FEMSSISA JUNIOR ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:

GUIDE

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GRADE 6

ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

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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 can understand easily.
- The passage can be interlinked with other subjects such as science or social science.

Question 2: Analysing a visual or book extract

Learners should be able to interpret what they have seen or read. The text must be short and straight to the point but learners must know the idea of the text or visual.

Learners are further expected to draw links between information.

Question 3: Past tense

Learners should be able to change sentences into the past tense by changing the form of regular verbs.

Question 4: Punctuation

Punctuation is core and should be tested. 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: Prepositions

The words that establish relationships must be shown by objects.

Question 7: Crossword puzzle

- Try to include synonyms or antonyms.
- Basic idioms and proverbs in crossword puzzles.

B. How it aligns with the curriculum?

Question 1: Comprehension

As per CAPS, the text passage should consist of 150-200 words and should take 5 minutes to read through to skim information.

- The passage should contain words already learnt 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: Analysing a visual or book extract

CAPS calls for a variation of texts to be used and this allows learners to interact with various different tasks.

Question 3: Past tense

Learners should be able to change sentences into the past tense by changing the form of regular verbs.

Question 4: Conjunctions

Learners are given the conjunctions to use to join two sentences together.

Question 5: Punctuation

Punctuation stands as a core language concept and punctuation should be tested. Punctuation features in weekly lessons.

Question 6: Prepositions

Basic concepts taught at a school level is tested.

Question 7: Crossword puzzle

Include elements taught in class in a fun and playful way by asking these questions in a crossword puzzle form.

C. How it goes beyond?

The olympiad includes a few logical thinking and general knowledge questions. This is to allow for a fair chance for 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 language 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: Analysing a visual or book extract

2.1 Look at the picture below:

What is being advertised?

2.2 Why is the boy mad?

Match column A and column B

Question 3: Past tense

3.1 Change the following sentence to the past tense:

I eat pasta.

Question 4: Conjunctions

Use the conjunction,"and," in order to join the simple sentences below:

4.1 The film is funny. The film is scary.

Question 5: Punctuation

5.1 Fill in your commas and full stops in the sentence below:

I walk to the mall to buy chips cold drink and ice-cream

Question 6: Prepositions

6.1 Fill in the correct preposition

The painting was _____ the wall.

Question 7: Crossword puzzle

Include elements taught in class in a fun and playful way by asking these questions in a crossword puzzle form.

71. Opposite of good dreams

72. Opposite of fearful