SOUTH AFRICAN FOUNDATION PHASE ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE OLYMPIAD: GRADE 1

DATE: 18 AUGUST 2026

TIME: 60 MINUTES

Instructions:

1. Read the instructions slowly and carefully to your learners.
2. When you read the instructions, make sure learners follow in their booklets. You must also read the instructions twice.
3. Try not to explain the questions and allow learners to answer independently in the spaces provided below.
4. Once learners have answered the questions independently, move on to read the next question.
5. Follow the same procedure throughout the whole paper without ever guiding the learners toward the correct answers.
6. There are 6 questions in this paper and it is out of 25 marks.
7. Visit the website: www.saolympiads.co.za.

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

QUESTION ONE:

Look at the pictures below:

1.1 With which letter does the word in the picture below begin?

_____ **(1)**

1.2 With which letter does the word in the picture below begin?

_____ **(1)**

1.3 Complete the missing vowel below:

M		L	K

(1)

1.4 Use the words in the boxes below to name the pictures underneath the words:

banana	butter	ant	apple	berries

1.4.1

1.4.2

1.4.3

_____ _____ _____

(3)

Marks: 6

QUESTION TWO:

Read the story called *THE GREAT Adventure* by Samantha van Riet and answer the questions that follow:

The very next day, the friends started to build their boat. They cut and chopped…Fetched and carried…Hammered and sawed…At last, the boat was finished. The birds flapped around them, laughing, and teasing.

"Is that a boat or a bath?"

Otter gave his friends a quick swimming lesson.

2 Place a cross next to the correct answer

2.1 What were the friends building? **(1)**

A boat	
A bath	
A bird	

2.2 Who gave his friends a swimming lesson? **(1)**

Otter	
Ox	
Ostrich	

2.3 Who laughed and teased? **(1)**

The birds	
The otter	
The rats	

2.4 The birds said the friends' boat looked like a _____. **(1)**

boat	
bath	
battlefield	

2.5 What is the same as quick? **(1)**

Fast	
Slow	
Steady	

2.6 When did the friends start building the boat? **(1)**

Today	
The next day	
Yesterday	

Marks: 6

QUESTION THREE:

3.1 The water was cold and wet and weedy.

From the sentence, which words describe the water. Tick all the correct answers below:

cold	
wet	
windy	
weedy	

(3)

3.2 Rewrite the sentences below with capital letters and full stops.

3.2.1 everyone and everything tipped into the water

_____

3.2.2 cindy and nell had quite an adventure

_____

(5)

Marks: 8

QUESTION FOUR:

4. Nouns are naming words.

4.1 Circle the correct common noun/s from the options below:

The packed little boat sailed in the middle of the river.

a) The

b) little

c) boat

d) river

(2)

4. Verbs are doing words or actions.

4.2 Circle the verb in the sentence below.

The three friends went to greet the birds.

a) The
b) three
c) greet
d) birds

(1)

Marks: 3

QUESTION FIVE:

5.1 How many boats are there in the block below? Write out the number in words.

(1)

Marks: 1

QUESTION SIX:

6.1 Solve the riddle below:

I love to dance and twist in the wind. I shake my tail, and I sail away. When I fly, I am wingless in the sky. What am I?

_____

(1)

Marks: 1

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 25