

Task 3

- **Read the following article about a difficult test question and then read the half sentences that follow the text.**
- **Your task is to match the half sentences based on the information in the text.**
- **Write the letters (A-I) in the white boxes next to the numbers (17-21) as in the example (0).**
- **Remember that there are three extra letters that you will not need.**



'IMPOSSIBLE' EXAM QUESTION LEAVES CHINESE STUDENTS PUZZLED

Primary school students at a school in China had this question on a test: "If a ship has 26 sheep and 10 goats on board, how old is the ship's captain?"

The question caused a heated debate on Chinese social media. "This question makes no logical sense at all. Does the teacher even know the answer?" Some, however, defended the school, saying, "This question forces children to explain their thinking and gives them space to be creative. We should have more questions like this."

The local Education Department says the test was intended to "examine the ability to think independently." The traditional Chinese method of education heavily emphasises note-taking and repetition, which critics say doesn't encourage creative thinking.

And, of course, there's always that one person who has the right answer. "The total weight of 26 sheep and 10 goats is 7,700kg, based on the average weight of each animal. In China, if you're driving a ship that has more than 5,000kg of cargo, you need to have had a boat license for five years. The minimum age for getting a boat license is 23, so he's at least 28."

(www.bbc.co.uk)

0) *Some primary school students in China had a difficult question ...*

A) to test how well learners can think on their own.

0)	C
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17) This test question got a lot of people ...

B) to react on social media.

17)		
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18) In their comments, some people said it would be useful ...

D) to be over 28.

18)		
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19) The aim of the question was ...

E) to test note-taking abilities.

19)		
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20) Most tests in China ask learners ...

F) to have questions of this type in tests.

20)		
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21) If you want to drive a boat in China, you have ...

G) to simply give back what the teacher has taught them.

21)		
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H) to ask such an impossible question.

I) to be at least 23 years old.

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