



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSESSMENT 2015 GRADE 7 ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE TEST

MARKS: 80

MARKS

TIME: 2 hours

PROVINCE _____

DISTRICT _____

CIRCUIT _____

SCHOOL _____

EMIS NUMBER (9 digits)

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CLASS (e.g. 7A) _____

SURNAME _____

NAME _____

GENDER (✓)

BOY	
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GIRL	
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DATE OF BIRTH

C	C	Y	Y	M	M	D	D
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This test consists of 19 pages, excluding the cover page.

Instructions to the learners

The teacher should read the instructions to the learners and do the practice exercises with them.

1. Read all the instructions carefully.
2. Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.
3. Where there are multiple-choice questions, circle the letter of the correct answer.
4. Where one word is required, write only the word in the space provided.
5. Write neatly and legibly.

Practice exercises

1. Which country does the soccer team Bafana Bafana represent?
A Australia
B South Africa
C Cameroon
D Nigeria

You answered the question correctly if you circled the letter **B**.

2. Which word is the noun in the following sentence?

The book is interesting.

You answered correctly if you wrote “book” on the line.

3. Give **two** reasons why you think you will enjoy school this year.

You should have written, in full sentences in the space provided, reasons like:

This year I shall enjoy school because my English teacher is very friendly.

I shall also enjoy it because my old friend has come back to our school.

The test starts on the next page.

Read the following folktale and answer questions 1-19.



WHY DO HIPPOS LIVE IN WATER?

A very long time ago in Africa, when all the animals lived together in the bush with the Creator, it was very hot and the sun baked the earth every day.

All the animals had strong skins to protect them against the sun: fur, feathers or scales. Hippo's skin was not that strong. As he grew bigger, his skin stretched and became thinner. When he became an adult, his skin was so thin that it was easily burned by the sun. Every day Hippo suffered. His skin dried and cracked, causing him a lot of pain and discomfort. 5

One day when Hippo could not endure it anymore, he went to the Creator and asked, "Please, may I live in the river?" The Creator looked with kindness at Hippo and said, "Yes my friend, you may, but as with all things, you must first ask permission from the river animals." 10

Hippo asked the river animals, Fish Eagle, Crocodile and Otter, "Please may I come and live in the river with you. Look at my thin skin! It is cracked and very painful. The cool water will bring great comfort to me." 15

The river animals were a bit selfish and also worried. After thinking about it for a short time, they said to Hippo, "No, we cannot allow this! Look at you! You are so big and will eat all the fish in the river. There will be no more food for us."

Hippo said to the river animals, "You do not have to worry, as I do not eat fish. I will only eat the grass and river plants." 20

The river animals were very doubtful and did not believe this, so Hippo told them, "I promise to open my mouth wide every day, so that you all can see there are no fish bones or scales in my mouth. I will spread my dung with my tail, so that you can see there are no bones."

This convinced the river animals. From that day, the river animals allowed Hippo to live in the river, and Hippo would always open his mouth wide and spread his dung with his tail. 25

[Adapted from: *African Folktales and Legends* by G Lee]

1. Which river animals did Hippo talk to?
- A Crocodile, Fish Eagle and Otter
 - B Crocodile, Fish and Turtle
 - C Crocodile, Crab and Fish Eagle
 - D Crocodile, Fish Eagle and Turtle
- (1)

2. Identify the main idea of the story.
- A The fish did not want the hippo to live with them.
 - B The hippo wanted to swim in the river.
 - C Many animals wanted to live in the river.
 - D A hippo that wanted to live in the river.
- (1)

3. Explain the purpose of the inverted commas in the following sentence:

“Please may I come and live with you?”

(1)

4. Identify the subject and predicate in the following sentence:

His skin was dried and cracked.

Subject		Predicate
A	His	skin was dried and cracked.
B	His skin	was dried and cracked.
C	His skin was dried	and cracked.
D	His skin was	dried and cracked.

(1)

5. Why did Hippo ask to live in the river?

(2)

6. How did the other river animals feel about Hippo living with them?

The river animals were ... about having Hippo in the river.

- A concerned
- B shocked
- C unfriendly
- D spiteful

(1)

7. Add the correct prefix to the word "kind" to change it to an antonym.

- A kindness
- B kinder
- C unkind
- D kindly

(1)

8. What is the story about?

(2)

9. Why could Hippo live in peace with the other river animals?

(2)

10. In the story the word "selfish" (line 16) means that the river animals ...

- A hated Hippo because he was bossy.
- B invited Hippo to share the river with them.
- C did not want to share their food with Hippo.
- D were afraid that Hippo would eat them up.

(1)

11. According to the story why do hippos always have their mouths wide open?

Hippo wants to prove that he ...

- A does not eat fish.
- B spreads his dung.
- C stretches his skin.
- D lives in the water.

(1)

12. Why was Hippo's skin thinner than the skins of other animals?

- A He loved to bake in the warm sun every day.
- B As he grew bigger it stretched and became thinner.
- C He was big and kind but a very worried animal.
- D He enjoyed eating all the fish he could find.

(1)

13. Join the following sentences using the conjunction in brackets.

Hippo wanted to live in the river. Hippo believed that the water was soothing.
(because)

(2)

14. Give a synonym for the word "cracked" (refer to line 14).

(1)

15. What caused Hippo's pain? Hippo's pain was caused by the ...

- A kindness of the Creator.
- B selfishness of the crocodile.
- C exposure to the hot sun.
- D shortage of healthy food.

(1)

16. What would have happened to Hippo if he were not allowed to live in the river?

(2)

17. What did Hippo have to promise the river animals, before he was given permission to live in the river?

(2)

18. Rewrite the following sentence in the present tense.

Every day Hippo suffered.

(1)

19. Give the plural form of "fish".

(1)

Study the advertisement below and answer questions 20-27.

Ratty Ratkill Powder... *kills them dead!*

Extremely
effective

Pleasant smell

No harmful
chemicals

Affordable price



Special: Two for the price of one!

20. What product is being advertised?

- A Ratty Ratkill Powder
- B Harmful chemicals
- C Rat food
- D A special bargain

(1)

21. By referring to the picture, how do you know that this product is effective?

The rats are ...

- A invading the city.
- B escaping from the poison.
- C protesting against the product.
- D killing everyone in their way.

(1)

22. Identify the slogan in this advertisement. (1)

23. How does the advertisement make you feel? (1)

24. Identify the figure of speech in "Ratty Ratkill". (1)

25. What offer is the advertiser making? (1)

26. Name **two** groups of people who would buy this product. (2)

27. Write down **two** phrases from the advertisement that will attract buyers to buy this product. (2)

28. Read the following passage and then write a summary.

- Summarise the passage in **five** points using about 45–55 words in total.
- Use your own words as far as possible.
- Each point must be a full sentence.
- Indicate the number of words used at the end of your summary.

Mammals

Mammals are the largest animals on our planet. They can regulate their own body temperature and circulatory system. Mammals are known as warm-blooded animals which allow them to live in almost any climate on earth. All female mammals feed their young with milk, which is secreted from special glands called the mammary glands. This ability to produce milk to feed their babies allows them to spend more time with their young and teach them the important skills they need to survive.

There are more than 4 000 different species of mammals. The smallest mammal is the hog-nosed bat whilst the largest is the blue whale which can grow up to 30 metres long and weighs 150 tons.

Whether they live on land or water, all mammals share some common characteristics: they have hair on their bodies and they are vertebrates (which means they have a backbone or spine).

[Adapted from Wikipedia]

Summary:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

(5)

(___ words)

Read the poem below and answer questions 29-35.

MY DOG LIVES ON THE SOFA – Ken Nesbitt



My dog lives on the sofa.
That's where he wants to be.
He likes to sit there night and day
and watch what's on TV.
He surfs the channels constantly 5
by chewing the remote,
then watches what he wants to watch;
I never get a vote.
He's fond of films with animals.
He takes in nature shows. 10

Whenever cat cartoons come on
he always watches those.
He loves the pet commercials too,
and anything with food.
Whenever there's a tennis match 15
he nearly comes unglued.
I got him from the dog pound.
He didn't cost a cent.
I asked them for a "watch dog,"
but this isn't what I meant. 20

Glossary

constantly – always (line 5)

commercials – advertisements (13)

unglued – to come apart (line 16)

pound – SPCA (line 17)

29. Identify the main idea of the poem.

The poem is about a dog that ...

A sleeps in front of the television.

B loves watching television.

C loves sitting on the sofa.

D sleeps on the sofa.

(1)

30. What is the tone of the poem?

A Sorrow

B Serious

C Humorous

D Interesting

(1)

31. Explain what the poet means by, "I asked them for a 'watch dog'/but this isn't what I meant." (lines 19 and 20)

(2)

32. Identify the figure of speech in "Whenever cat cartoons come on" (line 11).

(1)

33. Explain the above figure of speech.

(1)

34. The word “surf” can be used in a literal and figurative context. Explain both.

1. Literal meaning:

2. Figurative meaning:

(2)

35. Did the poet buy his dog? Quote a line from the poem to support your answer.

(2)

Study the poster below and answer questions 36-42.

36. What is the poster about?
- A Running to save the rhino in 2013.
 - B Raising funds for the Rhino Orphanage.
 - C The price of the tickets to take part.
 - D An invitation to play golf in Makopane. (1)

37. Identify the target audience of this poster.

_____ (1)

38. Which organisation will benefit from this event?

_____ (1)

39. Describe the logo used on the poster.

(2)

40. How do you think the word “orphanage” will make the reader/viewer feel?

(2)

41. What effect will this poster have on people who want to help save the rhino?

(2)

42. What does RSVP mean?

- A Rhino Saving Volunteers Programme.
- B Please do not reply.
- C Please call me.
- D Reply please.

(1)

43. Choose either the topic (43.1) or the picture (43.2) and write a narrative essay of 120–150 words (3–4 paragraphs).

Pay careful attention to the following:

- Give your essay a title.
- Plan and write your essay in the spaces provided.
- If you choose to write about the picture, there must be a clear link between your essay and the picture.

43.1 **Topics:**

One day during break, you and a friend find a wooden box hidden under some leaves. The box has a lock on it and seems very old. Write a story about what happens next.

OR

43.2



PLANNING

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for students to write their planning for the test.

	Criteria	Learner's mark	Possible total
1.	Content and planning		10
2.	Language, style & editing		5
3.	Structure		5
	Total		20

GRAND TOTAL: 80

