include: Their name for the Nile meant river, indicating they had no other rivers. / Most Egyptians never travelled. / Most of Egypt was a desert, so there were no other rivers.

19 Tudor town trouble

Retrieve and record

1. 4
2. It was hot
3. Anne could see his mouth shaking with anger
4. Because he apologised / Because they had spoken politely
5. They were near the market / They were narrow

Inference

1. Because he is angry.
2. That they are the only she has of any value.
3. Very upset/sad/angry/foolish. She did not have any other money and no other possessions except for the sheep. / The man had acted nice to her, but he robbed her. / She had thought the man was nice to her, but he robbed her (she misjudged him).
4. Answers could include: Yes, because the sheep were in the way. No, because Anne didn't have any other way to take the sheep.
5. The man took it. He was the closest/he distracted her by falling over.

20 Down the rabbit hole

Retrieve and record

1. A watch
2. It does not have pictures or conversations
3. She was getting sleepy and stupid. / She doesn't have the energy to pick daisies to make a daisy-chain
4. The rabbit took a watch out of its pocket
5. He was worried about being late.

Inference

1. Summer, because it is hot and there are daisies.
2. Answers could include: No, because the text says she is sleepy, so this could be a dream. Yes, because Alice gets up and follows the rabbit.
3. Because that means she could follow the rabbit. / Because that means she has something to do and won't be bored.
4. Sample answer: She would not have followed the rabbit because she would have realised that it was strange.

Speech and style

You may like to combine this with a reading of the book *Alice in Wonderland*.

21 Roman villa

Retrieve and record

1. They are cousins
2. The courtyard
3. He looks after the land, grows his own food, and is looked after by his servants
4. For the forum and the gladiatorial games
5. Because Lucius has only seen the redecorated villa when he arrived just now. / He writes in the letter that Cornelius will see the redecorated villa next time he comes

Inference

1. So he can rest from the hustle and bustle of the city.
2. Students' own answers.
3. He describes himself as an ideal Roman and says the villa has everything a modern Roman could wish for.
4. No, because he writes that he is looked after by his servants.
5. Students' own answers.

22 Herman's home

Retrieve and record

1. In a rockpool
2. Her fingers
3. He thought the end had come.
4. They carry their house on their back. / They use other shells as homes.
5. The story says that twice a day the sea rises, and Herman is used to that.

Inference

1. Being lifted out of the water. Answers could include: Yes, because Herman is being moved like on a roller coaster. No, because a roller coaster moves up and down a lot and Herman is just picked up and then put down.
2. It was shiny and it fit him. / It was comfortable. / It was not being used.
3. No, because she put him back, and she put his flat-shelled neighbor back too.
4. Answers could include: No, because the story describes him living in the rockpool for a while. / Yes, because he has not been picked up before. / Yes, because this is his first summer.
5. There are stones to hide under. / There are other shells to use. / New food comes in twice a day when the tide rises.