READING

1. Read the text and answer the questions.

The Guinness book of World Records

In the early 1950s a British man called Sir Hugh Beaver, the managing director of the Guinness Brewery, got into a debate with friends over which bird was the fastest game bird in Europe. He realized it was impossible to confirm who was right without a reference book, and that there must be similar arguments around the world. There were many different topics of argument that could never be settled without a book. There was no internet or google to help in those days.
He got the idea he could be the man to give the answers in a definitive list of the world's superlatives. He met twin brothers Norris and Ross McWither who had a fact-finding agency in London. These brothers had a lot of trivia that could be used to settle many debates. Hugh wanted to bring these fascinating facts to the public.
The first edition of the Guinness Book of World Records was issued in 1955, it went straight to the British best-seller list and in America it sold 70,000 copies the following year. Guinness World Records is a name everyone knows and ironically, the book has broken records. It has sold 134 million copies in 100 countries. It's been translated into 37 languages. This makes it the best-selling copyright book ever.
As the years passed, the editions have become more focused on people's facts, from the tallest living man (Sultan Kosen- 8ft, 3 inches) to the most pierced human (Rolf Bachholz-453 piercings.)

1. Circle the phrase that best fits the main idea of the text.

1. The book's found and the types of records it has
2. The book's founder, its purpose. And how many copies it has sold
3. The book's purpose, the material it is printed on, and how many copies it has

2. Answer in your own words.

1. In what year was the book's idea born?

   _____

2. What was the main reason Sir Hugh Beaver came up with the idea?

   _____

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3. Who were the people that helped him start the list from for the book?

_____

4. In what way was their help important?

_____

5. When was the first issued printed?

_____

6. How many copies did it sell in America its first week?

_____

7. In how many countries is the book printed?

_____

8. What makes it the best book ever?

_____

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