You are going to read an article about cyberbullying. For **questions 1 to 8,** *choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and mark the correct letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet.*

Cyberbullying is a big threat among students in today's digital world. Cyberbullying is bullying that occurs using electronic technology such as cell phones, computers and tablets, as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chats and websites. Unlike physical bullying, cyberbullies can remain virtually anonymous using temporary email accounts, pseudonyms in chat rooms, instant messaging programs, cell-phone text messaging, and other Internet venues to mask their identity. Due to the recent use of mobile applications and the rise of smart phones, cyberbullying has become more rampant. Cyberbullying can also take place on social media sites such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter.

Cyberbullying is an action to cause harm or harass a person in a repeated and deliberate manner and can happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Cyberbullying messages and images can be posted anonymously and distributed quickly to a very wide audience. It can be difficult and sometimes impossible to trace the source. Deleting inappropriate or harassing messages, texts and pictures is extremely difficult after they have been posted or sent. Cyberbullying is carried out with the intention to intimidate, control, manipulate, put down, falsely discredit or humiliate the recipient.

Cyberbullying can cause serious psychological impact to the victims. Reluctance in telling a figure of authority about instances of cyberbullying can lead to fatal outcomes. They often feel anxious, nervous, tired and depressed. Other examples of negative psychological trauma include losing confidence as a result of being socially isolated from schoolmates or friends. Psychological problems can also show up in the form of headaches, skin problems, abdominal pain and sleep problems.

To overcome this problem, the government, schools and parents need to take the issue seriously. There is an urgent need to have programmes for prevention of cyberbullying. These programmes should be incorporated into the school curriculum and should include online safety instructions on how to use the Internet properly. This will teach victims the proper methods of potentially avoiding cyberbullies, such as blocking messages or increasing the security on their computer.

Children should also be taught effective coping strategies. As with any crime, people learn to cope with what has happened and the same goes for cyberbullying. People can adopt coping strategies to combat future cyberbullying instances. An example of a coping strategy would be a social support group composed of victims of cyberbullying. They could come together and share experiences, with a formal speaker leading the discussion. A support group can allow students to share their stories, and remove that feeling of being alone.

The Cybersmile Foundation, a cyberbullying charity, for example, is committed to tackling all forms of online bullying, abuse and hate campaigns. The charity was founded in 2010 in response to the increasing number of cyberbullying-related incidences of depression, eating disorders, social isolation, self-harm and suicides devastating lives around the world. Cybersmile provides support to victims and their friends and families through social media interaction, email and helpline support. They also run an annual event, Stop Cyberbullying Day, to draw attention to the issue. To ensure that our children are not cyberbullied it is vital that the government enforce laws that not only address online harassment of children or focus on child predators but adopt laws that protect cyberstalking victims of any age.

(Adapted from *Wikipedia*)

1 From paragraph 1, what is cyberbullying?
  A   It is a kind of threat faced by today's students.
  B   It is when a person verbally abuses another person.
  C   It is when a person physically harms another person.
  D   It is bullying using computers, phones and other electronic devices.

2 From paragraph 2, why is it difficult to trace the source of cyberbullying messages?
  A   Messages can be deleted very quickly.
  B   The messages can be distributed anonymously.
  C   There are too many messages being distributed.
  D   Similar messages can be sent by different people.

3 From paragraph 2, cyberbulling is carried out for all of the following reasons except
  A   to intimidate
  B   to falsely discredit
  C   to express admiration
  D   to verbally abuse and humiliate

4 From paragraph 3, which phrase suggests that cyberbullying can eventually lead to death?
  A   feel anxious
  B   fatal outcomes
  C   socially isolated
  D   psychological trauma

5 From paragraph 5, why is it important to teach children coping strategies?
  A   They will be able to handle bullies.
  B   They will be able deal with what has happened.
  C   They will be able to prevent future cyberbullying incidences.
  D   They will realise that they are not the only victims of cyberbullying.

6 From paragraph 5, how can a social support group help victims of cyber bullying?
  A   They will realise that they are not to be blamed.
  B   Students will know that there are other victims too.
  C   The support group can protect other possible victims.
  D   Victims can come together and share their experiences.

7 From paragraph 6, what is the aim of the Cybersmile Foundation?
  A   To help victims of cyberbullying
  B   To stop cyber bullying once and for all
  C   To tackle all forms of online bullying, abuse and hate campaigns
  D   To reduce cyberbullying incidences of suicide, depression and self-harm

8 From paragraph 6, how does the Cybersmile Foundation raise awareness of the dangers of cyberbullying?
  A   Through talks and sports events
  B   By organising Stop Cyber Bullying Day
  C   Administering a support group for victims
  D   Holding campaigns in schools for parents, teachers and students