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SOUTH AFRICAN ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:
GRADE 9

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 websites: www.saolympiads.co.za.

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SCHOOL:	GRADE:

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QUESTION ONE: Read Text A and then answer the questions that follow.

TEXT A: The Attraction of Animé (adapted from an article by Rick Clarke)

Japanese animé has a huge following across the globe. I'm a big fan myself, but I have had some strange looks when mentioning my interest in it. So I felt compelled to write this brief and basic little article to try to alleviate some of the myths, and perhaps win over some converts.

I think many folks do tend, incorrectly, to associate animé with cartoons, and automatically dismiss it as kids' stuff, but if more people understood what animé truly has to offer, I believe it would gain an even bigger following.

I've been a fan of Japanese animé for a long time. Actually, it's not just animé, it's the whole Japanese culture that I find fascinating, and animé feels like a sort of gateway into that world and culture, even though many Japanese people will tell you that animé can often be an overstated caricature that has little resemblance to real Japanese life.

Animé comes in all shapes and sizes, and I mean *all!* It reaches across a *huge* spectrum of genres and niches that span from the spectacularly beautiful to the completely bonkers, from the paranormal to the downright perverted, with just about every shade of subject matter in between.

My own preferences in animé tend to keep me towards the soberer end of the spectrum. In fact, I can be quite fussy and selective about the kind of animé I watch. I ultimately try to seek out the quieter stories with good, likable characters and, most importantly, beautiful visuals.

By far the biggest attraction to animé for me is the scenery artwork. It doesn't matter if it's a street scene or an open landscape, there is often amazing attention to detail, a vibrancy of colour, and a dreaminess that can only be found in animé. Green summery landscapes in particular can be simply breathtaking and to see such imagery as a moving living artwork is just wonderful. Watching such beautiful visuals can feel like such a treat, a feast that you just don't want to end. Even a seemingly mundane street scene can have a magical quality to it that you just can't get in other media.

As well as good artwork, good characters are obviously another essential component, although sometimes in animé, it can be a bit hit-and-miss. Animé does seem to have a rather disproportionately large share of loud, brash, 'shouty' and permanently angry characters, many of which can be rather grating.

However, after saying that, there is still loads of excellent animé out there that feature enjoyable and likable characters that you will find compelling to watch. The trick, for me, has always been finding a combination of the two: both good likable characters, and excellent visuals.

Obviously, a good storyline is a plus, but in Japanese animé, you sometimes have to accept that whatever you choose, the storyline or theme can sometimes turn out to be, well, a little on the strange side …

I figure as long as I can find animé that meets the criteria of beautiful visuals and likable characters, I'll often just run with the storyline (unless it's really bad) because, hey, two out of three ain't bad!

Choose the correct answer from the questions below:

1. **Why do you think the writer has had some "strange looks" when he has spoken about his interest in animé?**

   (a) Because people assume that the commentary is all in Japanese.
   (b) Because people think that all animé is a bit evil and cruel.
   (c) Because people think that it is just cartoons and only for children.
   (d) Because people just do not understand what animé is.

   (1)

2. **In paragraph one, "myths" is another word for:**

   (a) lies
   (b) stories of bygone days
   (c) widely held but false beliefs
   (d) concerns

   (1)

3. **In paragraph 3, the writer says that "animé feels like a sort of gateway" into Japanese culture. What does he mean by this?**

   (a) Animé shows exactly what Japanese culture is like.
   (b) Animé gives people some idea of what Japanese culture is about.
   (c) Animé is what people can watch to learn all about Japan.
   (d) Animé gives people a great opportunity to decide what they like about Japan and what they do not like.

   (1)

4. **State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.**

   "Animé shows exactly what Japanese life is all about"

   (a) TRUE (b) FALSE **(1)**

5. **What is meant by the slang word "bonkers"?**

   (a) crazy
   (b) ugly
   (c) boring
   (d) colourless

   (1)

6. **Give an antonym for the word "shade".**

   (a) colour
   (b) variation
   (c) darkness
   (d) minimum

   (1)

7. **With reference to the whole article, what, for the writer, is the most important characteristic of animé?**

   (a) likable characters
   (b) good storyline
   (c) scenery artwork
   (d) Japanese culture

   (1)

8. **In paragraph 6, the word "media" is used. Of which word is this the plural?**

   (a) medius
   (b) medium
   (c) median
   (d) mediation

   (1)

9. **Why did the writer feel compelled to write this article?**

   (a) To inform readers about animé.
   (b) To try to convert people into liking animé.
   (c) To tell readers why he likes Japanese animé.
   (d) To educate readers about exactly what Japanese animé is and correct some incorrect facts.

   (1)

10. **In the last paragraph, which adverb is used to emphasize the worldwide appeal of "animé"?**

    (a) awful
    (b) hugely
    (c) mediocre
    (d) stunningly

    (1)

Total: 10

QUESTION TWO:

In each of the following, identify the verb and state its subject. For each sentence, write down 1) the verb and 2) the subject

(a) The tired children will sleep well tonight. **(2)**
(b) Every day they run on the beach for an hour. **(2)**

QUESTION THREE:

Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words in the following sentences.

(a) The dog howled loudly all night.
(b) We were the champions last year.
(c) We will dismiss you only when the siren sounds.

(3)

QUESTION FOUR:

1. **Rewrite the following sentences inserting the missing punctuation marks.**

(a) Why should I clean johns room he asked its his responsibility **(3)**
(b) She plays for a girls team called the angels exclaimed the coach **(3)**

2. **Rewrite the following in Indirect Speech.**

(a) "I went to the Mall yesterday," she said. **(2)**
(b) The boy asked, "When will I play this game?" **(2)**

3. **Identify the underlined figures of speech in the following sentences.**

(a) The table complained about the weight of all the food.
(b) Adam was a tower of strength in defense.
(c) The snake slithered slowly and silently across the stony ground.

(3)

QUESTION FIVE:

All people who are involved in war suffer …

The Refugees

Mute figures with bowed heads
they travel along the road:
old women, incredibly old
and a hand-cart of chattels.

They do not weep:
Their eyes are too raw for tears.

1. **The word "mute" means "not making a sound". Why are these people mute?**

   (a) They do not all speak the same language.
   (b) They are too old to talk.
   (c) They have seen too much of war and have nothing left to say.
   (d) They are too scared to talk because of the soldiers.

(1)

2. **What is a "hand-cart of chattels"?**

   (a) A cart of old women?
   (b) A cart full of their personal belongings?
   (c) A cart of their small children?
   (d) A cart holding all food?

(1)

3. **What does the poet mean by "their eyes are too raw for tears"?**

   (a) The women have no tears left to cry.
   (b) The women have stopped themselves crying because of the enemy.
   (c) The women are too sad to cry.
   (d) The women have cried so much that they are weary and sore from crying.

(1)

4. **What is the rhyme scheme of this poem?**

   (a) Rhyming couplets.
   (b) Free verse.
   (c) A, B, C, A.

(1)

Total: 4

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QUESTION SIX: LOGIC

1. WACKY WORDS: Identify the well-known phrase that is contained in the following puzzles.

(a) READ **(1)**

(b) BIG BIG
ignore ignore **(1)**

2. LOGIC: George, William, John, Abe, and Millard have their birthdays on consecutive days, all between Monday and Friday.

- **George's birthday is as many days before Millard's as William's is after Abe's.**
- **John is two days older than Abe.**
- **Millard's birthday is on Thursday.**

Can you figure out whose birthday is on each day? (5)

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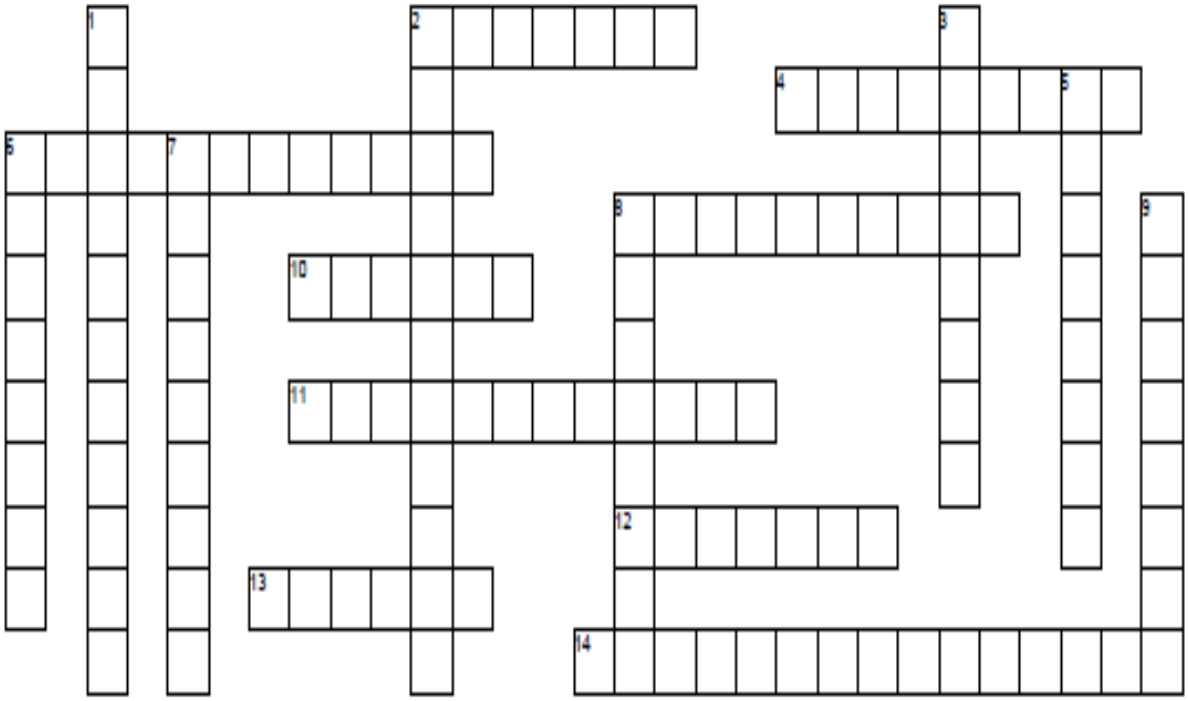
QUESTION SEVEN: CROSSWORD:

Using the across and down clues, fill the correct words into the crossword puzzle.



Across:

2	Complicated; difficult.
4	Clarity; logical connection.
6	Connections in the mind between different things.
8	Clearly express in words.
10	Method used to produce a specific effect.
11	In the style of present time; modern.
12	Examine in detail.
13	One part of a situation, plan or subject.
14	Qualities or features of something.

Down:

1	Special; different from others.
2	Uniformity; regularity.
3	Vital; very important.
5	Judge the quality of.
6	Way of thinking about or viewing something.
7	Analysis and judgment of a work's strengths and weaknesses.
8	Method or style of doing something.
9	Parts of which things are made up.

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

(9)

Total for paper: 50