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SOUTH AFRICAN PRIMARY ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:
GRADE 7

DATE: 04 - 08 SEPTEMBER 2023

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 websites: www.saolympiads.co.za.

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

QUESTION ONE: TEXT A

Read the following article (adapted from *Smithsonian Magazine*) and answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Why the Cape Town Fire Is a Devastating Loss for South African Cultural Heritage

The inferno destroyed much of the University of Cape Town's special collections, including rare books, films, photographs, and records

By Nora McGreevy
April 20, 2021

A wildfire that sparked on the slopes of South Africa's Table Mountain raged across the University of Cape Town (UCT) on Sunday and into Monday, damaging or destroying a number of historic structures and campus buildings.

Among the most significant losses were the university's Plant Conservation Unit offices and the Jagger Reading Room, which housed artifacts related to African history, including 19th-century watercolours painted by Indigenous peoples, maps, manuscripts and government records, according to *Nature*'s Linda Nordling.

The blaze broke out on the lower slopes of nearby Devil's Peak, around 9 a.m. Sunday, rapidly spreading down the mountain to the university campus. About 4,000 students were evacuated from nearby residences and moved to temporary housing. Authorities are currently investigating the cause of the fire, which was one of several sparked in the area over the weekend. Authorities are investigating the possibility that an arsonist started at least one of the blazes. Police took a 35-year-old male suspect into custody on Sunday night.

Strong south-easterly winds pushed the fire toward Cape Town's densely populated neighbourhoods, where flames engulfed campus buildings and a hillside restaurant attached to the Rhodes Memorial, which commemorates British colonialist Cecil Rhodes. The blaze also destroyed Mostert's Mill, a 225-year-old structure that was the country's oldest working windmill.

More than 200 firefighters and emergency personnel worked to battle the flames alongside four helicopters. Three firefighters were hospitalised with serious burns, but

no other casualties were reported. The greatest loss may be felt at the Jagger Reading Room, which forms part of the UCT Libraries' Special Collections and holds many unique and irreplaceable items that tell the story of South African history.

Pippa Skotnes, the curator of the school's archive, tells the *Times* that the university's African film collection was among the losses. The archive boasted some 3,500 rare African archival films and was one of the few of its kind in the world. University librarians had been working to digitise the films, but the process is extraordinarily time and labour-intensive, so just a "wafer thin" sliver of the total collections had been preserved.

UCT's Special Collections also include a range of print and audio-visual artefacts related to African studies. These holdings represent one of the most expansive selections of rare books, photographs, films, letters, and other primary sources documenting South African history, including a robust trove of materials related to the fight against apartheid. The Jagger building itself dated to the 1830s and had recently been renovated. Officials are holding out hope that the flames failed to reach the bulk of the archive, which is stored in two basement floors protected by fireproof doors. Many fear that firefighting efforts inadvertently flooded the basement with water.

Choose the correct answer from the options given for each question.

1. **The wildfire started originally:**
   (a) beyond Table Mountain
   (b) on the lower slope of one of the peaks of the mountain range
   (c) on the University Campus
   (d) nearer to Fish Hoek

(1)

2. **The fires over the weekend were started by:**

   (a) the very hot, dry weather
   (b) accidentally, perhaps by a cigarette thrown out of a window
   (c) someone on purpose for their own reasons
   (d) young people playing around with matches

(1)

3. **Why is the Memorial near the Campus called *the* "Rhodes" memorial?**

   (a) It commemorates the country to the north that used to be called Rhodesia.
   (b) The University was built by Cecil John Rhodes.
   (c) Rhodes played a major role in the history of the Western Cape Colony.
   (d) Rhodes University that was in Grahamstown has close ties to UCT.

(1)

4. Why was the greatest loss felt at The Jagger Reading Room?

(a) It was felt here because books are so expensive to replace.
(b) It was felt here because films, maps and audio-visual material were lost.
(c) It was felt here because all the very special historical items were in this room.
(d) It was felt here because there was a record of the apartheid history of South Africa.

(1)

5. Give a synonym from the passage for the word "fire". (1)

6. Give an antonym from the passage for the word "restored". (1)

7. What figure of speech is in the following phrase from the passage:
"so just a "wafer thin" sliver of the total collections…." **(1)**

8. Why were the fireproof doors not able to prevent damage to the archive stored in the two basement floors?

(a) The fire came through the roof tiles.
(b) Paper burns so easily that the fire quickly took hold.
(c) The fire-fighters concentrated on saving the building rather than the contents.
(d) The water from the hoses did a lot of damage.

(1)

9. Why was this fire called a "devastating disaster" even though there were only three casualties.

(a) It was so-called because so many University students had to be evacuated and live somewhere else while the buildings were made safe.
(b) It was so-called because so many old and valuable records were lost to the fire.
(c) It was so-called because it cost Cape Town so much money to rebuild the burnt building and replace the library.
(d) It was so-called because it was thought that this fire was started deliberately.

(1)

10. Choose a definition of the word "artefact".

(a) An object that helps you learn more about a culture historically.
(b) An object that is made by a human being.
(c) An object used in a scientific experiment.
(d) An object that could be found in a ruin.

(1)

Total: 10

QUESTION TWO:

2.1. The headline below is a statement. Change it into a simple sentence question.

Why the Cape Town Fire Is a Devastating Loss for South African Cultural Heritage.

(1)

2.2 Identify the subject, finite verb, and object in the sentence below.

The Plant Conservation Unit and the Jagger Reading Room experienced significant losses. **(3)**

2.3 Give the correct form of the adjective.

The fire has caused the bad loss of all the fires in 2020. **(1)**

2.4 Rewrite the following sentences from the active voice to the passive voice.

(a) A robot may not injure a human being.
(b) An engineer from US Robots services Robbie regularly.
(c) Gloria loved her robot dearly.
(d) A machine should not look after a young child, like Gloria.
(e) George Weston scoffed at his wife's tears.

(5)

QUESTION THREE:

3.1 Match the idioms and their meanings below. The idioms are numbered from 1 – 5 as are the meanings so in your answer just write for example: 3 (if 3 is your answer for no. 1).

IDIOM	MEANING
1. To beat about the bush	1. To ignore someone or treat them with disrespect
2. To bury the hatchet	2. Not to take sides in an argument
3. To sit on the fence	3. To say exactly what you think
4. To give the cold shoulder	4. To get to the point in a roundabout way
5. To call a spade a spade	5. To forget a past quarrel and make peace

(5)

QUESTION FOUR: LOGIC

(a)
A man is stranded alone in a freezing cabin. In the cabin he finds some dry wood, an oil lamp, paper and a candle. He only has one match, so which does he light first?

(1)

(b)
Two identical suitcases fall from an aeroplane just off the coast of Ireland. Each contained identical items and weighed exactly the same. Which suitcase hit the ground first?

(1)

QUESTION FIVE:

(a) Identify the homonym in the following sentences.

"Containers are stored on deck as well as in the ship's hold." **(1)**

"The river rose until it flowed over its banks." **(1)**

(b) Choose the correct homophone in the following sentences:

"With a good drill, you can **boar/bore** a hole in anything." **(1)**

"The bridegroom was waiting patiently in the **aisle/isle** of the church." **(1)**

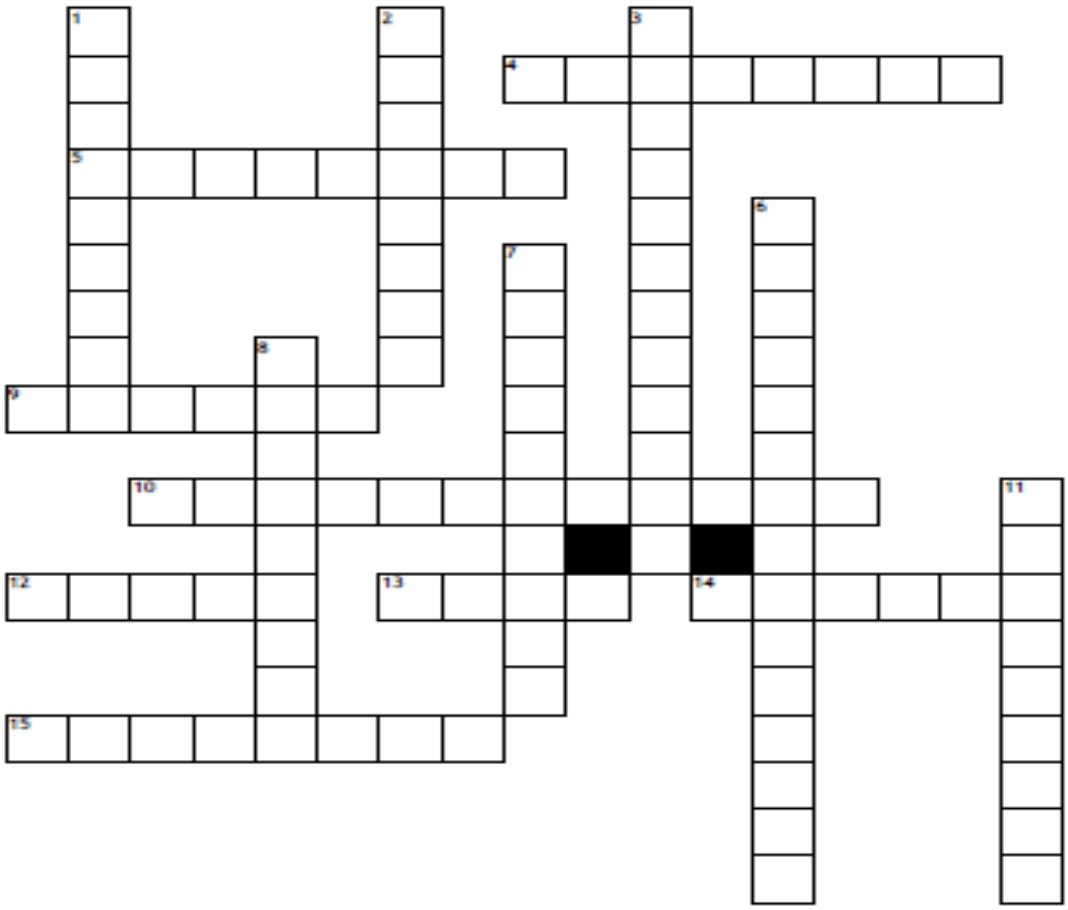
"The car mounted the **curb/kerb** and nearly hit a pedestrian." **(1)**

(c) Unscramble the antonyms for the following words:

(i) length - btrehad
(ii) drunkenness - ysotbrie
(iii) childhood - ahdouoldt **(3)**

QUESTION SIX: CROSSWORD

Read the clues below and then fill in the answers in the relevant spaces in the crossword puzzle provided.



CLUES:

Across:	**Down:**
4. A type of punctuation mark that indicates that something is omitted.	1. A collection of sentences forming one ……
5.The type of noun that you are unable to touch physically.	2. A poetic device that states something or someone is compared to, but not literally.
9. A collection of words but without any punctuation.	3. A poetic device that is a repetition of a consonant.
10. A poetic device that indicates the use of sound.	6. A poetic device giving a human characteristic to a non-living thing.
12. A type of punctuation mark that indicates a pause.	7. A large book filled with definitions, in alphabetical order.
13. A rhyming scheme: cat, dog, mat, fog.	8. A poetic device that is the repetition of a vowel.
14. A figure of speech that uses “like” and “as”.	11. A book filled with words that mean the same or are similar to one word.
15. A collection of words, with punctuation.	

Across:	**Down:**
4.	1.
5.	2.
9.	3.
10.	6.
12.	7.
13.	8.
14.	11.
15.	

(15)

Total for paper: 50