FEMSSISA JUNIOR ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:

GUIDE

E-mail : Info@saolympiads .co.za website: www.saolympiads .co.za

GRADE 5

ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

=

A. Paper structure for the olympiad

Question 1: Comprehension

Choose a passage that will be easy to read.

- Opt for a passage that has words that learners are familiar with.
- Make the text interesting by including recipes, direction, instructions or a friendly letter.

Question 2: Homphones/Homonyms

Learners must understand that words in English can sound alike or be spelt alike and still have different meaning. Asking about words that are spelt the same or sound the same prompts the students understanding of the different meanings of words.

Question 3: Conjunctions

Asking learners to join sentences, prompt knowledge of conjunctions and the ability to formulate compound and complex sentences.

You can provide what coordinating or subordinating conjunctions to use to join the sentences to make the task of having a compound or complex sentence easier for the FAL learner.

Question 4: Degrees of comparisons

Famaliarise learners with the fact that you can compare people or objects by using adjectves. Learners must know the rules for comparative and superlative adjectives and they must be able to apply these rules.

Question 5: Punctuation

Punctuation is core and should be tested at a Grade 5 first additional language level. Learners should be able to know the following punctuation marks and understand their respective functions:

- Full stops
- Question marks
- Exclamation marks
- Apostrophes
- Commas
- Capital letters

Question 6: Suffixes and Prefixes

Learners can be tested on how to add the correct prefixes and suffixes to the root word. In this way, learners are applying their knowledge of what each prefix and suffix means.

Question 7: Crossword puzzle

The ability to understand pronouns: reflexive or relative pronouns is important.

B. How it aligns with the curriculum?

Question 1: Comprehension

As per CAPS, the text passage must contain 100-200 words and should take 5 minutes to read through so as to be able to skim through the information.

- The passage should contain words already learned and encourage independent reflection on the text read.
- Choose passages with commonly understandable words. You can choose narrative texts to enhance the attention of readers.

Question 2: Homphones/ Homonyms

Test language concepts taught from term 1 to 3 as per CAPS curriculum.

Question 3: Conjunctions

Recap concepts covered on pages 18-21 of the CAPS curriculum.

Question 4: Degrees of comparisons

Comparing objects and people needs to be known by learners.

Question 5: Punctuation

Punctuation has been covered from term 1 to 3 in the CAPS curriculum.

Question 6: Suffixes and Prefixes

Revisit the CAPS curriculum and base questions on certain topics covered.

Question 7: Crossword puzzle

Test language concepts covered such as the ability to use pronouns when speaking.

C. How it goes beyond?

The olympiad includes a few logical thinking and general knowledge questions. This is to allow for a fair chance of learners who have general knowledge and can think logically.

It also provides a fair amount of challenge for learners who are book smart but unable to problem solve.

It tests core First Additional concepts like spelling, basic vocabulary, and simple language concepts.

D. Sample questions

Question 1: Comprehension

1.1. Ask level one questions: who, what, where, when, why?

- Where is the story taking place?
- Who is the author?
- What can happen according to the text?

1.2 Choose the sentence with the correct grammar: me and my mum or my mum and I.

1.3 Provide a synonym/ antonym for the following word/s.

1.4 The story stated that the man was sick. Choose between true or false.

Question 2: Conjunctions

2.1 Join the sentences below using the word in brackets.

I went to the market. I went to show. (and)

Question 3: Degrees of comparisons

3.1 Shelly is (pretty) _____than Sally.

Complete the table below:

Big	Bigger	Biggest
Small		

Question 4: Punctuation

4.1 Fill in the correct punctuation marks:

ilham goes to town to buy ice-cream lollipops and candy.

Question 5: Suffixes and Prefixes

5.1 Choose and add the correct prefix to complete the word below:

Mis	Im	Un

_____possible

Question 6: Crossword puzzle

6.1 Crosswords are created which requires one to: Fill in the correct pronoun:

She did her homework by _____ .