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TSA Practice Paper 1

Listening

Time allowed: Approximately 25 minutes

Part 1 Questions (15 marks)

Listen to this interview between a radio presenter and the captain of a holiday ship.

You have 30 seconds to read the questions.

The interview will be played twice. There are 10 questions. Do as much as you can the first time and complete all answers the second.

1. Where is the captain staying? _____

2. What does he particularly like about Hong Kong? Choose two.

A. the people

A

B. some of the local food

B

C. the hotels

C

D. checking details

D

E. having clothes made

E

F. relaxation

F

3. When will Mike's ship arrive in Hong Kong?

A. September

A B C D

B. October

C. November

D. December

4. What is the name of the company Mike works for? _____

5. Tick the names of the ships owned by the company:

- A. Blue Shade
- B. Blue Cloud
- C. Blue Crown
- D. Blue Wave
- E. Blue Whale
- F. Blue Shadow
- G. Blue Win
- H. Blue Wind
- I. Blue Shark

6. The interviewer thinks the names are _____.

- A. pretty
- B. silly
- C. clever
- D. strange

A B C D

7. How many passengers can Mike's ship carry? _____

8. Tick the age groups that the passengers usually belong to.

- A. 15-25
- B. 26-35
- C. 36-50
- D. 51-60
- E. 61+

A B C D E

9. How much on average does it cost to go on the trip Mike talks about? _____

10. Which piece of information makes the interviewer most surprised?

- A. Mike's reasons for being in Hong Kong
- B. The staff/passenger numbers
- C. The languages you can learn
- D. The cost

A B C D

Part 2 Questions (17 marks)

Chris is a presenter on a local radio station, who tells listeners about interesting places they might like to visit one day.

Listen to the radio show and also make use of the advertisement to fill in the information sheet. You have one minute to read the advertisement and the questions on the information sheet.

The radio show will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and complete all the answers the second.

Advertisement

Bamboo Bar

Great tasty Thai food in a jungle setting

Weekend Lunch Buffet 11 am – 2 pm – only 119 baht [89 baht for children under 11]

All you can eat...fabulous price and food

A short menu is also available every day, 10 am to 5 pm.

Special arrangements can be made for parties. Contact the office for details [5432859400].

Birthday cakes can also be ordered.

Information Sheet

Paradise Garden

1. Location (tick one): A. _____ 5 km from Phuket Town
B. _____ 5 km from Patong Beach
C. _____ 3 km from Patong Beach
D. _____ halfway between the two places

2. Opening hours: (a) _____ to (b) _____

3. Entry charge Adults (a) _____ baht
Children (b) _____ baht

4. Presenter's opinion of entry charge (underline one):

- A. very cheap B. reasonable C. a bit expensive D. very expensive

5. Extra for (underline one): A. using golf course B. old ladies C. use of a golf cart D. a car & driver

Tropical Garden

6. Name one attraction: _____

Zoo

7. Name three animals you can probably ride: (a) _____
(b) _____ (c) _____

8. What did the presenter think of the monkey show? (underline one)

- A. funny B. boring C. quite dangerous D. poor

Eating

9. Special offer: _____

10. Any disadvantage: _____

11. Presenter's opinion of the Bamboo Bar (underline one): A. good B. okay C. poor

Presenter's favourite sights

12. First: _____

13. Second: _____

Part 3 Questions (10 marks)

The Chief Secretary is making a speech before giving a medal for bravery to a policeman.

You have 30 seconds to read the questions.

The speech will be played twice. There are seven questions. Answer as many questions as you can the first time and complete all answers the second.

1. The Chief Secretary says bravery is _____.

- A. doing your job properly
- B. stopping crime
- C. doing more than your duty
- D. dealing with a difficult case

A B C D

2. The events took place _____.

- A. at a secondary school
- B. in a public playground
- C. in a public park
- D. at a housing estate

A B C D

3. The young men were carrying all the following EXCEPT _____.

- A. stones
- B. sticks
- C. knives
- D. choppers

A B C D

4. When he saw what was happening the officer stopped and _____.

5. What signal did one man give for the fight to start? _____

6. In addition to the weapons in Question 3, some of the gang were carrying _____.

- A. guns
- B. steel bars
- C. bottles of acid
- D. petrol bombs

A B C D

7. The Chief Secretary thinks Officer Law _____.

- 1. saved the gang members from injury
- 2. may have saved lives
- 3. prevented a fire
- 4. helped solve a number of cases
- 5. helped prevent crime in that district

- A. All the above
- B. 1, 4, 5
- C. 1, 2, 5
- D. 1, 2, 4

A B C D

END OF PAPER

TSA Practice Paper 1

Reading (30 minutes)

Part 1 (9 marks)

You are doing a project on different ways of celebrating the new year around the world.

Read the passage and answer the questions.

The world has many different New Year's Days scattered in different months of the year, but they are all celebrated in interesting ways.

In China people clean their homes, have family dinners, visit one another and enjoy dragon dances, fireworks, red packets and various fruit trees.

In Japan, the temple bells are busy welcoming in the New Year. When it comes people start to laugh as they think a year which starts with laughter should be a good one.

Thais go wild for their April New Year – for a few days they throw water over one another and hold parties in the streets. People also tie white strings for good luck round one another's wrists.

Among the mountain people of Cambodia, old men wave chickens over their heads and the young men and women play a special ball game which is a sort of dating.

India has a great many different customs including lighting hundreds of small lamps all over the place, giving children trays of flowers, food and small gifts and asking the goddess of wealth for her help in the year ahead.

In Canada you might go on an icy 'polar bear' swim.

New York is famous for its countdown and Europe has many old traditions: in Scotland a figure of the old year is made out of straw and burned to take away all the bad luck of the old year; in many parts of the UK it is important who the first person to step into the house is – a good-looking young man with some money and coal in his hand is the best.

And finally, in Spain people eat twelve grapes to make sure they have twelve months of prosperity ahead.

Part 1 questions

1. Which sense [sight, hearing, taste, touch and smell] seems to be most used for Japanese New Year?

2. Match the places in column A with what people might say at the new year in column B. One has been done as an example for you.

	Column A			Column B
A	Canada	<u>6</u>	1	Eat one more or you'll have one unlucky month!
B	China	___	2	9, 8, 7, 6....
C	India	___	3	Have you finished washing the floor yet?
D	New York	___	4	Can I ask you to send you son over to visit just after midnight? We'll have a drink and cake ready for him.
E	Spain	___	5	I'm so wet- they emptied a whole bucket over me!
F	Thailand	___	6	Come on. Don't be afraid. It's not so cold once you jump in.
G	The United Kingdom	___	7	Look at all the lights. They are so pretty!

3. In Thailand, they tie white strings on people's _____.

A. arms

B. legs

C. necks

D. heads

A B C D

4. In which country is a bird part of the celebrations? _____

Part 2 (14 marks)

You are helping in the school library. Read these two reviews, fill in the table below and answer the two final questions.

Book reviews

Review 1: Meet Me Downtown

This is the fourth in a series of novels by Tom Lee involving Danny Yip and his team at the Los Angeles Police Department. This time the lieutenant is battling a very nasty gang of South American drug traffickers. The more they learn about the gang, the less things make sense. There are plenty of clues, but solving the puzzle is very difficult. While the detectives are working it all out, there are plenty of gunfights and horrible murders. Lee can tell a good fast-moving story and those who like their reading to be an action movie on paper will enjoy this story, which ends with a big surprise when they find out who the master criminal is. My one complaint is that Lee seems more like a cartoonist than a writer and the characters never quite come alive.

Review 2: Puzzles

This very weakly named novel is by a new Canadian writer, Fay Rider, and luckily it is far more imaginative than that title makes you think. This is a crime story with a difference. The star detective is no ordinary police officer, but a super computer of the twenty-ninth century. Some things it seems will never change though- human society throughout its five hundred and thirty five planets is under attack from a new drug, which has very strange results. The plot is very clever and I certainly could not guess what was going to happen. The writing is excellent and you will certainly love Mel the Brain.

Sample -

Part 2 Questions

1. Fill in the table below with information from the two book reviews.

	Meet Me Downtown	Puzzles
Type of story [school story, history, war etc]	(a)	(g)
Main character	(b)	(h)
Time setting	(c)	(i)
Cause of problem	(d)	(j)
Two strong points	(e)	(k)
Weak point	(f)	(l)

2. In Review 1, 'traffickers' are _____.

A. users

B. sellers

C. makers

D. drivers

A B C D

3. In Review 1, 'battling' is _____.

A. joining

B. studying

C. trying to tell people about

A B C D

D. fighting

Part 3 (9 marks)

You are studying animal conservation measures. The teacher has asked you to read this passage. Answer the questions which follow.

Whales

Whaling, or the hunting and killing of whales, is something many people feel very strongly about. On the one hand, there are people who say it is part of their *culture* to hunt whales and want to continue, and on the other side there are those who think it is a terrible thing to do and want all whale-hunting *banned* completely. Almost every year you can read news stories about Japanese whaling boats being followed and stopped from hunting by members of Greenpeace, many of them from Australia and New Zealand.

Whales used to be a major source of oil and in the 19th century millions were killed for this product. Whale numbers did become very *low* and whales might have died out if there had not been a stop to their hunting. Now, though, numbers have increased so the whale hunters argue it is safe to hunt a small number every year. They are probably correct. We use many types of animals for food and other things, so why should whales be any different? The problem is that there are people who feel whales are very special and intelligent animals and that killing them is totally wrong. The two sides have very different points of view so it is difficult for them to talk to one another. Perhaps there is one argument both sides can agree on: whale-watching has become a very big tourist activity and earns maybe a billion dollars a year. Perhaps then whale-hunting is not economically sensible.

Part 3 Questions

1. Which of these definitions of *culture* fits the use in the passage?

A. art and music

B. cells grown in a laboratory

C. a way of life

D. raising animals for food

A B C D

2. Banned means _____.

A. discussed

B. studied scientifically

C. stopped

D. allowed

A B C D

3. Which of these definitions of 'low' fits the use in the passage?

A. small

B. close to the ground

C. unhappy

A B C D

D. shameful, awful

4. What country is mentioned as most supporting whale-hunting? _____
5. Find and **tick** two arguments which appear in the passage in favour of hunting whales and two which appear in the passage against hunting whales.

		In favour	Against
A.	Whale hunting was stopped for a time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B.	Whale meat is tasty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C.	Whales are rather like people and should be protected.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D.	Whales eat a lot of fish and so make it harder for us to catch enough.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E.	Whales are no longer in danger of dying out.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F.	Whale meat is unhealthy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G.	Whales are like any other animal and can be used for food.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H.	Whales are mammals, not fish.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I.	Tourism to watch whales is bigger business than whale hunting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
J.	Many Australians do not like whale-hunting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. The writer thinks whale-hunting is _____.

- A. evil and must stop
- B. wrong but must continue
- C. acceptable but should stop
- D. acceptable and should continue

A B C D

Part 4 (12 marks)

You were told off today at the swimming pool for breaking a rule, so you decide to study the rules carefully. Read the passage and answer the questions to make sure you now know them.

Pool Rules

1. Bathing caps must be worn by all swimmers.
2. Swimming costumes must be worn.
3. No shoes are allowed on the deck around the pool.
4. All swimmers must take a full shower before entering the pool.
5. The public must not use the diving boards. Enter the pool feet first.
6. No one with skin problems may use the pool.
7. People with colds, coughs or with eye problems should not use the pool.
8. The shallow pool is for children to play.
9. No running or games are allowed around the pool.
10. No one may do anything which may make the water dirty.
11. No food or drink may be brought into the pool area.
12. No glass containers may be brought into any part of the pool building.
13. Children under seven years old or less than 1.2 m tall must be accompanied by an adult in a swimming costume staying all the time within a metre.
14. Animals are not allowed in the building, with the exception of guide dogs.
15. Toys, masks and water wings are not to be used in the pool. Small arm bands are allowed.
16. Weak and non swimmers must remain in shallow water no deeper than their waist.
17. No one should chat to the lifeguards.
18. Sunbathers must stay a meter away from the pool edge.

Part 4 Questions

1. Each of the cases below fits one of the rules. Write the correct rule number in the box. The first has been done as an example.

A	I won't change. I'll just stand by the pool and watch little Johnny.	13
B	Let's play ball in the pool.	
C	I had a bath just before I came so I'll go straight in.	
D	Can I go in the water in my shorts?	
E	We can leave the dog in the changing room.	
F	Excuse me, but do you enjoy being a life-guard?	
G	I don't need to wear one. My hair's really short.	
H	You are sneezing a lot and you look as if you have a fever. They won't let you in.	
I	It's OK. I have some good cream and my face is now nearly clear of spots.	
J	Let's have our sandwiches by the pool.	
K	Don't worry- just hold on to me – you'll be safe and we'll swim out into deep water so you can feel what it will be like when you can swim.	

END OF PAPER

TSA Practice Paper 1

Writing (40 minutes)

Reply to an Email

You have had an email from an old primary school friend, Tommy. He doesn't sound very happy.

In about 150 words, reply to him, offering advice and try to make him feel more cheerful.

From: Tommy
To: Jo-Jo
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 20XX, 11:23 AM
Subject: Problems at home and school

Hi, Jo-Jo,

I haven't seen you for a few months. Let's meet in the Christmas holiday and hear each other's news.

I am not having a good time at the moment. My teachers and Mum and Dad are not pleased with me. I am often late to school. I don't want to be, but it keeps on happening. How can I solve this?

I don't usually have time for breakfast and feel hungry in the first lessons. I often forget to take the right books to school. My work is usually late so I have to work at night and don't get enough sleep.

And I even have fights with my friends because they don't like me copying their homework. Please tell me how to improve.

Tommy

TSA Practice Paper 1

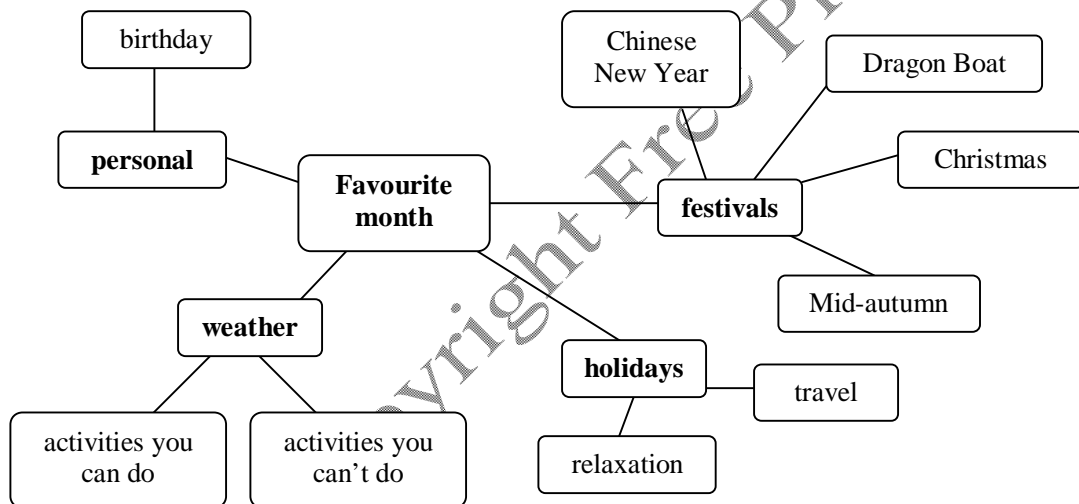
Speaking – Individual Presentation

Preparation Time: 3 minutes

Assessment Time: 2 minutes

Your teacher has asked you to tell the class about your favourite month of the year.

Prepare a two- minute presentation about your favourite month of the year. You can use some ideas from the following mind-map and/or your own ideas in your presentation.



You may use the following or your own words to begin and end your presentation.

Good morning/afternoon, everybody. I'm going to talk about my favourite month of the year.

Thank you.

END OF PAPER

TSA Practice Paper 1

Speaking – Group Interaction

Preparation Time: 3 minutes

Assessment Time: 3 minutes

You and two other members of the Careers Club are talking about what makes people successful.

In your discussion you may include:

- personal qualities like being hardworking, clever, strong, good-looking etc
- teachers and trainers, education and training, family background
- good luck
- any other details that are important

You may begin by saying:

Let's first talk about the sort of person who is successful.

END OF PAPER

Set 1 Answers

(from the answer booklet)

Set 1

Listening 1 (42 marks)

Listening – Set 1, Part 1 (15 marks)

1. The Wanchai Palace (Hotel) 2. B and E 3. B 4. Blue Seas 5. B, D, F, H
6. A 7. 378 8. B & E 9. HK\$50,000 10. B

Listening – Set 1, Part 2 (20 marks)

1. A 2. (a) 8.30 am to (b) 5.30 pm
3. (a) 150 baht (b) 75 baht 4. B
5. C 6. waterfall/plant houses/amazing jungle plants
7. (a) camel (b) pony (c) elephant 8. A
9. all you can eat lunch buffet (see written advertisement)
10. only at weekend (see written ad) 11. C
12. the museum 13. the dragon / Dragon Walk

Listening – Set 1, Part 3 (7 marks)

1. C 2. B 3. A 4. radioed [called] for help 5. a shout 6. D 7. C

Reading 1 (44 marks)

Reading – Set 1, Part 1 (9 marks)

1. Hearing
2. B:3 C:7 D:2 E:1 F:5 G:4
3. A 4. Cambodia

Reading – Set 1, Part 2 (14 marks)

1.	Meet Me Downtown	Puzzles
Type of story [school story, history, war etc]	(a) <u>Detective/crime</u>	(g) Detective/crime
Main character	(b) <u>Lt Danny Yip</u>	(h) Mel the Brain
Time setting	(c) <u>Now</u>	(i) 29 th century
Cause of problem	(d) <u>Drugs</u>	(j) Drug
Two strong points	(e) <u>Fast-moving/speed</u> <u>Clever plot</u>	(k) Clever plot <u>Excellent writing</u>
weak point	(f) <u>Character</u>	(l) Title

2. B 3. D

Reading – Set 1, Part 3 (9 marks)

1. C 2. C 3. A 4. Japan 5. In favour: E and G Against: C and I 6. C

Reading – Set 1, Part 4 (12 marks)

- B: 15 C: 4 D: 2 E: 14 F: 17 G: 1 H: 7 I: 6 J: 11 K: 16

Listening Tapescripts

(from the answer booklet)

Set 1 – Listening tapescript

Part 1

Chris Lo, a radio presenter, interviews the captain of a holiday ship.

Listen to the interview. You have 30 seconds to read the questions. The interview will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and complete all answers the second.

Interviewer [I]: Welcome to Radio Wanchai's Interview of the Day. We heard cruise-ship captain Mike Black was staying at the ¹Wanchai Palace Hotel so we called and asked if we could talk to him and he very kindly agreed. Hello, Captain.

Mike Black [M]: Hello, please call me Mike.

I: Yes, sir. Can I first ask what you are doing in Hong Kong?

M: Well, it is part work and part pleasure. I just love coming here ^{2B}for the dim sum and I also ^{2E}get my uniforms here. You cannot beat Hong Kong tailors. But as well as ^{2B}eating and ^{2E}getting some new clothes, I want to check some details ready for bringing my ship here in ³October.

I: Your ship is the beautiful ^{5F}Blue Shadow, isn't it?

M: Yes, I work for the Blue Seas Cruise Company and we have four ships, the ^{5B}Blue Cloud, the ^{5H}Blue Wind, the ^{5D}Blue Wave and my own ^{5F}Blue Shadow.

I: All such ⁶lovely names. I believe they are not very big ships. Is that true?

M: Yes, though you must not think they are small, but in comparison with some really big liners we offer smaller luxury ships. For instance, the Blue shadow carries ⁷378 passengers along with 296 member of crew.

I: ¹⁰[sounding very surprised] Did I hear right? 296 members of crew for only ⁷378 passengers. That's almost one worker for each passenger!

M: Well, not quite, but you can tell we take good care of our passengers and to do that we need a lot of sailors, engineers, cooks, waiters, cleaning staff, hairdressers, entertainment officers and so on.

I: And you are all coming here in October?

M: That's right. We spend a few months every year sailing between Vancouver and Alaska and as it gets a bit too cold up there we come down to this part of the world. We will start with a few 9-day cruises from Hong Kong with stops in a number of Vietnamese ports and ending the trip in Singapore. We also do visits to Shanghai, Tokyo and Bangkok at different times.

I: I've never been on a cruise. What do people do on them?

M: When you are aboard we have lots of entertainment for you. You can even learn some simple phrase in the various languages you will meet.

I: You mean Chinese and Vietnamese?

M: Yes, and Thai, Malay and Japanese.

I: Interesting. What sort of people go on your cruises?

M: We get a lot of ^{8E}retired people who want to see the world slowly and in comfort, and we also get a group of younger customers, honeymooners in their ^{8b}late twenties and early thirties.

I: I suppose the big question is how much it all costs?

M: Well, luxury is not cheap. It is hard to give a price – there are different types of room, different routes, special offers and so on – but for the average person on the nine-day cruise I mentioned it's about ⁹50,000 Hong Kong dollars.

I: And you have to get yourself back to Hong Kong or wherever home is – quite expensive – but I am sure it's worth it. Thanks, Mike, for giving us your time.

M: My pleasure – hope we see you on the Blue Shadow one day.

Set 1, Part 2

Chris is a presenter on a local radio station, who tells listeners about interesting places they might like to visit one day.

Listen to the radio show and also make use of the advertisement to fill in the information sheet. You have one minute to read the advertisement and the questions on the information sheet.

The radio show will be played twice. Do as much as you can the first time and complete all the answers the second.

The radio programme will begin now.

Hello, dear listeners. I know lots of you go to the lovely island of Phuket for relaxing beach holidays.

Well, here is a place I found recently on Phuket Island which I think many of you travelling as a family would like. It is called Paradise Garden and is on the road from Phuket Town to Patong Beach, ¹about a third of the way along the 15 km route. ²It is open from 8.30 in the morning until 5.30 in the afternoon and ^{3a}it costs 150 baht for adults with ^{3b}half-price for children from 5 to 12. There's a lot to see and do, so I think that is a ⁴very reasonable price.

If granny is with you and does not want to walk, groups of four can have a ⁵golf cart for three hours for 500 baht. Oh and by the way, no skateboards are allowed in, but I don't suppose many of you take your skateboards on holiday with you.

So what can you see? There's the Tropical Garden with a lovely ⁶waterfall and some ⁶plant houses full of ⁶amazing jungle plants.

From the garden you walk a long ¹³Dragon Walk, which was my second favourite thing – a long row of bushes have been cut into a very real-looking dragon. It looks like something from a film like *Avatar* or *Lord of the Rings*.

Then we come to the zoo which younger children will love as there are plenty of tame animals you can touch or ride, like ⁷ponies, ⁷camels, a cute little ⁷elephant and many others. There's also a ⁸really comic monkey show which had me falling about in laughter. Nearby is the Bamboo forest in the middle of which is the Bamboo Bar where you can eat if you want, but ¹¹I don't really recommend it. Maybe it suits local more than visitors.

Mum might like to stop by the Spa for some beauty treatment.

But ¹²the top spot for me was the Museum. It's an old Thai house and it's full of all sort of strange items including stuffed giant crocodiles and snakes.

There's a lot more to do and see there, but I hope I have told you enough for you to go there on your next Phuket trip. Next week we are off to Hainan. Bye for now.

Set 1, Part 3

The Chief Secretary is making a speech before giving a medal for bravery to a policeman.

You have 30 seconds to read the questions.

The speech will be played twice. Answer as many questions as you can the first time and complete all answers the second.

Ladies and Gentlemen, It gives me great pleasure to be here this afternoon to present this medal for bravery. We are very lucky here in Hong Kong to have such a good police force. Of course, it is the duty of the police to try to stop crime, but there are times when someone ¹does more than their duty. That is what bravery is and this is definitely such a case.

Officer Law Wai Kit was passing a ²public playground in the Eastway district late one evening when he saw two gangs of young men lined up facing each other. He could see they were ³armed with sticks, knives and choppers and were obviously about to have a gang fight. He did his duty in this situation and stopped nearby and ⁴radioed for help. Nobody could have asked him to do more, and if he had waited for more officers to arrive, no one could have blamed him or complained. But suddenly one of the gang leaders ⁵gave a shout and one gang began running towards the other. Officer Law immediately drove his motorcycle into the playground and drove straight towards the gangs. Thankfully, it had the right effect and the young men started to run away. Officer Law had still not finished. He jumped off his motorcycle and grabbed the gang leader who had given the order to attack. Just then more officers arrived and a few more of the gang members were arrested. Two were carrying ⁶petrol bombs.

This brave officer stopped these idiots from ⁷hurting, maybe killing one another, and his speedy action also meant we could find out who these gangs were and what they were fighting over, so ⁷preventing a lot more crime in that area.

Officer Law I am proud to shake your hand. As long as we have such officers as you, Hong Kong will be safe.