

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Your cousin Peter has told you about an online discussion forum about teenage problems. Read the posts on the discussion forum.

Text 1 Online discussion forum

Are you feeling depressed about something?

5 **LonelyP**
I can't stand going to school anymore. I can't even walk down the corridors without the other kids mocking me and calling me ugly. I think it's beginning to affect my schoolwork. It's not uncommon for me to miss tests or assignments because I pretend I'm sick and I stay in my room all the time. My mum thinks I'm becoming a hidden youth.

10 **Rainbowgirl**
Yesterday, after a particularly rigorous basketball session, I went to a restaurant with my friends from the team. There was a horrid smell, and I even commented on it! Later, I found out that it was from my own armpits! I'm so embarrassed about my terrible body odour. I bet everyone knew that the horrific scent was coming from me, too!

15

20 **Technoboy**
My phone never leaves my hand! When I don't have it, I can feel my chest tightening and a sense of anxiety overcomes me as I worry about what I'm missing online. I told it last night that I loved it and was quite upset with its reply!

I love you!
You must be kidding. Here's a link to a dating site.

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Comprehension 1 *Your brother has also read the posts on the online discussion forum and asked you some questions. Read the posts and answer his questions. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.*

1 How does LonelyP feel?

2 Why does LonelyP pretend that he is ill?



3 Why does LonelyP's mother think he is a hidden youth?

4 What does 'it' refer to in line 12?

5 Find words in Rainbowgirl's comment that mean the same as the following:

i) demanding

ii) remarked

iii) ashamed

iv) terrible



6 What do you think Rainbowgirl should do to solve her problem?

7 When does Technoboy feel anxious?

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8 Why was Technoboy upset with his phone's reply to him?

Complete the table with information from the online discussion forum.

Teenager	Problem
LonelyP	His classmates are (9) _____ _____
Rainbowgirl	Having (10) _____ _____
Technoboy	Cannot (11) _____ _____