Reading Part 4
Read the text and answer the questions. Use a maximum of five words for each question.

Anime and Manga

It sounds exotic, but anime is just a shortened version of the Japanese word for animation. Don't call them cartoons, though! Manga translates to "imaginative illustrations" and originally appeared in 1917. The history of this art form is quite interesting.

Before and during World War II, Japan went through a period when artists were restricted to creating government approved material for theatrical plays. After the war, anime and cinema both took a dive because of the damage their reputation suffered during that period. As the 1950s progressed, the Japanese film industry began to grow and directors such as Kurosawa and Ozu became world-famous.

In 1962, a manga artist named Osamu Tezuka released his first animated film and thus Anime was born. With the arrival of television, there was soon a TV series based on Tezuka's 1950s manga character, called *Astro Boy*.

But what makes Anime different from animation and cartoons in the United States? The United States' larger players in animation that dominate the market such as Disney, Fox and Warner Brothers, are more standardised and less daring. In contrast, Anime tells a story over a long series and you can never be sure what the ending will be. It is also not unusual for a major character to die, lose a loved one or fail at what they are trying to do. The characters in anime can be changeable. Heroes are allowed to have bad qualities and commit horrible acts, although they regret them.

Then, some of the more interesting details about Anime are the examples of Japanese culture presented in it. For instance, you may see paper shoji screens, Buddhist bells or people removing their shoes when they enter a home. And elderly parents feature a lot into story lines and the duty to do right by them is strong. There are traditional values portrayed by the characters such as being sincere and determined in the face of misfortune.

The Japanese films and books like to illustrate a change in time by using symbols such as a falling leaf, snow melting or a cherry blossom growing, providing a bittersweet sense of time's passing.
Finally, the cinema effects are such that an action in anime is 'framed' as if it had been filmed with actual cameras—the dynamic background shots, angles, distance and foreground feel are present. American animation is based on stage plays with a still background and the character moves around in front of **it**.

A sweaty forehead. An eye blinking. A nervous smile. Facial expressions are everything to help convey a story in manga. Bright blue is a good colour for spiky hair, large innocent eyes and pigtails tend to depict a younger character; narrowed eyes, an exaggerated pointed nose and sharper angles lend an air of intent to a redheaded boy – positioning and angle give meaning to a face. Add in over-emphasised body language, and the drawing gives characters personality and mood, which isn't present in US cartoons.

Finally, the movement of the hair is quite noticeable and detailed in anime. Hair flows in the wind and shifts or suddenly comes to a halt after running. A lock of hair will drape behind the ear and fall loose, and that all adds dimension to the feelings of the character. The manga fashion for colourful, dynamic hair developed well before the fashion of bleaching and dying actual colours to make hairdos pink or blue, which was influenced by it. All the above give manga and Anime a unique character quite distinct from western cartoons and animation.

1.   Who decided what artists could produce in the first half of the 20th century?

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2.   What was the foundation for the first Anime serial?

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3.   How are American cartoon characters different from Anime?

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4.   What is sometimes found in Anime art?

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5.   In Anime, what do leaves, snow or flowers sometimes show?

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6.   What does the word '**it**' in Par 6, refer to?

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7.   What do American cartoon characters lack?

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8.   What does hair movement convey in Anime?

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