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SOUTH AFRICAN ENGLISH OLYMPIAD
FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (FAL)
GRADE 8

DATE: 04 - 08 SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 75 MINUTES

Instructions:

1. This booklet has 7 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 passage from the novel, '*Permission to Speak*," by Samara Bay (Text A) below and then answer the questions by choosing the correct option for each answer.

At my local indie bookstore on the Eastside of Los Angeles, I got to chatting with the cashier. She asked what I was going to call the book I was writing, and when I told her, the man behind me in the queue, redheaded and rosy-cheeked piped up with a guffaw, "Permission to Speak? That's not something I've ever waited for." The cashier and I shared a delicious look. Precisely, sir. Precisely.

The book…is not for him. When I was twenty-four, I lost my voice. I needed this book pretty desperately. I remember most mornings I'd be able to speak, my voice tentative but at least audible, but by evening it'd be gone again. I would push through to softly talk during the day, feeling a constant scraping in my throat, the effort of it stealing my energy and thrashing my spirit. Something was stealing my energy and thrashing my spirit. Something was very wrong, but I didn't know what. Was I sick? Was I broken?

I was living in Providence, Rhode Island, halfway through a graduate program in acting- a dream I had fought for- but in truth, it was a terrible fit. I was desperately lonely, and now feeling ever more isolated because I couldn't even talk, I dropped out of the play I was in.

I attended classes like a ghost aware of my every impulse to communicate and how I'd squelch each one. I stopped calling friends and my parents on the phone because it hurt too much.

I definitely stopped laughing. Nights, in the dead of winter, I would huddle in the one-room guesthouse I was renting, drinking tea with honey wondering what my voice was trying to tell me and why I couldn't be normal.

It turned out, I had the beginnings of vocal nodules, pissed off little blisters developing on my vocal cords. It turned out that I had picked up a habit of speaking that was a bit lower than my body's preferred pitch. It turned out, the fix was relatively minor. And with the help of a speech pathologist during winter break, I worked on a slightly new way of speaking that felt strange until it didn't, and ushered myself back into the land of the living.

Empowerment gurus and memes everywhere say, "Find your voice," but we don't talk enough about why these voices of ours may have gone missing. We don't talk about why it is hard to give ourselves permission to speak as readily as that jovial gentleman behind me at the bookstore. Spoiler alert: It's not our fault. There is a certain kind of voice we've all grown up hearing that sounds like command and conviction. The voice by these men are what being taken seriously should sound like.

[Adapted from *Permission to Speak*]

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Answer the following questions based on Text A. Circle the answer that you choose:

1. **According to the text, where was the author when the memories started flooding in? Tick the correct answer.**

   (a) One-bedroom guest house
   (b) Indie bookstore, Westside of Los Angeles
   (c) Indie bookstore, Eastside of Los Angeles
   (d) Pop culture bookstore, Eastside of Los Angeles

(1)

2. **The word, "indie" is a shortened word for_____. Tick the one that applies.**

   ☐ Independent

   ☐ Indian

   ☐ Indiana

   ☐ Indie rock

   ☐ Indonesia

(1)

3. **When did the author lose her voice? Tick the correct answer.**

   (a) In her teenage years.
   (b) In her 20's.
   (c) During her 30's.
   (d) In the Indie bookstore.

(1)

4. **What does the word, "guffaw" mean? Tick the correct meaning.**

   (a) Cry loudly
   (b) Laugh softly
   (c) Insult someone
   (d) Laugh heartily

(1)

5. What was not a great fit for the author? Tick the correct one.

(a) Writing a book called, "*Permission to Spea*k."
(b) Speaking softly in the morning and loudly in the evenings
(c) Acting
(d) Talking to her parents

(1)

6. According to the text, the cashier was a _____. Tick the correct one.

woman	man

(1)

7. What did the author stop doing because of her voice. Tick all the possible options.

(a) The author stopped acting in a play.
(b) The author stopped calling her parents.
(c) The author stopped being in the acting program.
(d) The author stopped laughing.

(3)

8. A synonym for tentative is hesitant. Tick either true or false.

TRUE	FALSE

(1)

9. Who does the author blame for not being able to speak? Tick all the possible options.

(a) empowerment gurus
(b) men
(c) the voice inside one's head
(d) parents

(2)

10. This story is an example of a _____story. Tick the correct option.

Fictional	Non-fictional

(1)

11. A meme can be a/an _____. Tick the correct option.

Anime	Image	Mortal

(1)

12. Did the author literally or figuratively lose her voice? Tick the correct option.

literally	figuratively

(1)

13. The stereotype in this extract is that_____. Tick the correct option.

(a) Women don't need permission from men to speak.
(b) Men need permission from women to speak.
(c) All men speak in a way that allows us to take them seriously.
(d) Women lose their voices easily.

(1)

Marks: 16

QUESTION TWO:

View the cartoon below and answer the questions that follow:

[Source: cartoonstock]

2.1 **Who is the lady in the cartoon speaking to?**

(a) Her boyfriend
(b) Her boss
(c) Her friend
(d) Her helper **(1)**

2.2 **Humour is created because** _____

(a) The woman obviously hasn't lost her voice.
(b) The woman clearly has lost her voice.
(c) Women can't lose their voices ever.

(1)

2.3 **The cartoon is taking place:**

In the evening	In the night	In the morning

(1)

QUESTION THREE:

View the cartoon below and answer the questions that follows:

[Source: cartoonstock]

3.1 **How do you know the patient lost his voice?**

(a) He is talking to the doctor.
(b) He has written what he would like to say.
(c) He is using sign language.
(d) His helper is talking for him. **(1)**

3.2 **The doctor is not a stereotypical doctor because _____.**

(a) he lost his voice
(b) he doesn't have the remedy
(c) he is not wearing scrubs
(d) he knows all sickness **(1)**

3.3 **The cartoon is taking place at:**

The patient's home	The doctor's surgery	At a circus

(1)

Marks: 6

QUESTION FOUR:

Write down the PART OF SPEECH or FIGURE OF SPEECH for each of the underlined words in the following sentences:

At my local indie bookstore on the Eastside of Los Angeles, I got chatting with the cashier.

She asked what I was going to call the book I was writing.

When I told her, the man behind him in the queue tall**,** redheaded, and rosy-cheeked piped up with a guffaw, "Permission to Speak?"

I attended classes like a ghost aware of my every impulse to communicate and how I'd squelch each one.

I had the beginnings of vocal nodules, pissed-off little blisters developing on my vocal cords, and with the help of a speech pathologist during winter break.

4.1 At: _____

4.2 Bookstore: _____

4.3 Los Angeles: _____

4.4 She: _____

4.5 Writing: _____

4.6 Red-headed: _____

4.7 "Permission to Speak": _____

4.8 Attended classes like a ghost: _____

4.9 Pissed-off little blisters: _____

4.10 and: _____ **Marks: 10**

QUESTION FIVE:

Fill out the table below by completing the degrees of comparison:

E.g. Tall	**Taller**	**Tallest**
Pretty	5.1	**Prettiest**
Easy	**Easier**	5.2
loud	**louder**	5.3
uncomfortable	5.4	**Most uncomfortable**

Marks: 4

QUESTION SIX:

Correct the sentences below and state the name of the error:

6.1 The voice of these men are what being taken seriously should sound like.

_____

6.2 I would push through to softly talk during the day.

_____

Marks: 4

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GRADE8

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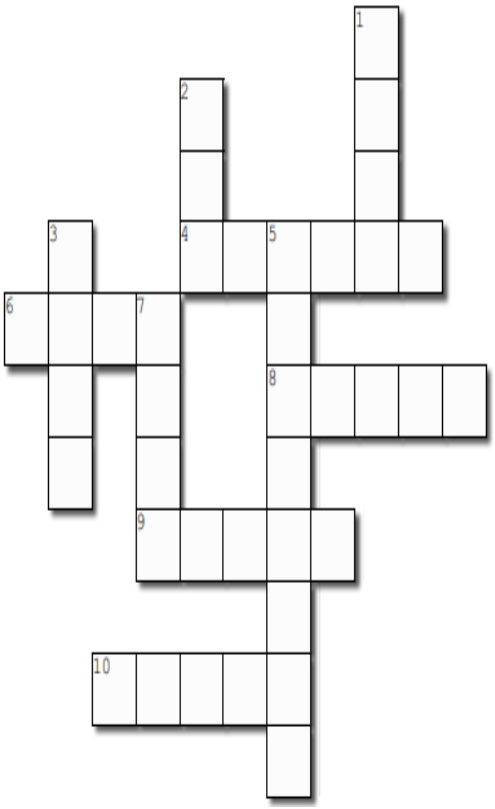
QUESTION SEVEN: CROSSWORD: IDIOMS AND PROVERBS



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Clues: Use the words in brackets to complete the idioms or proverbs.

ACROSS:

4. A jack of all _____ (proverb).
6. When _____ fly (idiom meaning something impossible happens).
8. You can take the _____ to the water but you can't make it drink (proverb).
9. A bad workman always blames his _____ (proverb).
10. _____ of cake (idiom meaning easy).

DOWN:

1. Beyond the _____ (idiom meaning something improper).
2. A _____ potato (idiom meaning a controversial issue).
3. A _____ in the hand is worth two in the bush (proverb).
5. _____ heel (idiom meaning weakness).
7. Worth your _____ (idiom meaning becoming competent at something).

ACROSS
4.
6.
8..
9.
10.
DOWN
1.
2.
3.
5.
7.

Marks: 10

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 50