SOUTH AFRICAN OLYMPIADS
ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE
MEMORANDUM — GRADE 8 — 2026

QUESTION ONE: COMPREHENSION (Total: 20)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
1.1	(c) Cautious
1.2	Honoured
1.3	(a) "brave"
1.3 (second — "What did Macy think of Lila at first?")	(a) She was just bold.
1.4	(a) She ran into the sea.
1.6	brain
1.7	(b) Fear
1.8	True
1.9	(b) Simile
1.10	red
1.11	Where the bird goes / was going
1.12	Voices, a dog barking, a car engine (1 mark each)
1.13	Any TWO of: the road; a car moving slowly around the bend; a woman with shopping bags; a boy on a bike riding past; a patch of pink ice cream melting on the hot pavement. (1 mark each, max 2)
1.14	(a) Calm
1.15	(d) A man
1.16	(c) strawberry — ALSO ACCEPT (a) bubble gum (the text says only "pink ice cream"; both flavours are plausibly pink)
1.17	dirt (a dirt-stained T-shirt)

QUESTION TWO (Total: 5)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
2.1	(b) Drinking and driving
2.2	BMW
2.3	Fear
2.4	(b) Alliteration
2.5	(a) Car parts — ALSO ACCEPT (b) Spare parts (the advert wording "Spare parts for humans are not as original as those for cars" supports both)

QUESTION THREE (Total: 5)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
3.1	(a) Smoking
3.2	America / the USA
3.3	About 440,000 (people per year)
3.4	90%
3.5	Smoking kills / stop smoking (accept any reasonable phrasing of this message)

QUESTION FOUR: PARTS/FIGURES OF SPEECH (Total: 10)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
4.1	frightful — Adjective
4.2	apparition — Noun
4.3	the — Article (accept: definite article)
4.4	dark — Adjective
4.5	seen — Verb / Irregular verb (past participle)
4.6	herd of elephants — Collective noun
4.7	flashed by as quickly as a bolt of lightning — Simile
4.8	goose bumps — Noun (accept: idiom / compound noun)
4.9	slithering slimy snake — Alliteration
4.10	he — Pronoun

QUESTION FIVE: DEGREES OF COMPARISON (Total: 3)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
Scary	Scarier — Scariest
Afraid	More afraid — Most afraid
Lonely	Lonelier — Loneliest

QUESTION SIX: CROSSWORD — FEARS (Total: 7)

No.	Correct Answer / Marking Guideline
Across 1	PHOBIA (Claustro-phobia)
Across 3	FAILING
Across 5	MUMMY
Across 6	SPIDER
Down 2	HEIGHTS
Down 3	FLYING
Down 4	GOD

TOTAL MARKS: 50