SOUTHERN AFRICAN ENGLISH OLYMPIADS

science & innovation
Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

E-mail: Info@saolympiads.co.za website: www.saolympiads.co.za

SOUTH AFRICAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS
ENGLISH OLYMPIAD
HOME LANGUAGE (HL)
GRADE 5

DATE: 6-20 AUGUST 2025

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 website: www.saolympiads.co.za.

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

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QUESTION ONE: TEXT A

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

SWEET DREAMS

A good night's sleep is very important for your health. Your brain and your body use that time to do all kinds of things that they cannot do as well when you're awake. How much sleep do you need? Every person is a little different, but many experts say that children need about ten hours of sleep per night. So if you wake up at seven o'clock to go to school, you should be going to bed by nine o'clock at night.

Sometimes it's not easy to fall asleep quickly, though. You might have a lot of energy. Or you might be excited about something. Maybe you're worried about something. When that happens, it's hard to get sleepy.

Here are some things you can do to make it easier for you to get the sleep you need:

- Keep your body in a routine by going to bed at the same time every night.
- Do something calming right before bedtime, such as taking a warm bath or reading.
- Limit sodas, iced tea, and other foods and drinks that contain caffeine.
- Turn off your TV when it is time to sleep. Better yet, don't have a TV in your room. Studies show that children who have a TV in their rooms sleep less.
- Don't watch scary TV shows or movies close to bedtime because these can sometimes make it hard to fall asleep.
- Exercise during the day—it will help you sleep better at night. But don't exercise just before going to bed.
- Don't do homework, read, play games, or talk on the phone in bed. Use your bed just for sleeping—you'll train your body to associate your bed with sleep.

If you follow these handy tips, you will get yourself relaxed before bedtime. Then, it will be easier for you to fall asleep and stay asleep.

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1. **Which is true for the bulleted list in the text?**

(a) The first item is the most important.
(b) Each item on the list is important and supports the main idea.
(c) The items should be done in order.
(d) Bulleted lists make no sense. **(1)**

2. **Which of these is a topic sentence stating a main idea?**

(a) You might have a lot of energy.
(b) A good night's sleep is very important for your health.
(c) Try to go to bed at the same time every night.
(d) Use your bed just for sleeping. **(1)**

3. **What is a purpose for reading this text?**

(a) To find ways to sleep better
(b) To learn good study habits
(c) To learn how to cook
(d) To find a good place to buy a bed **(1)**

4. **What is an accurate inference about caffeine?**

(a) It can make you sleepy.
(b) It can keep you awake.
(c) It is good for your health.
(d) It is hard to find. **(1)**

5. **What would the author's advice be for readers?**

(a) Sleep less
(b) Stop getting exercise
(c) Buy a TV
(d) Get plenty of sleep **(1)**

6. **Why might having a TV in your room keep you awake?**

(a) You would forget to turn it on.
(b) You would not like having a TV.
(c) You would turn it off to sleep.
(d) You would watch it instead of sleeping. **(1)**

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7. Why do you think being excited about something might keep you awake?

(a) You will be afraid to fall out of bed.
(b) You will fall asleep very quickly.
(c) You will think about what is making you excited instead of getting sleepy.
(d) You eat too much if you are excited. **(1)**

8. Which is the best summary of this text?

(a) People can get a good night's sleep by following some helpful tips.
(b) Sleep is not important.
(c) Children don't know how to go to sleep.
(d) Many people have sleep issues. **(1)**

9. Choose a synonym for the word "associate" as used in the text.

(a) partner (b) link

(c) integrate (d) contact **(1)**

10. Choose one of the following that would also help you to sleep better at night.

(a) Do a hundred push-ups if you feel you have too much energy.
(b) Watch an extra T.V. programme until you feel more tired.
(c) Listen to soft music that maybe can relax you.
(d) Eat some chocolate as that will make you feel satisfied.

(1)

Total: 10

QUESTION TWO:

Rewrite the following sentences which are in the simple present tense into the simple past tense.

(a) Lindiwe speaks the truth. **(1)**
(b) Hillview's teachers teach them about responsibility. **(1)**
(c) The pupils hear the message clearly. **(1)**

Total: 3

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QUESTION THREE:

Complete the paragraph below. Choose a word for each space from the words in the box.

The ___(a)_____ of boys ran through the ____(b)_____ like a _____(c)_____ of monkeys and headed east to hide in the _____(d)_____ of trees. Two _____(e)_____ of eyes watched them, one from behind a _____(f)_____ of rocks and another from a _____(g) _____ of wolves. The girls shivered as the sun hid behind a _____(h)_____ of clouds.

sky	**pairs**	**gate**	**pile**	**group**
clump		**troupe**	**pack**	

(8)

QUESTION FOUR:

Read the following short poem and then answer the questions that follow.

I love rainy days

High up in the hills
Where I live and play,
It sometimes rains for days and days
Turning the hard, sun-baked ground,
To squishy soft gooey clay.
The clay fills the gaps in my toes like a sock
And squelches and squeaks and oozes through me.
I love these days.
The rain can fall like a solid silver wall.
Or float gently down like soft dust.
It can beat on my head like a thousand slaps.

Or whisper on my skin with feathery touches
I love these days when the rain washes
Everything else away.

1 Which figure of speech is used in **"Or float gently down like soft dust."** **(1)**

2. **"The rain can fall like a solid silver wall." –** name the subject and object in this sentence. **(2)**

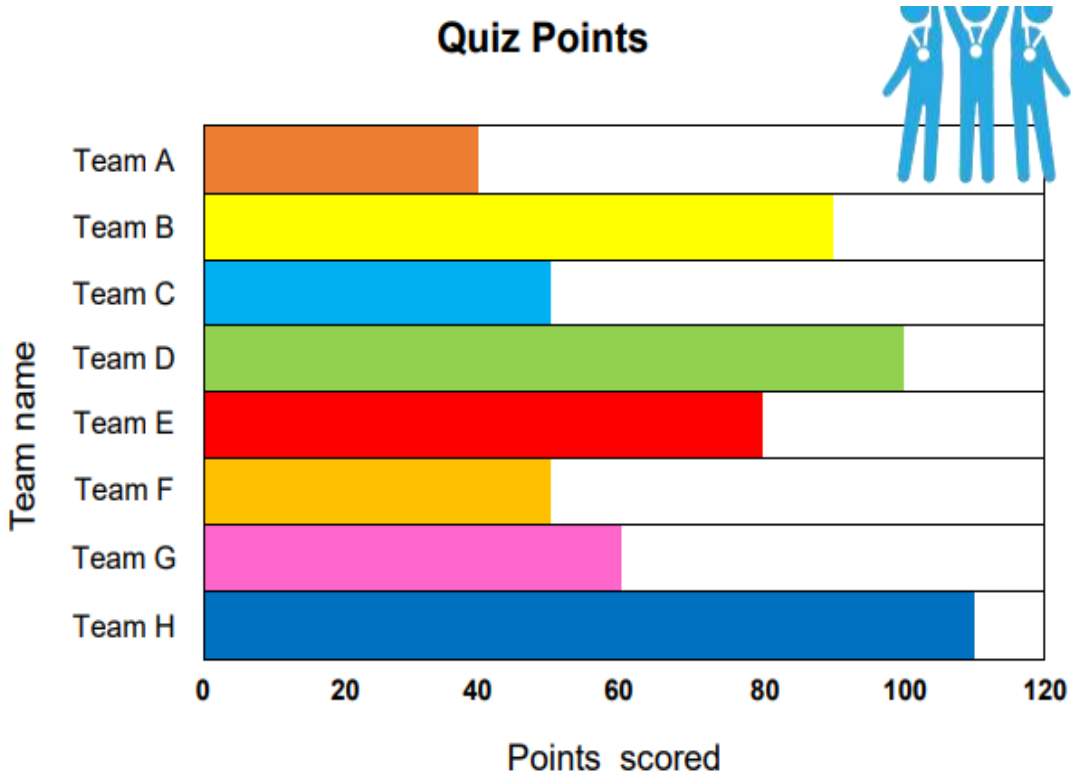
3 What other figure of speech is used in the above sentence? **(1)**

4 Give three examples of onomatopoeia in the above poem. Just write the three words.

(3)

Total: 7

QUESTION FIVE: Look at the bar graph below and then answer the questions.

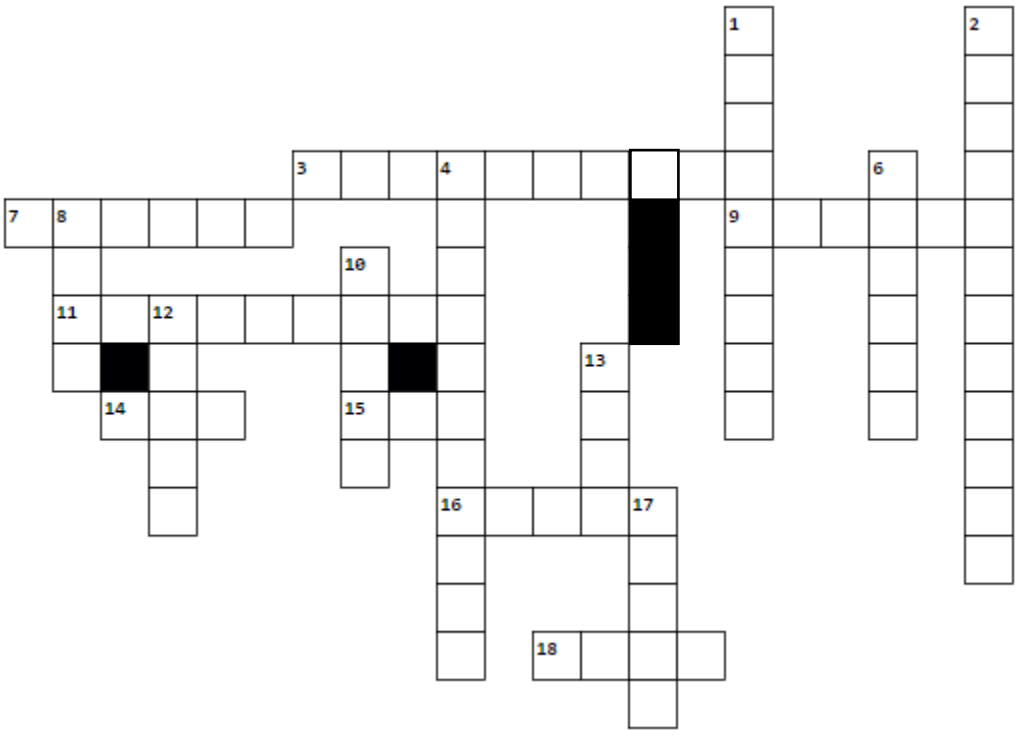


1. Which team won the contest? **(1)**
2. How many points did Team F score? **(1)**
3. How many more points did Team D get than Team G? **(1)**
4. Which teams scored equally? **(1)**
5. How many teams scored fewer than 80 points? **(1)**

Total: 5

QUESTION SIX: CROSSWORD - Nursery Rhymes

Read the clues below from your favourite nursery rhymes and then fill in the crossword that follows.



Across:	Down
3 Four and twenty …….. baked in a pie.	1 This little piggy had …… …… and this piggy had none!
7 Knick knack patty whack give a dog a bone, this …….. ……. came rolling home.	2. An egg that fell of a wall.
9 I'm a little ……. short and stout.	4 Three men in a tub: butcher, baker and a ……maker
11 Old ……. had a farm.	6 What scared Miss Muffet?
14 ….. ….. ….. your boat.	8 Mary had a little ……
15 Three little kittens lost their mittens so they will have no …….	10 If you're …….. and you know it, clap your hands.
16 Little boys are made of frogs, snails and puppy dog ……	12 Hickory dickory dock the mouse ran up the ……..
18 Twinkle, twinkle little ……	13 Jack and …… went up the hill.
	17 ……., spice and everything nice. That's what little girls are made of.

(17)

Total for paper: 50