

First Term Exam of English

Part One: READING (15 pts)

A) Comprehension (07pts)

Read the passage carefully then do the activities.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition Today, morning clouds giving way to sunshine by the afternoon, high 65. Tonight, cloudy, low 54. Tomorrow, clouds giving way to sunshine, high 70. Weather map is on Page 23.

VOL. CLXIX ... No. 58,703

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NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

\$6.00

According to a survey, teenagers' boys read for an average of twenty minutes a day. Teenagers' girls spend almost twice as much time reading as their male counterparts. A survey of school children for Thursday's World Book Day found that 15 to 16 years old teenage boys spent 2-3 hours a week reading for pleasure, compared with 4-5 hours for girls. This 'screen-age' generation of boys prefers television, with an average of eleven hours a week and computer games played for an average of nine hours a week. (§1)

But whenever they were reading, boys were doing so because they enjoyed it, with 81% of 11 to 12 years old and 76% of 14 to 16 years old reporting their satisfaction with reading. The most popular author was JK Rowling, writer of the Harry Potter series, and teenage boys particularly enjoyed the works of Lord of the Rings author, JRR Tolkien. (§2)

Girls' enthusiasm for reading is reflected in their test and exam results, outperforming boys in English in both primary and secondary school. The survey found that 11 to 12 years old girls were the most enthusiastic readers, with more than five hours of reading for pleasure. (§3)

"Adapted from New York Times"

1. Choose the best answer: (1pt)

a. The text is: 1. a newspaper report 2. a police report 3. a radio report

b. The reporter did the survey about:

- 1) Teenagers' leisure time
2) Teenagers' reading habits
3) Teenagers' studying hours

2. Say whether the following statements are true or false according to the text: (2pts)

- a. Teenagers' girls spend 40 minutes a day in reading.
b. Teenagers' boys prefer reading more than playing computer games.
c. The majority of the boys enjoyed the works of JK Rowling, the writer of Harry Potter.
d. Both of the boys and the girls have the same habits.

3. Answer the following questions from the text: (3pts)

a. Who are the informants (the sample) of this survey?

b. Why did the reporter describe the teenagers' boys as 'screen-age' generation?

c. Do good exam results of the girls have a relation with reading?

4. What or who do the underlined words refer to in the text: (1pt)

They: (§2) .....

Their: (§3) .....

