FEMSSISA JUNIOR ENGLISH OLYMPIAD:

GRADE8

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

DATE: 7 AUGUST 2024

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.

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

QUESTION ONE

Read the passage from the Uncorrected Proof Copy of *The Hawkweed Prophecy* by Irena Brignull

There was a bee buzzing in her brain. At least that's what if felt like. It happened from time to time, unexpectedly and without warning, like Poppy's frequency to the world shifted and all that she could hear was static. This time was worse than ever though. Poppy tried lying down and shutting her eyes but that just raised the volume. Her room, this house, this town, all of them felt stifling. Her father was out. Poppy didn't know where only that it was the weekend and she was alone and the empty house wasn't empty enough. She needed to move, to breathe. She took the quickest route out of town. She walked so fast and with such focus, she didn't notice how the buildings were thinning out and how the pavement had become a verge, grassy, and nettled…

It was the lights that struck Ember the most. How bright the town was, as though day and night were one. The chaffs who had no knowledge of the craft somehow conquered time and banished darkness. There were people up and dressed and full of life despite it being well past dusk. She had seen the lights from the distance once or twice and marvelled at their prettiness but now she was walking beneath them and Ember felt like a spotlight was shining upon her, revealing her difference for all to see. They'd tamed nature too, these ignorant chaffs. Trees planted one by one in neat, long rows, grass set in oblongs, smooth and flat. Dogs on leads and cats in collars. Ember felt awry and disordered in such a mathematical landscape of straight lines and pointy corners…

An owl hooted late into the night and Poppy woke. She rose instantly and started to pack, stuffing as many of her clothes and belongings as possible into an old duffle bag of her father's. The sleep had done her good and she moved quickly and decisively, leaving behind treasured items, refusing to be sentimental about her possessions. She fed the cats before she left and they came to her purring loudly, caressing her legs with their fur, licking her hands with their sandpaper tongues.

There was only Ember left and Poppy couldn't leave her forever wondering. Ember deserved to know all of it - where she came from and who she was. But Ember was in the camp and Poppy daren't get too close in case Raven sensed her there. She longed to see her friend's face, to hug her close, and try and tell her everything she meant to her. She wanted to share all that she knew and explain how they were twins of a sort, how their fates had collided at birth and it was their destiny to meet that autumn day in the deli. And then Poppy thought to leave word for Ember there, in their meeting place. It wasn't nearly close to being enough, but it was something. So Poppy sat on the kerb and, under the white light of the street lamp, she began to write…

'So you are to be queen?' came a witch's voice.

'No clan,' came another

'No schooling.'

'No experience.'

'Why should we have you?

'Why?'

'Why?'

The voices stabbed at Poppy like knives. The panthers growled and snapped their jaws at her. Their saliva hit her arms. She felt the sea air on her back and tasted the salt of it on her tongue. How easy to let go, to run away for good.

'Are you sure she's yours, Charlock?' cackled a witch.

'She doesn't seem a Hawkweed.'

Hooper or Hawkweed? Poppy wanted neither.

Another witch spoke out this time addressing the leader of the cats. 'You said that she was the one we had to fear. She's nothing but a chaff!' she cried scathingly.

[Extracted from *The Hawkweed Prophecy*]

Answer the following questions based on The Hawkweed Prophecy.

1.1 Since this is an unedited proof copy, there is an error in the sentence below. Find the error and correct it by using the right word:

There was a bee buzzing in her brain. At least that's what if felt like.

_____

(2)

1.2 Write down the error in the phrase below:

"unexpectedly and without warning."

_____

(1)

1.3 Select the meaning of the homonym for the word, "static". Circle the correct answer.

(a) noisy
(b) stable
(c) silent
(d) electricity

(1)

1.4 What are the figures of speech in the sentence below. Circle the correct answer.

There was a bee buzzing in her brain.

(a) Simile
(b) Metaphor
(c) Onomatopoeia
(d) Alliteration **(2)**

1.5 In the context of the passage, the word stifled means. Circle the correct answer.

(a) Encourage
(b) Cold
(c) Suffocated
(d) Free

(1)

1.6 According to the text, "There was a bee buzzing in her brain," is it said literally or figuratively? Tick the correct answer.

literally	figuratively

(1)

1.7 How did Ember feel? Tick all the possible options.

(a) Different from everyone else.
(b) Like things were out of the ordinary.
(c) Comfortable in the mathematical landscape
(d) As if the spotlight was on her.

(3)

1.8 The cats had sandpaper tongues. This means their tongues were smooth. Tick the correct answer.

TRUE	FALSE

(1)

1.9 Circle the correct words that make up the contracted word, 'daren't'.

(a) dare + did
(b) dare + not
(c) dare + do
(d) dare + n't

(1)

1.10 This story is an example of a _____story. Tick the correct answer.

Fictional	Non-fictional

(1)

1.11 Other than a surname, Hawkweed, refers to a type of _____. Tick the correct answer.

Herbs	Panthers

(1)

1.12 The word, "prophecy" means_____ .

foreshadowing	Prophets

(1)

1.13 What is the collective noun for a group of witches? Hint: The word is used somewhere in the text as well.

A _____ of witches.

(1)

Marks: 17

QUESTION TWO:

View the cartoon below and answer the questions that follows:

[Source: Comic Online]

2.1 What are the girls doing? Underline the correct answer.

(a) Talking to each other
(b) Playing a board game
(c) Using an Ouija board
(d) Feeding Salem

(1)

2.2 Humour is created because _____? Underline the correct answer.

(a) The girls have succeeded at playing the board game.
(b) Salem is controlling the Ouija board.
(c) The cat is talking.
(d) The girls are witches.

(1)

2.3 The cartoon is taking place _____. Tick the correct answer.

In the kitchen	In a basement

(1)

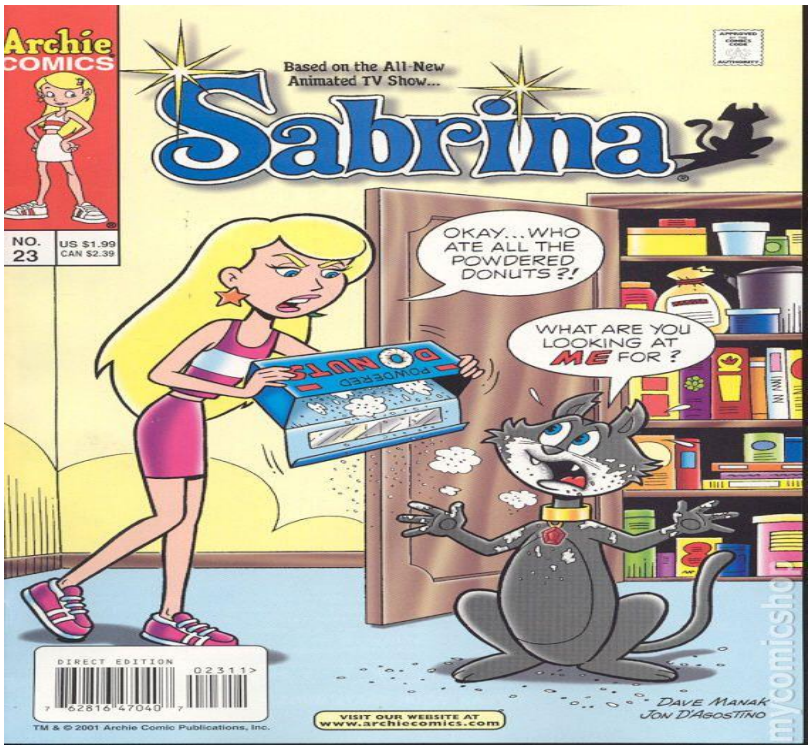
2.4 The Ouija board is used to speak to _____ .

(1)

Marks: 4

QUESTION THREE:

View the cartoon below and answer the questions that follows:



[Source: MyComicShop]

3.1 What do both cartoons indicate about Salem? Underline the correct answer.

(a) He talks too much.
(b) He always gets blamed for eating.
(c) He is greedy.
(d) Everyone looks at him. **(1)**

3.2 Find the continuous tense verb in the cartoon

_____

(1)

3.3 The cartoon is taking place _____. Tick the correct answer.

Near the pantry	Near the bedroom

(1)

3.4 What do you call the punctuation mark where a question mark and an exclamation mark are used together in a cartoon?

_____ **(1)**

Marks: 4

QUESTION FOUR:

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

There was a bee buzzing in her brain.

She needed to move, to breathe.

She was alone and that empty house wasn't empty enough.

The voices stabbed at Poppy like knives

But Ember was in the camp and poppy daren't get too close in case Raven sensed her there.

4.1 Bee: _____

4.2 In: _____

4.3 She: _____

4.4 Move: _____

4.5 Empty: _____

4.6 Voices stabbed at Poppy like knives: _____

4.7 But: _____

4.8 The: _____

4.9 And: _____

4.10 Raven: _____

Marks: 10

QUESTION FIVE:

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

E.g. tall	taller	tallest
angry		angriest
angrily		
	More wonderful	Most wonderful
calm		

Marks: 6

QUESTION SIX:

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

6.1 Me and my mum listen to stories about witches.

_____

6.2 The class are listening to a story about witches.

_____

6.3 The yearly conference to protect children from witches is held annually.

_____

Marks: 6

QUESTION SEVEN: IDIOMS

Complete the idioms:

7.1 A controversial issue - A hot _____

7.2 Very rarely - Once in a blue _____

7.3 To make an offer of peace - Extend the olive _____

Marks: 3

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 50