

"She definitely hasn't had any drugs?" the paramedic asked me sternly, checking Hannah's pulse.

"No."

"You're not lying?"

I wasn't, about the drugs at least. All it took was three sips of Ged'up. It was a daily ritual that I'd started.

"To get our wings," I always said, popping the can open.

I watched as they strapped her to the ambulance gurney. Her arms were jiggling about wildly. Like flapping wings, I thought. The heart rate monitor showed 222 ... 233 ... 241.

"I'm buzzing, how about you?" Hannah had asked me. Before I could reply, her can hit the ground, red bubbles spilling everywhere. Then her head flopped into my lap.

It's strange, my best friend's life was in the balance and I was trying to picture how many sips I'd had. Five or six. Hannah had only three. So did that mean ...?

The jagged green line on the monitor went flat. The paramedics tried to resuscitate Hannah but nothing happened.

So I yelled, "She had an energy drink!"

They grabbed the defibrillator and her body jolted from the first shock. Then her pulse suddenly returned.

"We know that," one of them said, concentrating on the screen. "She's also got a weak heart."

"A what?"

But they weren't interested in me. Hannah's eyes opened and she looked straight at me. I turned away, remembering what she'd told me the first time I gave her a can.

"I'm not supposed to have stimulants. Apparently my heart is made wrong."

It's easy to say I never thought the drinks were bad for Hannah. But I did. And in the ambulance I pretended I was in danger as well. Which is pathetic. I imagined the headline: *Girl lucky to live after energy drink emergency. Best friend to blame.* It wasn't far from the truth.

Read each question carefully and circle one answer.

- 1 Which spelling is correct?
  - paramedic
  - parramedic
  - paramadic
  - paromedic
- 2 Which spelling is correct?
  - ambulence
  - stimulents
  - concentrating
  - emergancy
- 3 What is the meaning of the word *sternly* in this sentence?  
*"She definitely hasn't had any drugs?" the paramedic asked me sternly.*
  - firmly
  - jokingly
  - slowly
  - hesitantly
- 4 Which word is missing the letter 'c'?
  - reaction
  - resusitate
  - recognising
  - recovery
- 5 What does the word *shock* mean in this sentence?  
*They grabbed the defibrillator and her body jolted from the first shock.*
  - electrical charge
  - surprise
  - horror
  - outrage
- 6 Which of the following is a compound noun?
  - headline
  - ritual
  - imagined
  - stimulant
- 7 Which word could be used to replace *gurney* in this sentence?  
*I watched as they strapped her to the ambulance gurney.*
  - driver
  - vehicle
  - monitor
  - stretcher
- 8 What does the apostrophe in the word *She's* mean in this sentence?  
*She's got a weak heart.*
  - The person referred to owns something.
  - The word is a plural noun.
  - It is a contraction of two words.
  - The word needs to be said loudly.
- 9 Which of the following is an adverb?
  - wildly
  - jiggling
  - about
  - ambulance
- 10 Which word can be used as both a noun and a verb?
  - grabbed
  - danger
  - blame
  - heart
- 11 Which term best describes this sentence?  
*"You're not lying?"*
  - direct speech
  - indirect speech
  - a rhetorical question
  - a statement

**12** Which word could replace *picture* in this sentence without changing its meaning?  
*I was trying to picture how many sips I'd had.*

- portrait
- remember
- image
- draw

**13** Which of these sentences has the correct form of the verb?

- Hannah's medical emergency were caused by her friend's negligence and her own recklessness.
- Hannah's medical emergency am caused by her friend's negligence and our own recklessness.
- Hannah's medical emergency was caused by her friend's negligence and her own recklessness.
- Hannah's medical emergency are caused by her friend's negligence and her own recklessness.

**14** Which word is the article in this sentence?  
*I gave Hannah a can.*

- a
- I
- gave
- can

**15** Which group of words in this sentence is a prepositional phrase?  
*All it took was three sips of Ged'up.*

- All it took
- three sips
- it took
- of Ged'up

**16** Which of the following cannot be used as an adjective?

- strange
- flapping
- asked
- daily

**17** Which punctuation marks are missing from this sentence?

*Youre not lying he asked*

- quotation marks, apostrophe, question mark and full stop
- quotation marks, question mark and full stop
- full stops and speech marks
- speech marks, quotation marks and question marks

**18** What kind of a sentence is this?

*And in the ambulance I pretended I was in danger as well.*

- compound
- complex
- simple
- fragment

**19** Which punctuation mark can be used to indicate an expression of surprise or shock?

- exclamation mark
- speech marks
- question mark
- asterisk

**20** Why are two sets of ellipses used in this sentence?

*The heart rate monitor showed 222 ... 233 ... 241.*

- They are used to present the writer's inner thoughts.
- They are used to indicate that some words have been left out of the sentence.
- They are used to indicate a pause between items in a sequence.
- They are used to show that the numbers were shouted.

## **NAPLAN\*-style questions: Language conventions**

- 1** paramedic
- 2** concentrating
- 3** firmly
- 4** resuscitate
- 5** electrical charge
- 6** headline
- 7** stretcher
- 8** It is a contraction of two words.
- 9** wildly
- 10** blame
- 11** direct speech
- 12** remember
- 13** Hannah's medical emergency was caused by her friend's negligence and her own recklessness.
- 14** a
- 15** of Ged'up
- 16** asked
- 17** quotation marks, apostrophe, question mark and full stop
- 18** complex
- 19** exclamation mark
- 20** They are used to indicate a pause between items in a sequence.