FEMSSISA PRIMARY ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:

GRADE 6

DATE: 19 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2022

TIME: 60 MINUTES

Instructions:

1. This booklet has 6 questions.
2. Answer on the paper below.
3. Read the questions carefully before answering.
4. Visit the website: www.saolympiads.co.za.

NAME OF LEARNER:	
SCHOOL:	**GRADE:**

QUESTION ONE:

Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow:

KOKO – THE FEMALE GORILLA

The Female Gorilla

Did you know that humans aren't the only species that use language? Bees communicate by dancing. Whales talk to each other by singing. And some apes talk to humans by using American Sign Language.

Meet Koko; a female gorilla born at the San Francisco Zoo on July 4th, 1971. Koko learnt sign language from her trainer, Dr Penny Patterson. Patterson began teaching sign language to Koko in 1972 when Koko was one year old. Koko must have been a good student because two years later she moved onto the Stanford University campus with Dr Patterson. Koko continued to learn on the campus until 1976. That's when she began living full-time with Patterson's group, the Gorilla Foundation. Patterson and Koko's relationship has blossomed ever since.

Dr Patterson says that Koko has mastered sign language. She says that Koko knows over 1 000 words and that Koko makes up new words. For example, Koko didn't know the sign for a "*ring",* so she signed the words *finger* and *bracelet.* Dr Patterson thinks that this shows meaningful and constructive use of language.

Not everyone agrees with Dr Patterson. Some argue that apes, like Koko, do not understand the meaning of what they are doing. Sceptics say that these apes are just performing complex tricks. For example, if Koko points to an apple and signs *red* or *apple,* Dr Patterson will give her an apple. They argue that Koko does not really know **what** the sign apple means. She only knows that if she makes the right moves, the moves which Dr Patterson has shown her, then she gets an apple. The debate is unresolved but one thing is for certain - Koko is an extraordinary ape.

Sign language isn't the only unusual thing about Koko. She's also been a pet-owner. In 1983, at the age of 12, researchers have said that Koko asked for a cat for Christmas. They gave Koko a stuffed cat. Koko was not happy. She did not play with it and she continued to sign to show she was *sad.* So for her birthday in 1984, they let her pick a cat out of an abandoned littler. Koko picked a grey cat and named him "All Ball". Dr Patterson said that Koko loved and nurtured All Ball as though he were a baby gorilla. Sadly, All Ball got out of Koko's cage and was hit by a car. Patterson reported that Koko signed "Bad, sad, bad" and "Frown, cry, frown, sad" when she broke the news to her.

It seems like Patterson and Koko have a good relationship, but not everyone agrees with this type of relationship. Some critics believe that Patterson is *humanizing* the ape. They believe that apes should be left in the most natural state possible. Even Dr Patterson struggles with these mixed feelings. When asked if her findings could be **duplicated** by another group of scientists, she said, "We don't think that it would be ethical to do again." She went on to argue that animals should not be kept in such unnatural circumstances. Nonetheless, Koko lives in her Foundation today.

Circle the correct answer from the questions below:

1. **Which statement best expresses the main idea of this article?**

   (a) Bees, whales, and apes like Koko all use language to communicate.
   (b) Koko uses sign language, but some people think it is just a trick.
   (c) It is natural for gorillas and house cats to live together.
   (d) Koko really wanted to have a cat for a pet.

   (1)

2. **Which phrase best describes the way in which the second paragraph is organised?**

   (a) Chronological order (b) Cause and effect
   (c) Compare and contrast (d) Problem and solution

   (1)

3. Which statement describes the author's purpose for writing the second paragraph?

(a) The author is describing the environment in which Koko lives.
(b) The author is informing the readers how Dr Patterson developed her skills.
(c) The author is persuading readers that Koko should be freed.
(d) The author is telling readers about the backgrounds of Koko and Dr Patterson.

(1)

4. What, according to the text, happened <u>last?</u>

(a) Koko got a stuffed cat for Christmas.
(b) Koko lost All Ball.
(c) Koko began living with the Gorilla Foundation.
(d) Dr Patterson began teaching Koko how to sign.

(1)

5. Which statement do you believe the author most LIKELY agree with?

(a) Koko has mastered sign language without a doubt.
(b) Everybody agrees with how Dr Patterson has raised Koko.
(c) People believe it is okay to humanize apes.
(d) Some people are troubled by how Koko was raised.

(1)

6. In the sixth paragraph, the word *duplicated* means:

(a) To dispute a fact or disagree with someone
(b) To lie to someone or to fool them
(c) To copy or recreate something
(d) To be disproven through debate

(1)

7. Why are sceptics justified, according to the article, in thinking that humanising apes is wrong:

(a) Koko asking for a cat pet shows she has become fully human and understands what humans need.
(b) Dr Patterson also states it is not ethical to keep an ape in such a situation.
(c) Koko is causing damage at Dr Patterson's foundation.
(d) Koko is moving to the Stanford University Campus like a human.

(1)

8. Which statement best describes the crux of the SIXTH paragraph?

(a) Dr Patterson has treated Koko very cruelly.
(b) Dr Patterson and Koko have a beautiful, pure and unconflicted relationship.
(c) Some people think that Koko should not have been treated like a human.
(d) Some people are working very hard to prove that Dr Patterson is wrong.

(1)

9. Which sentence would the author DISAGREE with?

(a) Dr Patterson has worked hard to teach Koko sign language.
(b) Some people think Koko only signs to get food.
(c) Dr Patterson does struggle a bit with ethical decision-making.
(d) Dr Patterson has no regrets about working with Koko.

(1)

10. If a book was to be written about Koko and All Ball, which title would best summarize their story?

(a) Happy Ending: The Gorilla Who Got What She Wanted
(b) A Tale of Two Kitties: A Stuffed Cat Versus a Real One
(c) Plush Love: How a Gorilla Fell in Love with a Stuffed Cat
(d) Long Wanted, Short-Lived: A Tale of Strong Loves Lost

(1)

Marks: 10

QUESTION TWO:

Choose the correct homophone to complete these sentences:

(a) The little boat was tied up at the quay/key.

(b) I just can't wait until we can go to the beech/beach again!

(c) The man herd/heard the leopard cough from high up in the hills.

(d) For desert/dessert there was peaches and ice-cream.

(e) The map book showed the main/mane routes that we needed to follow.

(5)

QUESTION THREE:

Write down what part of speech the underlined word is in each of the following sentences.

(a) That is the funniest story that I have ever heard.

(b) The old man walked slowly down the twisty road.

(c) Tyler is such a beautiful dog.

(3)

QUESTION FOUR:

Write down what figure of speech the underlined words are in each of the following sentences.

(a) Every man has their own Achilles heel.

(b) The old man's mouth was puckered like a prune.

(2)

QUESTION FIVE:

Punctuate the following sentences:

(a) what time is it asked the traveller

(b) the childrens books were left in my uncles house

(c) fridays saturdays and sundays are the best days of the week

(d) gosh that is a huge hamburger

(e) can I get the drinks menu for you asked the waiter

(10)

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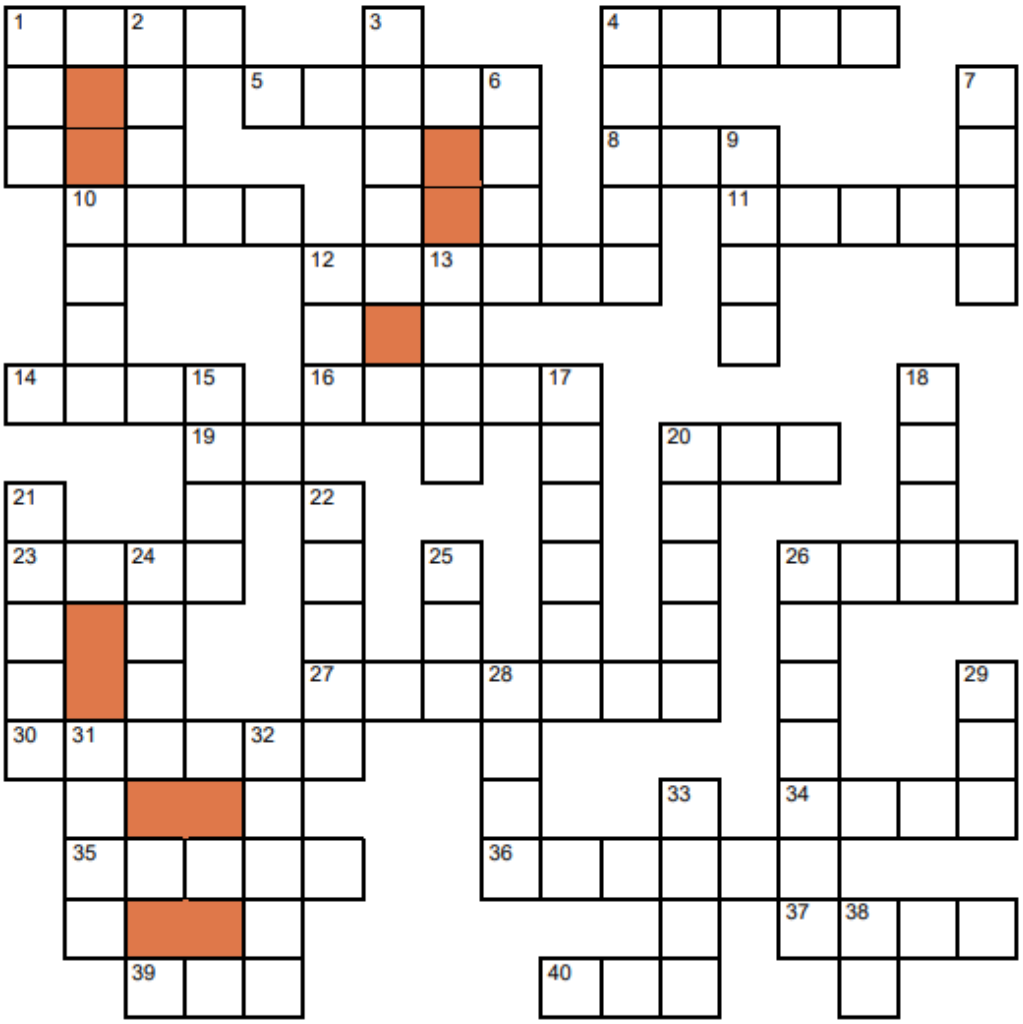
QUESTION SIX: CROSSWORD – ANTONYMS

Directions: Find the opposite of each word and write it in the crossword puzzle below:



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CLUES:

ACROSS	
1 sick	23.under
4. asleep	26.messy
5. true	27.absent
8. bottom	30.full
10.leave	34.soft
11.teach	35.cry
12.worse	36.rude
14.more	37.sink
16.old	39.dry
19.off	40.subtract
20.skinny	
DOWN	
1. lost	18.hot
2. first	20.sink
3. open	21.south
4. before	22.sad
6. west	24.odd
7.short	25.truth
9.work	26.student
10.different	28.go
12.girl	29.begin
13.false	31.beautiful
15.sweet	32.wrong
17.rough	33.tame
	38.out

Marks: 20

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 50