GERAK GEMPUR 3

Reading Comprehension

Practice 1

Questions 1 to 8 *are based on the following passage.*
Read the passage carefully and choose the **best** *answer* A, B, C *or* D.

I have often wondered why an incident that happened many years ago is still fresh in my memory. I was in Year 1 and was about to hand in my homework to my teacher. Lee Ling, who sat beside me, asked for my exercise book. I was hesitant; I felt as if I was in a train going through a dark tunnel. I only felt numbness. I let her copy my answers. My teacher, Puan Anita, called both of us to the front of the classroom and scolded us. I told her that I did not copy Lee Ling's answer. Instead, it was the other way around. Puan Anita refused to listen to me. We were both punished by not being allowed to go out during recess. In my eyes as a kid, I felt as if I was in a deserted railway station.

However, I decided to forgive Lee Ling. As a very young child, I felt the deserted train station begin to hum with life again on the next day. I had learnt that not everyone told the truth all the time. I had learnt not to trust people easily. Now, as I reflect on this experience, I begin to understand Albert Einstein's intended message when he said that 'The only source of knowledge is experience!' It is clear that as soon as one learns something, one becomes a different individual, a different person in various ways; in spirit, body and mind. My outlook and behaviour had completely changed once I began to assimilate that knowledge. If we do not change, it implicates that what we have is merely information and not knowledge.

As I retrace my experiences of many years ago and compare them with Malaysia now, some things have changed and some have remained almost the same. In those days, I remember my rides were filled with interactions between the passengers. Each had his or her hopes and dreams, and their own unique stories to tell. I had compared my life with others many times. Now, when you get seated in your compartment, you would see the passengers glued to their electronic devices. The internet has set boundaries within each passenger and no one talks to each other anymore. **No one learns through one another's experiences.**

When I was 13 and a Form 1 student in a secondary school, I met my new classmates in my new class. One particular student caught my attention because the others had informed me that she was unbeatable! She had always scored the highest marks in class and had never failed to be the top of the class. I wanted to be like her – I wanted to be as smart and popular as Rashidah. Therefore, I studied hard to catch up to her. As I read my textbooks, I jotted down notes and memorised all the details.

The final examination arrived and I sat for it. I came in second with only two marks away. I was acknowledged to be just as smart as Rashidah. In actual fact, I was only first-rate at memorising facts. Now I can only recap my Home Science lessons – visualising vividly all the dishes I had prepared, along with the pointers given by the teacher!

Education has become highly competitive nowadays. I am not impressed about how I scored in my examination. I merely memorised the facts without gaining any knowledge. That is the reason why I could not keep what I had studied in my long-term memory.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 In paragraph 1, why did Lee Ling ask for the writer's exercise book?
A To show the writer's answers to Puan Anita
B To copy the writer's answers
C To go to a railway station
D To go out during recess

2 What did the writer do after the incident between her and Lee Ling?
A She hummed a song.
B She decided to tell the truth.
C She decided to forgive Lee Ling.
D She wrote a message to Albert Einstein.

3 From paragraph 2, according to Albert Einstein
A we should trust people easily.
B our spirit, body and mind go through changes.
C the source of experience comes from knowledge.
D information is gained through becoming a different person.

4 How does the writer know that some things have changed and others do not?
A She retraces and compares her past experience with Malaysia's current state.
B She compares her life with the people around her by telling stories.
C She goes on the internet to interact with people.
D She finds out her hopes and dreams.

5 In paragraph 3, why does the writer say **'No one learns through one another's experiences'**?
A Malaysians have their own hopes and dreams
B The electronic devices allow passengers to narrate unique tales
C People no longer learn from their interactions with one another
D The internet allows people to have more meaningful conversation

6 In paragraph 5, what was the writer good at?
A Doing the dishes
B Preparing dishes
C Memorising facts
D Visualising Home Science lessons

7 From paragraph 6, we know that the writer is
A happy about the way she memorised many facts.
B not impressed by the current education system.
C not proud about the way she scored her marks.
D relieved that she scored in her examinations.

8 What is the purpose of the writer sharing this story?
A To share memories of her childhood
B To look back at the difficulties she faced in school
C To persuade people to communicate with each other more
D To recall how she learned and grew from her past experiences

LIVEWORKSHEETS