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**Literacy**

**Cohort** Secondary

**Country** Afghanistan

**Language** English/Dari



**Note:** This is an assessment used in classrooms for the Schools2030 programme. It is being shared to demonstrate the approaches to assessment that Schools2030 is developing.

For those interested in using or adapting this tool, further information including teacher guides, psychometric analysis, and other supplementary materials are available on request.



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| **ORAL COMPREHENSION** |

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| ITEM 1 | **LISTENING COMPREHENSION, ANSWERING DIRECT AND INFERENTIAL QUESTIONS.**  *Now I will read you a text twice. Listen carefully each time. You will have to answer a few questions about the story afterwards.*  **National Archives**  There are special buildings in every country around the world that save orders of authorities, handwritten and published books, historical, formal and special documents, writings, and pictures. These buildings are called administration or archives. Such settlements have been in our country for decades and it is called National Archives. The National Archives are currently located in Salang Watt of Kabul city and dates back from the rule of Amir Abdul Rahman Khan. Amir Abdul Rahman Khan ordered the construction of that building for the work of his own son, Prince Habibullah Khan. This building has two floors. The first floor is in the basement which includes two halls and ten rooms. Mohammad Dawood Khan in his early kingdom (1352 AD), was specially appointed to administer the National Archives which started functioning under the Public Library Administration.  *Thank you for listening so well! Now I will ask you a series questions, please answer based on the text you have just heard.* | | |
| **Q1** | | Can you name two things that can be found in national archives? |
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| **Q2** | Where are the national archives in Kabul located? |
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| **Q3** | How many rooms are there in the basement of the national archives, excluding halls? |
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| **Q4** | Why is it important to have national archives? |
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| **Q5** | What is the main purpose of the passage? |
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| **READING COMPREHENSION** |

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| ITEM 2 | **LISTENING COMPREHENSION, ANSWERING DIRECT AND INFERENTIAL QUESTIONS.**  *Now please read the entire story to yourself in your own time and answer the following questions below. Circle the correct answer for each question. You have 20 minutes to complete this item.*  **The gift**  ‘Father is here! Zuhra! Merwais!’ It was their mother calling. ‘It’s Father!’  The children looked at each other, with slowly widening eyes. No words came from their mouths, but their eyes shone with hope: ‘A gift? *This* time?’  The children jumped together from their low branch in the almond tree and ran inside. It was him.  They stopped inside the door. His arms were empty. For a second the children’s eyes darted around the room looking for some new object. Nothing. But Father was there! He opened his empty arms and they dived into them.  ‘Ah, you missed your father!’ he laughed. ‘You are glad to see me! You don’t mind that I have brought no gift again.’  They looked up suddenly, and after a second Zuhra said seriously, ‘We don’t want a gift.’  Their father laughed. ‘Then I will keep it for myself!’ he said.  Zuhra and Merwais looked at each other again, and again their eyes shone with hope.  ‘I have something. Two things! They will take you to faraway places.’  ‘A bicycle!’  ‘A donkey!’  Zuhra and Merwais thought of their long walks over the windy plain.  ‘I went to town to sell wool,’ Father said, laughing. ‘Not to sell jewels.’  The children looked down.  ‘They can make you forget the cold on winter nights. Bicycles and donkeys don’t do that.’  ‘Jackets!’  ‘Blankets!’  In their minds they could see snow blowing in through the door at night, when anyone came or went.  ‘They would be good gifts. Yes. But not this time. My gifts can make you calm or excite you. They are colourful.’  ‘Balloons?’ Merwais asked. He sounded a little disappointed, after the thoughts of bicycles and donkeys and warm things. But then in his mind he saw a red balloon being blown around in the air, red against the brown mountains in the distance. He was glad.  ‘No,’ Father said. ‘Balloons can’t fill your mind. I have brought you...’ His hand went into his jacket. ‘I have brought you ... storybooks!’  He pulled out two colourful books and gave one to each of his children. Zuhra and Merwais opened the pages in wonder and gazed at the pictures. Some were things they already knew, but more colourful than they had ever seen! Some were faraway places. There were words they didn’t know yet, too – but soon they would!  Zuhra and Merwais hugged their father again. | | |
| **Q1** | | What type of text is this? |
|  | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **A.** A narrative text |  | | **B.** A poem |  | | **C.** A newspaper article |  | | **D.** An informative text |  | |

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| **Q2** | What does Father give Zuhra and Merwais? |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **A.** | Jackets |  | | **B.** | Books |  | | **C.** | Bicycles |  | | **D.** | Balloons |  | |

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| **Q3** | Does their father often bring Zuhra and Merwais gifts? |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **A.** | Yes |  | | **B.** | No |  | |

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| **Q4** | What two feelings does Mirwais have when he thinks his father has bought balloons? Describe those feelings in one or two words below: |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **A.** | His first feeling |  | | **B.** | His second feeling |  | |

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| **READING COMPREHENSION** |

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| ITEM 3 | *Please read the text below to yourself and answer the questions below:*  **Buddhist Era Relics Discovered in Kabul’s Shewaki Site**  Thumbnail  **Archaeologists have discovered new relics that dates back to the Buddhist era in the Shewaki area in the eastern part of Kabul city.**  Eight small Buddhist stupas as well as fortifications, walls and 176 other artifacts have been found in Shewaki.  “When we started our excavation, this stupa was broken down on several sides, it had massive damages all around, the upper side of the stupa was badly damaged and the lower part was underground,” said Wahid Rahimi, an archaeologist.  A team of nine archaeologists came to the scene two years ago and so far, they have completed 50 percent of their excavation.  Another 80 experts are contributing to the renovation work at the historical site.  According to the archaeologists, the ancient relics from the Buddhist era that were found in Kabul, Jalalabad and Laghman show that these areas were once part of the Gandhara civilization.  Gandhara was a major hub of Buddhist civilization for 1,000 years from which Buddhism was spread to China, Korea, Sri Lanka and Central Asia.  “Buddhism existed in Afghanistan for 1,000 years,” said Noor Aqa Noori, the head of the archaeological department of the Ministry of Information and Culture.  The Ministry of Information and Culture recently included Shewaki’s historical sites in Kabul’s cultural zone. The area is expected to be transformed into a major centre for visitors in the years to come.  Archaeologists have said that the government should document the country’s historical sites before they are harmed. |
| Q1 | What type of text is this? |
|  | **Answer:**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| Q2 | What did archaeologists find in Shewaki? |
|  | **Answer:**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| Q3 | Why is it an important discovery? (Prompt: What does it show about the area’s history?) |
|  | **Answer:**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| **WRITING** |

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| ITEM 4 | Please write a story about what happens in your village during spring months in the box below. It can be about activities that usually happen during this season, but it can also be about a specific event that happens or happened in the past. It does not have to be completely true; you are welcome to use your imagination.   |  | | --- | | *The text should not be longer than half a page. You have 15 minutes to complete the task.* | |
|  | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |