

*SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS*

*FOR*

**PRACTICE TEST FOR READING/ENGLISH, GRADE 8**

*(Test items developed for skills measured in LA03)*

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*Skills*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1.0 Using Context Clues                                       | 4.0 Locate, Select, and Synthesize Information                  |
| 1.1 Word Meaning  | 4.1 Using Organizational Features of Text and Other Media       |
| 1.2 Analyze Literary Devices and Story Elements               | 4.2 Locating Information Sources                                |
| 1.3 Written/Spoken/Visual Text                                | 4.3 Locating/Gathering/Selecting Information                    |
| 1.4 Interpreting to Real-Life Situations                      | 4.4 Listing Sources   |
| 2.0 Analyze Written Text                                      | 4.5 Interpreting Charts/Graphs, Tables/Schedules, Diagrams/Maps |
| 2.1 Identify/Compare, Respond to Literature of Diverse Groups | 5.0 Proofreading  |
| 2.2 Recognize Forms of Literature                             | 5.1 Use of Punctuation  |
| 2.3 Classify Forms of Literature                              | 5.2 Structure and Usage   |
| 3.0 Reasoning and Problem Solving Skills                      | 5.3 Parts of Speech   |
| 3.1 In Context  | 5.4 Spelling  |
| 3.2 Problem Solving   |   |
| 3.3 Author's Purpose and Point of View                        |   |
| 3.4 Forms of Writing  |   |

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Number of questions: 43

Number of pages: 22

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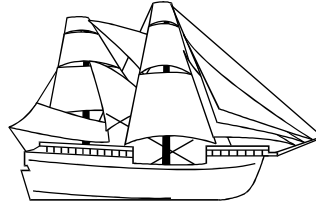
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# LA03 PRACTICE TEST IN READING/ENGLISH - GRADE 8

## FORM A

Read this article on lost treasures in the ocean. Then answer questions 8-14.

### Lost Treasures



Imagine plunging deep into the ocean in search of long lost treasures. It may sound like something from a fairy tale or a science fiction novel, but it could be a real opportunity for some people. Many tourists going to regions with warm waters may be given the opportunity to explore shipwrecks of days past. One such place that people can visit for such an experience is South Australia. Both beginner and advanced divers can find exciting recreation in these waters.

First and foremost, safety is the main concern. Not only can waters be treacherous for divers, but all the necessary diving precautions need to be made. Not to mention, the safety of some of these precious historic sites is at risk. It is important for any diver to be aware of the laws for a region regarding diving and shipwreck investigation. This is especially true of boat operators who plan to drop anchor near a historic site. A lot of damage can occur if an anchor is dropped directly onto a shipwreck site, not only to the ship itself, but to the aquatic life that has made a home of the area. All visitors to such sites should take care to protect and help preserve the valuable location. This includes not marring or damaging any part of the ship or surrounding environment. And, although it may be tempting for some, it is important to take only pictures and leave only bubbles. A certain souvenir to a diver may seem harmless, but if each person took a piece of history, it would greatly affect the overall value of the site. Divers should not even attempt to "uncover" a certain part of a wreck. Although this would allow for a more interesting view, any digging or removing of debris from a site exposes that portion to further corrosion and decay. The overall rule here is simple: Look, but don't touch.

1. Paragraph 2 is significant to this article because it is used to help the reader understand
  - A. how divers collect data from shipwrecks
  - B. why ships start to decay
  - C. the importance of preserving the ships
  - D. what causes environmental damage
2. The author's use of the word debris in paragraph 2 symbolizes
  - A. the removal of old boards
  - B. exposure to the ocean water causes the ship to decay
  - C. taking a piece of history home as a souvenir
  - D. a priceless treasure
3. Precautions should be taken before exploring shipwrecks because
  - A. the ocean floor contains dangerous currents
  - B. boats with divers can cause damage to the environment
  - C. the preservation of the ships is important to experienced divers
  - D. history is found and treasured in the ships