Read the extract carefully, then answer the questions in the answer booklet provided.

'The Silver Sword' by Ian Serraillier describes the plight of Ruth (12), Edek (11) and Bronia (3) who lived in Poland during the Second World War. These three children learnt what it really meant to survive after their father and mother were taken from them by the Nazis.

They made their new home in a cellar at the other end of the city. They had tunnelled their way into it. From the street it looked like a rabbit's burrow in a mound of rubble, with part of a wall rising behind. On the far side there was a hole in the lower part of the wall, and this let in light and air as well as rain.

When they asked the Polish Council of Protection about their mother, they were told she had been taken off to Germany to work on the land. Nobody could say which part of Germany. Though they went many times to ask, they never found out any more. 'The war will end soon,' they were told. 'Be patient, and your mother will come back.'

But the war dragged on, and their patience was to be sorely tried.

They quickly made their new home as comfortable as they could. Edek, who could climb like a monkey, scaled three storeys of a bombed building to fetch a mattress and some curtains. The mattress he gave to Ruth and Bronia. The curtains made good sheets. On wet days they could be used over the hole in the wall to keep the rain out. With floorboards he made two beds, chairs, and a table. With bricks from the rubble he built a wall to divide the cellar into two rooms, one to live in and one to sleep in. He stole blankets from a Nazi supply dump, one for each of them.

Here they lived for the rest of that winter and the following spring.

Food was not easy to find. Ruth and Bronia had green Polish ration cards and were allowed to draw the small rations that the Nazis allowed. But, except when Edek found casual work, they had no money to buy food. Edek had no ration card. He had not dared to apply for one, as that would have meant disclosing his age. Everyone over twelve had to register, and he would almost certainly have been carried off to Germany as a slave worker. Whenever possible they ate at the soup kitchens which Polish Welfare had set up. Sometimes they begged at a nearby convent. Sometimes they stole from the Nazis or scrounged from their garbage bins. They saw nothing wrong in stealing from their enemies, but they were careful never to steal from their own people ...

In the early summer they left the city and went to live in the woods outside. It was cold at night out in the open. They slept huddled together in their blankets under an oak tree which Edek had chosen for the shelter of its branches. There was not much rain that summer, though they had one or two drenchings in May. After that Edek cut down some branches, lashed them together and made a lean-to. This was thick enough to keep out all but the heaviest rain.

Life was much healthier here than in the city. The sun browned their limbs. There were plenty of other families to play with, some of them Jews who had escaped from the Warsaw ghetto. They could run about freely and hold their classes under the trees, without having to keep a look-out for police patrols. Ruth had started a school. Sometimes she had as many as twenty-five children there. She would have taken more, but they had no paper, very few slates, and no books at all.

Occasionally they received a smuggled copy of a secret journal specially published for children by the Polish Underground press. It was called *Biedronka*, 'The Ladybird', and was full of the kind of stories and pictures and jokes that children enjoy. The grubby finger marks showed that other families had seen it before them. When Ruth's children had finished with it, there was nothing left but a few tattered strips.

Because of the kindness of the peasants, food was more plentiful. Though they were forbidden to store food or to sell it to anyone but the Nazis, they gave the children whatever they could spare. They hid it, too, in cellars, in haystacks, in holes in the ground. With the help of the older children they smuggled it to the towns and sold it to the Poles on the black market.

Edek was one of the chief smugglers. In return for his services, he was given all the food he needed for the family. One of his dodges was to go off to town with pats of butter sewn into the lining of his coat. But he could only do this on cool days or at night. On hot days the butter melted. So he preferred to work at night if he could. In time the Germans became wary and posted patrols

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on all the main roads into the city. After that he cut across country, using paths and rough tracks. He was well aware of the penalties if he was caught. A younger child might get away with a beating. But boys as strong as he was would be carried off to Germany, for the Nazis were getting short of labour at home.

Another of Edek's dodges was the cartload of logs which he drove into the suburbs.

Some of the logs were split, their centres scraped out and packed with butter and eggs, then glued together again. Once he drove his cartload into a police patrol, which was searching everything on the road. They emptied the logs on to the pavement. Edek didn't stay to see if the glue would stand up to that treatment. He dived into the crowd and made off. Police whistles were blowing and the chase had started, when some kind friend lifted him up and pitched him head first into a garbage cart. Here he lay hidden, under cinders and dust and rotting vegetables.

After that, Edek did all his smuggling at night.

There came a morning, towards the end of August, when he failed to return. Ruth questioned other families in the forest, but no one had seen him. After some days of searching, she traced him to a village ten miles away. Edek had called at a house there while the secret police were searching for hidden stores. They had found cheese sewn into the lining of his coat. After setting fire to the house, they had taken him away in the van, with the house owner as well.

Ruth returned to the forest with a heavy heart, dreading to break the news to Bronia.

Edek had been their life-line. Food, clothes, money – they depended on him for all these. In the city he had made a home out of a ruin. In the woods no tree gave better shelter than the oak he had chosen. And after dark, when the wind blew cold and the damp oozed out of the ground, none knew better than he how to keep the fire in untended till dawn, so that the glow from the embers should warm them all night as they slept.

Now Ruth and Bronia must fend for themselves. It was an ordeal before which the bravest spirit might quail.

From *The Silver Sword* by Ian Serraillier

1 Who was Bronia? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A Edek's older sister
B Ruth and Edek's mother
C Edek's friend
D Edek's younger sister
E a German guard

2 In which country is this extract from the story set? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A Poland
B Switzerland
C Germany
D Great Britain
E Austria

3 Where did the children make their new home? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A in a pile of rubble
B on the third floor of a building
C in a cellar
D in a friend's house
E on the first floor of a bombed-out building

4 Why did the children visit the Polish Council of Protection often?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A They wanted to track down their mother.
B They could get a warm meal there.
C They wanted to get more details about Germany.
D They wanted up-to-date news on the war.
E They enjoyed visiting their friends.

5 Where had the children's mother been taken? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A to earn some money
B to learn new skills
C to a ghetto
D to work on the land
E to hospital

6 Why weren't the curtains Edek found used as curtains?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A They didn't fit the windows.
B They were needed as sheets.
C There were already curtains at the windows.
D There weren't any windows.
E They were used to divide the area into two rooms.

7 Why didn't Edek have a ration card? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A He didn't want one as he enjoyed the food at the soup kitchens.
B He didn't want the authorities knowing his age.
C He lost his ration card in the rubble.
D He preferred to buy his own food.
E He wasn't ever hungry, so didn't need one.

8 Why do you think the children saw 'nothing wrong' in stealing from the Nazis?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A because they knew the Nazis didn't like Polish food
B because the Nazis shouldn't be so careless and leave food lying around
C because the Nazis were wasting the food
D because they had nicer food
E Because of the Nazis the children were in the terrible situation they were in.

9 Why did Edek choose the particular oak tree for them to sleep under?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A He liked the look of it.
B It had a good root system that made it look stable.
C Its branches provided good protection from the weather.
D It was hollow.
E It was close to other families.

10 Why do you think slates were useful to the children in Ruth's class?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A They were used to eat off.
B They were used to sit on.
C They kept out draughts.
D They were used to write on instead of paper.
E Ruth used them to keep records of the children.

11 Why did the *Biedronka* need to be a 'secret journal'?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A The magazine was printed underground.
B The Germans hadn't given their permission for it to be published.
C The magazine was printed in Poland.
D Children published the magazine and the adults wouldn't have liked it.
E Ruth knew it had been printed on stolen paper.

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12 How did Ruth know that others had already read *Biedronka*?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A Everyone already knew the jokes.
B Someone had coloured the pictures.
C There were finger marks on the pages.
D Ruth had been shown the pictures before.
E A bookmark had been left in it.

13 In which two of the following places did the children hide food?
1 haystacks 2 barrels 3 cupboards 4 holes 5 food troughs
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A 1 and 2
B 2 and 3
C 2 and 4
D 1 and 4
E 3 and 5

14 Why did Edek often choose to smuggle at night? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A so the butter wouldn't melt
B so the Germans wouldn't recognise him
C because he overslept each morning
D so he could carry more goods
E so he could sleep during the day when Ruth was teaching

15 How did Edek manage to avoid capture after the cartload of split logs was searched?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A He walked away quickly.
B He pretended he was one of the crowd.
C He hid in a garbage cart.
D He met a friend.
E He hid until nightfall.

16 Which of these words would **not** describe how Edek would have felt when he was caught by the secret police? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A unlucky
B bad-tempered
C alarmed
D scared
E relieved

17 Which of these words best describes Ruth's mood on tracking down Edek?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A frustrated
B terrified
C concerned
D thoughtful
E courageous

18 What best describes the effect the experiences detailed in the extract have on Bronia?
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A She is lonely.
B She has to act older than she really is.
C She enjoys camping out.
D She is always hungry.
E She doesn't like being told what to do.

PLEASE TURN OVER

Answer these questions about the meanings of words or phrases as they are used in the extract.

19 What is the closest meaning to 'disclosing' (line 20)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A announcing
B revealing
C uttering
D registering
E writing

20 What is meant by the 'black market' (line 43)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A a free market
B an expensive market
C a market that happens at night
D an illegal market
E a Polish market

21 What is the closest definition to the word 'quail' (line 72)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A to be challenged
B to look forward to
C to prepare for
D to run from
E to show fear

22 What is meant by 'a heavy heart' (line 65)? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A a very large heart
B great sadness
C joyfulness
D a fat heart
E a male deer

Answer the following questions about these words and phrases.

23 Which of the words in the following sentence is an adjective? 'The curtains made good sheets.' Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A The
B curtains
C made
D good
E sheets

24 What class of words are these?
themselves him they she
Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A adjectives
B common nouns
C verbs
D pronouns
E adverbs

25 'Now Ruth and Bronia must fend for themselves.' Which of the following words is a verb? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

A Now
B and
C Bronia
D themselves
E fend

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In this extract there are a number of spelling mistakes. In your answer booklet, mark the letter where the spelling mistake is underlined. If there isn't a spelling mistake, mark the letter X.

26 It was time to go, althuogh Kate felt they could have stayed longer.
A B C D X

27 This beautiful, chocolate coloured puppy had become her friend. Tuhil insisited they should
A B C D X

28 leave relatively quickly as Jamie and Hannah would soon return and discover
A B C
thier missing puppy.
D X

29 Kate felt desparate, she had only taken the puppy for a walk.
A B C D X

30 Little did she realise the puppy's behavour was going to be the catalyst
A B C
of so many tragic events.
D X

31 Initially she had been determined, fully realising that untieing the
A B C D X

32 puppy from the shop door and walking of with it was wrong,
A B C D X

33 but it had looked at her with such sorrowful eyes that it made it inpossible for her to say no.
A B C D X

In this extract mistakes have been made in the use of punctuation and capital letters. In your answer booklet, mark the letter where the mistake is underlined. If there isn't a mistake, mark the letter X.

Alex wanted nothing except to get Robin and Naomi out of the shop.

34 "All right, but be quick What do you want? Biscuits?"
A B C D X

35 Robin and Naomi refused to be hurried. "Chocolate biscuits are nice for tea but
A B C
if its for a pudding as well.
D X

36 which it looks as if it might be, shortbread is good" said Naomi.
A B C D X

37 "we didn't have any supper last night." Robin explained to the company.
A B C
"because we were all too scared to go to the kitchen.
D X

38 In case that happens again, Alex, don't you think we better stock up with biscuits"
A B C
Alex would have agreed to almost anything.
D X

PLEASE TURN OVER

39 "All right, well take a packet of ginger, one of chocolate and the shortcake and those
A B C
chocolates and sweets."
D X

40 He laid a pound note on the counter. Slowly the girl counted out the change.
A B C D X

41 It was irish money, which Alex was not yet used to, but he scooped it up without checking
A B C
and seizing the bag.
D X

42 with their purchases marched to the door. Come on, you two."
A B C
Robin and Naomi thought that rude.
D X

From *The Growing Summer* by Noel Streatfeild

In this extract, the letter below the best word or words needs to be chosen, so the extract makes sense and uses correct English. Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

43 Ben wouldn't couldn't would've shouldn't could've wait for the end of the day
A B C D E

44 when his mum and dad were where was would when collecting him from school.
A B C D E

45 It was his birthday and he had been promising told to promise sold promised a new horse
A B C D E

46 of his choose like choice want prefer.
A B C D E

47 He had dreamt waiting dreaming wish hope about this moment.
A B C D E

48 His horse was going to be as if like his best a better as much like friend.
A B C D E

49 they were going to be considered complete careful calm constant companions.
A B C D E

50 But first he had to weigh wait weight wish waited for his mum and dad to collect him!
A B C D E