

Englisch

Serie 1b

B) Leseverstehen

Prüfungsdauer: **40 Minuten**
Hilfsmittel: **keine**

Name: _____ Vorname: _____

Kand.-Nummer: _____ Klasse: _____

		Mögliche Punkte	Erzielte Punkte
B)	Leseverstehen	30	

Nicht mit Bleistift schreiben!

Examinator/Examinatorin

Experte/Expertin

READING COMPREHENSION

TASK 1

14 POINTS

You are going to read some stories connected with some of the world's national anthems.

Which section (A – F) mentions:

anthems which attempt to recognise multi-cultural societies?	1	.....	2	.....
a 'one-hit wonder' for the composer?	3	.....	
the problems of two countries having the same anthem tune?	4	.....	
anthems or tunes which were soon used in other countries?	5	.....	6	.....
the dangers of being the author of a national anthem?	7	.....	
how short the singing of anthems is today?	8	.....	9	.....
anthems that have no lyrics?	10	.....	
an anthem which seems harmless when you first hear it	11	.....	
what may happen to national anthems in the future?	12	.....	
lyrics that are no longer acceptable?	13	.....	
how quickly one anthem was written?	14	.....	

National Anthems

They are songs of pride and patriotism, booming out at every international sporting event and medal ceremony. But, as Alex Marshall has discovered, behind the world's national anthems lie some strange and surprising stories.

A Thanks to its rousing tune, France's *La Marseillaise* is one of the world's most recognisable anthems. After it was written in 1792, the song quickly spread across Europe, inspiring revolutionaries from Greece to Russia. It has even been part of recent uprisings. It was sung at the Tiananmen Square protests in China, for instance.

Unfortunately, its composer, Claude Rouget de Lisle, never managed a similar level of success. He penned *La Marseillaise* in just a few feverish hours, after being asked for a song to inspire French troops preparing for war against Austria. But over the next 44 years of his life, he never managed another memorable tune.

B *God Save the Queen*, published in 1745, was Great Britain's first official national anthem. The tune became so associated with nationalism it was rapidly adopted by other nations for their anthems too, just with different words. Liechtenstein still uses it today for its anthem *Oben am jungen Rhein* (Above the young Rhine). This has led to some confusion among the two countries' fans when Liechtenstein have played England at football.

C Spain's anthem - originally a fanfare for the country's royal family - is famous for being purely instrumental. But it is not unique in this regard. Kosovo does not have any because the government decided it could not risk offending Serbs who live in the country by having the text in Albanian (the language of the majority). What this actually means is that many in Kosovo ignore their official anthem and sing the separate Albanian or Serbian anthems instead.

D If you listen to Nepal's anthem, you would come away thinking it is just a gentle folk tune with lyrics about how all Nepalis are "woven from hundreds of flowers" into one garland. But, in reality, it is one of the most political. It was written in 2006, at the end of a 10-year civil war and a Maoist-led uprising against the country's king. Byakul Maila, the poet who wrote the words, was interrogated to prove he was not a royalist, while Maoist officials and journalists combed through his background and interviewed friends and family. It sounds almost like he was on trial. His mistake? He had once edited a book of poetry that contained a contribution from the former king.

E Most anthems were originally very long, featuring six or more verses. These days, only a couple of verses are likely to be sung. But the missing verses are often the most revealing about the history of a country.

Just take a look at the full anthems of South American countries. In those, you can see just how happy the countries were to be free of Spanish rule. In Argentina's national anthem, the Spanish get called everything from "bloody tyrants" to "vile invaders" who "devour like wild animals" anyone in their path. In 1990, those lines stopped being sung to avoid causing offence.

F Over the next 10 years, anthems may get longer as governments attempt to make the songs more politically inclusive. In Israel, for example, there have been calls to extend the anthem *Hatikvah* so that it acknowledges the country's Arab population as well as the Jewish one. But it is hard to see how longer anthems will be accommodated. At Olympic medal ceremonies, for example, anthems cannot last longer than 80 seconds, so any added verses would be in danger of not being sung.

TASK 2

16 POINTS

You are going to read an article about the use of rats to clear landmines. For questions 15-22 choose from the options A,B,C or D the answer which you think expresses best what the text says.

THE LANDMINE-SNIFFING RATS OF MOZAMBIQUE

5 Three-year-old Samo scurries across a grassy field, his nose twitching furiously. Attached to a long length of string to prevent him from escaping, he darts back and forth, then, suddenly, he freezes in his tracks, sniffing the air. After a concentrated pause, he scratches vigorously at the ground, a signal to his handler, Emmanuel, who stands a few yards away in a safe zone, that he has found a mine. "Good boy, Samo," shouts Emmanuel, as Samo races back to receive his reward – a banana. Samo is not some exploited child-soldier, he is a large bristly Gambian rat.

10 Mozambique's 16-year civil war may have ended in 1992, but the country is still covered by thousands of minefields. Some were laid decades ago by the former Portuguese colonial army, others, later, by the two sides in the civil war of the 1970s and 80s. The wars may be over, but **their** lethal weapons continue to maim and kill Mozambicans and prevent them from farming huge tracts of land.

15 Once buried in the ground, landmines are devilishly hard to get rid of. Desperation in the face of the problem has led to many an outlandish proposal. A Cambodian newspaper once proposed bringing over British cattle suffering from mad cow disease to roam the Cambodian countryside to set off the estimated 11 million landmines buried there. Conventional methods of removing landmines all have major drawbacks. Military mine-clearance vehicles can only
20 operate on flat terrain; metal detectors are slow and frustrating because they react to even the tiniest bit of non-lethal buried metal; dogs can smell the explosive material in landmines, but tend to get bored.

25 So when researchers from the Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania began training rats – known for their keen sense of smell – for landmine clearance, the Mozambicans were willing to give it a try. "Rats are intelligent, and they like to learn new things," says Jared Mkumbo, a Tanzanian who supervises the training of the rats and their handlers. Rats are almost perfectly suited for landmine clearance, argues Mkumbo. They are easy to train and to transport, they are cheap to feed and also resistant to many of the tropical diseases which
30 dogs, for example, frequently catch. In the field, they are quick and methodical. Thirty-six rats trained in Tanzania are currently working in Mozambique and have already cleared thousands of mines across the country. "Two rats can clear a 200m² in one hour," says Mkumbo. "It would take one man two weeks to do the same area."

35 All that the rats ask in return for their services is tasty food. When Samo the rat signals the presence of a mine by scratching the ground, Emmanuel presses a clicker which makes a noise that Samo has been trained to associate with food. He scampers over and snatches a banana from Emmanuel, devouring it in a couple of quick bites. When, however, another rat named Grigory, which is still being trained, fails to signal the presence of a fake mine,
40 Emmanuel withholds his reward. "Tomorrow he will know that he needs to do better!" he says.

45 Unlike dogs, which grow attached to individual handlers, the rats are happy to work with anyone as long as they are fed. Instead, it is the handlers who have grown attached to the rats. "Our economy used to be poor because of landmines, but now the rats are making a difference," says Alberto Jorge Zacarias, a rat handler who previously worked for eight years with mine-detecting dogs. "They are heroes. One day, thanks to them, I will see my country free of landmines.

- 15 Samo, the rat, is attached to a length of string

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- A so that Samo doesn't run away.
B so that Emmanuel can guide him.
C until he receives his banana
D because he has been trained to wear one.
- 16 The word 'their' in line 12 refers to

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- A the thousands of minefields.
B the two sides in the civil war.
C the wars.
D the former Portuguese colonial army.
- 17 Bringing over cattle from Britain to clear minefields in Cambodia was

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- A not successful
B only a joke.
C an unusual idea..
D a foreign idea.
- 18 The disadvantage of metal detectors is that they

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- A take a long time to start working properly.
B tend to break down a lot.
C react slowly to the metal in landmines.
D react to every piece of metal in the ground.
- 19 What the text does **not** say about dogs is that they

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- A are happy to work with any trainer.
B lose interest in landmine clearing work with time.
C often get the local diseases.
D can detect explosive material.
- 20 The one characteristic which dogs share with rats is

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- A they enjoy learning new things.
B they are cheap to feed.
C they have worked for years in landmine clearance.
D their sharp sense of smell.
- 21 Grigory the rat needs to do better tomorrow

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- A if he wants another banana.
B because he didn't find a practice landmine.
C because he didn't find a real landmine.
D to complete his training.
- 22 Which phrase best describes Alberto's opinion of the rats?

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- A 100% convinced
B fairly positive
C undecided
D disappointed