PBD Reading [Pemahaman 12/1, Part 3: Q17–Q24]

Non-textbook Based

Read the text below. Then complete the following table. Choose no more than three words and/or a number from the text for each answer. DSKP: LS3.2.1 (STEAM)

An interview with Steve Bennet

Journalist: So, you just launched the largest rocket, Skybolt 2 from United Kingdom. What did it carry to space?

Steve Bennet: We put in a science project from Sheffield Hallam University, called Onboard. We also placed a commercial cargo and some video cameras to record the epic journey. Just for fun, a stuffed toy dog was in it too. We call him Sam.

Journalist: Wow! I'm sure this is not the first time you launched a rocket into the sky?

Steve Bennet: No, this is our 16th rocket and all these are actually preparation for the launching of our 'Thunderstar' into space. It is a reusable three-person rocket ship which I hope will make space tourism a reality.

Journalist: Have you always been interested in space travel?

Steve Bennet: Yes! When I was a teenager, I spent a lot of time doing experiments with explosives and homemade rockets. I taught myself rocket engineering with the aim of making commercial suborbital flights affordable, so everyone can try it.

Journalist: There are some huge players in the space tourism market, such as SpaceX which is about to launch Falcon 9 soon, and Virgin Galactic's spaceplane. How do you cope with such strong competitors?

Steve Bennet: Well, I don't think I'm competing with them because I have a different goal apart from launching Thunderstar. We have an educational programme called Space4Schools. Our company visits schools in the UK to promote space tourism. I believe the first person to land on Mars is alive and probably in school right now. So I hope to hear him or her say, 'I was inspired to do this because a man came into my school with a rocket!'

The things Skybolt 2 carried into space	1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____
Steve Bennet's hobbies as a teenager	5 _____ 6 _____
Steve Bennet's lifelong dreams	7 _____ 8 Promote _____ to school

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PBD Reading

Non-textbook Based

A. Read the following letter and answer the questions below. DSKP: LS3.1.2 STEAM

Dear Miguel,

I really enjoyed reading about solar energy in your country. I told my teacher about it and she immediately arranged a trip to the biggest solar farm in Malaysia, which is in Kuala Ketil – surprisingly only 20 kilometres from my school!

Once we got there, our jaws dropped seeing thousands of photovoltaic panels covering 260 acres of land in front of us. Apparently, there are 180,000 altogether, generating around 78,400 kilowatts per hour of electricity annually. It is enough to light up 30,000 homes for the next 25 years. It was only then that I really understood the content of your letter. My teacher even cried when she told us that the solar energy could offset approximately 54,000 tonnes of carbon emissions per year! We all know that she is an environmentalist so we understand why she was emotional.

However, our solar farm was actually built to provide clean energy to support industrial and agricultural activities in my beloved Kedah. The land surrounding the solar farm is perfect for fruit farming, particularly pineapple cultivation. Therefore, it can provide sustainable income to the local people who live around the area; 2,600 farmers to be exact. Some of my friends' parents work there too.

I couldn't help smiling all the way home, feeling so proud of my country for having the same technology as yours.

Daniel

1 What did Miguel write about in his last letter to Daniel?

_____

2 Why did Daniel's teacher cry?

_____

_____

B. Complete the following table. Choose no more than three words and/or a number from the text for each answer. For each question, write your answer in the space provided on your answer sheet.
DSKP: LS3.1.2

Kuala Ketil Solar Farm

Number of photovoltaic panels	**1**
Amount of kilowatts of electricity produced	**2**
Number of houses to benefit per year	**3**
Amount of carbon emissions prevented	**4**
Purpose of solar farm	**5**
Number of farmers to benefit	**6**

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A. Reading

Read the emails below. Answer the questions. LS3.1.3, LS3.2.1 HOTS Analysis STEAM

To:	johan01@geemail.com
From:	ahmad08@geemail.com
Subject:	Science project

Hi Johan,

How are you? I am writing to you to ask about our Science fair project. What would you like to do? We could do a simulation of a volcano eruption using baking soda and vinegar for the fair. This will be a good project that will not only test our knowledge on chemical reactions, but also test our arts and craft skills. What do you think? Do you have any other suggestions?

Your friend,
Ahmad

SEND

To:	ahmad08@geemail.com
From:	johan01@geemail.com
Subject:	Re: Science project

Hi Ahmad,

I'm doing well! Regarding the science fair project, your idea sounds fun and challenging. I suggest that we head over to the school basketball court to do it as my house is too cramped. Besides that, we should also prepare an information board on our project and how volcanoes work. Many people will be interested to read it, I believe. Talk to you soon!

Your friend,
Johan

SEND

1 What will Ahmad and Johan use to make the volcano erupt?

2 Why did Johan suggest that they do the project at the school basketball court?

3 Match the words with their meanings.

(a) simulation	ideas of what to do
(b) reactions	not easy
(c) suggestions	model of a process
(d) challenging	small and crowded
(e) cramped	processes in which one or more substances change when mixed

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Reading

One of the oldest types of transportation is by boat. Thousands of years ago, sea traders set out in small boats to trade their goods with other communities nearby. Nowadays, large ocean liners sail these old sea routes.

In many remote parts of the world, people still travel mostly on foot or by riding animals, such as donkeys, horses and camels. But in the cities, people get around mostly by cars, motorbikes and bicycles. The larger cities have a vast network of roads and highways that people use to get to their destinations. Public transport, like buses, taxis and trucks, which transport bulky goods, all travel frequently on these modern motorways. This certainly saves time and is more convenient.

In many cities around the world, trains are becoming more popular as they are faster, cheaper and more eco-friendly. Surely, one will find a journey by train more enjoyable and relaxing than traveling by road.

Air travel is one of the most convenient ways to reach faraway destinations though it is surely more expensive. However, many budget airlines offer cheaper flights and with good promotions so more people can choose to fly to travel to further destinations. It's amazing how a journey that would have taken days or even weeks can now be done in a few hours!

A **Answer the questions below. Choose no more than five words or a number from the text for each answer.**

1 According to this passage, the oldest form of transport is _____.

2 The main difference between water travels back then and now is nowadays they use _____

3 Trucks are used to transport _____.

4 Travel by train is becoming more popular because it is _____

5 The writer prefers a train journey to traveling by road because it is _____

B **Answer the following questions.**

1 What are the advantages of modern highways and better public transport in larger cities?

_____

2 Name **four** vehicles mentioned in the text, which are common on our highways?

_____

3 Why is the writer amazed?

_____

4 How has air travel become more affordable?

_____

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