## Practice 4

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

A young Malaysian man by the name of Yew Ping Soo made history as the first Malaysian to be involved in the Star Wars film franchise in *Solo: A Star Wars Story*. So far, he has worked as an audio producer and sound engineer for many famous Hollywood films including *The Lion King*, *Ferdinand*, *X-Men: Dark Phoenix*, *Ralph Breaks the Internet*, *Aquaman* and *Gears 5*. Apart from that, he has also worked with renowned music engineers and composers such as Hans Zimmer, Alan Meyerson, Shawn Murphy, Stephen Lipson, John Powell and Germaine Franco.

Yew's interest in music came from his desire to emulate his two elder brothers, who at the time played children and folk songs on the piano. He decided that he would take up the piano when he was seven. He told his parents that he wanted to follow his brothers' footsteps. Unfortunately, his brothers quitted learning the piano halfway but his parents hoped that he would continue on and complete the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Grade 8 piano syllabus. He did, and since then, music and piano became part of his life.

Yew said he often listened to music while doing his homework and recalled that he would stop to think about how the music that reached him merely through a pair of tiny earphones was created. He also used to wonder how music was produced, recorded and mixed. He was also especially curious about how music for video games and films were recorded as they usually involved an orchestra consisting of 56 to 90 musicians. His immense curiosity and interest on music production drove him to a career in music production and engineering.

Yew was very talented. This enabled him to be admitted into the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston at the age of 23. He described his years in Berklee as **one of the best experiences of his life** as it allowed him to hone his skills in music and audio engineering while being surrounded by talented and professional musicians. After graduating in 2015, he packed his bags and musical equipment, and drove to Los Angeles looking for opportunities in Hollywood. His break came at the end of 2015 when he was given a studio assistant internship at Heitor Pereira's studio, where he was part of the production for *Angry Birds* and *Despicable Me 3*.

The internship opened doors of opportunity for him. Later, he was given a one-year contract to work as a score production assistant for well-known Hollywood composer, John Powell. This opportunity allowed him to be involved in the production of *Ferdinand* and *Solo: A Star Wars Story* in 2017. All the work experiences in his resume then led him to be hired at Hans Zimmer's production studio as an assistant engineer. Zimmer was Yew's childhood idol and he was understandably thrilled by the opportunity. 'Not only did I get to work on Zimmer's projects, such as *X-Men: Dark Phoenix* and *The Lion King*, but I also had the chance to work with another one of my idols – Alan Meyerson. He is one of the greatest score recording and mixing engineers in Hollywood and I was lucky enough to work on several projects under him such as *Ralph Breaks the Internet* and *Aquaman*,' said Yew, whose latest project is the video game *Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order*.

According to Yew, he prepares for big productions by taking a deep dive into the storyline, the music and even the studio equipment used. He also looks into the latest music and audio technology. Yew has **pledged** to share the skills honed and experiences gained from working in Hollywood, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan with the Malaysian music and film industry, so as to help develop and build it to international standards.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 In paragraph 1, how did Yew make history?
A He was the sound engineer in *Aquaman*.
B He has worked with prominent music composers.
C He knew Alan Meyerson, Shawn Murphy and Stephen Lipson.
D He was the first Malaysian involved in the *Star Wars* film franchise.

2 What made Yew take up the piano in the first place?
A He wanted to follow his parents' advice.
B He wanted to play folk songs on the piano.
C He wanted to follow his brothers' footsteps.
D He wanted to finish the ABRSM Grade 8 piano syllabus.

3 From paragraph 3, we know that
A Yew dreamed of being a musician.
B Yew had a pair of bulky earphones.
C Yew was fascinated by music production.
D Yew recorded music for films and video games.

4 Why did Yew mention his time in Berklee as **'one of the best experiences of his life'**?
A He was able to enhance his skills surrounded by extraordinary musicians.
B He was involved in the production of *Angry Birds*.
C He became an assistant at Heitor Pereira's studio.
D He became an audio engineer in Hollywood.

5 What is Yew's latest project?
A *Ferdinand*
B *The Lion King*
C *Ralph Breaks the Internet*
D *Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order*

6 How does Yew prepare for big productions?
A By scrutinising the music, storyline and studio equipment
B By comparing the local and international music industry
C By sharing his skills and experiences with others
D By working in other countries

7 From the last paragraph, the word **'pledged'** can be best replaced with
A 'vowed'.
B 'planned'.
C 'decided'.
D 'considered'.

8 Yew feels that the Malaysian music and film industry
A should prepare for productions in Hollywood and around Asia.
B can be developed to be on par with the international standards.
C should have the latest music and audio technology.
D can be built based on the storyline and music.



LIVEWORKSHEETS