
MEED Primary School

Grade 7 English First Additional Language Baseline Assessment

Comprehension, LSC, Writing and Reading Aloud

Mark Allocation: 60 marks

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions and information:

1. This question paper consists of FOUR sections:

SECTION A: Comprehension (20 marks)

SECTION B: Language Structures and Conventions (20 marks)

SECTION C: Writing (20 marks)

SECTION D: Reading Aloud (10 marks)

2. Read all the instructions carefully.
3. Answer all the questions.
4. Write neatly and legibly.

Comprehension	_____/20
LSC	_____/20
Writing	_____/20
Reading	_____/10

QUESTION 1: READING FOR MEANING AND UNDERSTANDING**TEXT A**

Read the story below and then answer questions that follow.

THE STORY OF A DAM

1. There was a great drought in the land; and Lion called together a number of animals so that they might make a plan for keeping water when the rains fell.
2. The animals which attended were Hyena, Leopard, Wolf, Jackal, Hare and Mountain Tortoise.
3. It was agreed that they should dig a large hole in some suitable place to hold water. The next day they all began to work, with the exception of Jackal, who hung about in that spot, and was overheard complaining that he was not going to dig his nails off making water holes.
4. When the dam was finished, the rains fell. It was soon filled with water, to the great delight of those who had worked so hard at it. The first one to come and drink was Jackal. He not only drank, but filled his clay pot with water. He then proceeded to swim in the rest of the water, making it as muddy and dirty as he could.
5. This was brought to the attention of Lion, who was very angry. Lion ordered Hyena to guard the water the next day, armed with a huge knobkierie*.

Hyena hid in a bush close to the water. Jackal soon became aware of his presence, and guessed the reason why Hyena was hiding there. Knowing that Hyenas loved honey, Jackal at once came up with a plan. He marched around, dipping his fingers into his clay pot every now and then, licking them with an expression of intense pleasure while saying in a low voice to himself, "I don't want any of their dirty water when I have a pot full of delicious honey." This was too much for Hyena, whose mouth began to water. He soon began to beg Jackal to give him a little honey, as he had been on watch duty for several hours, and was very hungry and tired.

6. Heyna put down the knobkierie when Jackal gave him the clay pot. Jackal took the knobkierie and hit Hyena over the head with it, knocking Hyena unconscious. Jackal took all the water he wanted. All the animals were angry and thought Hyena was naive. Up until today, neither Jackal nor Hyena is trusted by other animals.

(Adapted from *Short Stories Anthology*, 2014)

Glossary:

knobkierie * - a short wooden stick with a knob at one end that is used as a weapon.

1. Which animal did not help to dig a hole? (1)

- A Hyena
- B Jackal
- C Mountain Tortoise
- D Lion

2. Why did the animals need to dig a hole? (1)

3. The animals worked together to dig a hole for water. What lesson can we learn from this? (1)

- A Working together makes a task easy.
- B Tempting others is dangerous.
- C Cunning beats hard work.
- D It does not pay to be tricky.

4. What is the meaning of the phrase "... to dig his nails off ..."
(paragraph 3)? (1)

- A To cut his nails very short.
- B To look for water.
- C To work very hard.
- D To remove the polish from his nails.

5. Find a word from paragraph 3 that shows that Jackal told the other animals that he was not happy with digging a hole. (1)

6. Arrange the following sentences in the correct order of events. Enter the numbers 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the blocks provided. (1)

Heyna guarded the water.	
Lion summoned some animals.	
They dug a hole to store water.	
Jackal did not want to help.	

7. Do you think it was right for Jackal to take water without working for it? Say Yes or No. Give reasons for your answer. (3)

8. Which best describes the meaning of "... saying in a low voice to himself" in paragraph 5? (1)

- A Speaking openly and loudly without fear
- B Speaking quietly so that it is difficult to be heard
- C Speaking with honesty and courtesy
- D Saying something that shows disrespect

9. Give **two** reasons why Lion ordered Hyena to guard the water. (2)

10. "I do not want any of their dirty water when I have a pot full of honey". Why did Jackal use these words? (1)

He wanted to ...

- A give Hyena some of his honey.
- B make Hyena believe that Lion was abusing him.
- C make peace with the other animals.
- D trick Hyena who loved eating honey.

11. What is meant by, "...mouth began to water ..." as used in paragraph 5? (1)

12. Which one of the following words best describes Jackal? (1)

- A Senseless
- B Sly
- C Sweet
- D Stubborn

13. Do you think it is fair that even today, other animals do not trust Jackal or Hyena? Say Yes or No. Give a reason for your answer. (2)

TEXT B



When you eat out during the week of 22-29 March, you can donate R10 for the tap water you would normally get for free and provide a child in need with 40 days of clean drinking water. Finally, something we can celebrate: **HERE'S TO LIFE**

[Adapted from *Utah tap*]

14. What is being advertised? (1)
- A Bottled water that has been safely sealed.
 - B An opportunity to donate R10 for clean drinking water.
 - C Clean glasses for restaurants serving water.
 - D How to transport drinking water in Africa.

15. Who are the people that the advertiser hopes will respond to the advertisement? (1)

16. Why has the tree been placed in the drinking glass? (1)

- A There is no soil in which to plant the tree.
- B Trees need water to grow.
- C There are trees in the restaurant.
- D This type of tree only grows indoors.

SECTION B: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS (20 MARKS)

1. There is a contraction in the sentence below. Write out the underlined word in full. (1)

Here's to life. _____

2. Name the part of speech of the word that is underlined in the sentence below.

The animals dug a hole. (1)

- A Noun
- B Pronoun
- C Verb
- D Adjective

3. Add a prefix to give the opposite meaning of the word in brackets. (1)

The animals (agree) that Jackal is lazy.

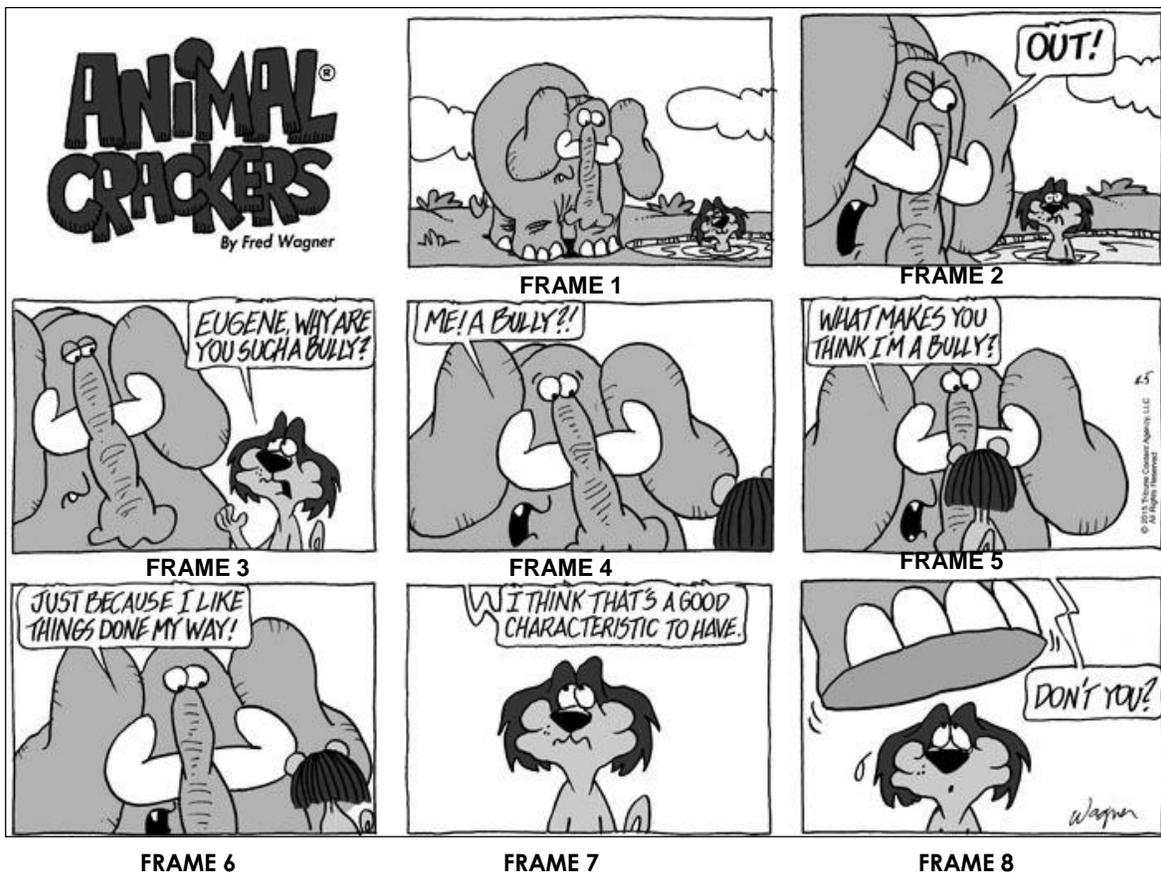
4. Use the word in brackets to join the two sentences below. (2)
 Jackal wanted to drink water. Jackal was scared of the Hyena. (but)

5. Find **one** word in paragraph 5 (Text A) that is a synonym to “very big”. (1)

6. Find a word in paragraph 4 (Text A) that is an antonym to “disgust”. (1)

7. **Study the following cartoon and answer the questions that follow.**

The name of the lion is Lyle and the elephant is called Eugene.



[Source: gocomics.com]

7.1 What emotion is displayed by Eugene, the elephant, in Frame 2? (1)

- A Fear
- B Joy
- C Sadness
- D Anger

7.2 Give a reason for your choice in question 7.1. (1)

7.3 How would you describe the lion's facial expression in Frame 3? (1)

- A Ecstatic
- B Disappointed
- C Mischievous
- D Unpleasant

7.4 Give **two** reasons why the cartoonist used a question mark and an exclamation mark in Frame 4: "Me! A bully?!" (1)

7.5 Refer to Frame 7. (2)

Write Eugene's words, "I think that's a good characteristic to have," into reported (indirect) speech. Start with:

Eugene said that

7.6 Complete the sentence below by filling in the collective noun. (1)

The _____ of lions gathered at the water hole.

7.7 Which part of speech is the underlined word in the sentence below? (1)

What makes you think I'm a bully?

A Pronoun

B Verb

C Adverb

D Adjective

7.8 Give the correct form of the word in brackets. (1)

Lyle is (good) at sharing than Eugene. _____

7.9 What is about to happen to Lyle in Frame 8? (1)

7.10 Write down the plural of the underlined word. (1)

We must seriously consider doing something about all the bully.

7.11 Rewrite the following sentence in the past continuous tense. (2)

Hyena hid in a bush close to the water.

SECTION C: WRITING AND PRESENTING

(20 MARKS)

Write a letter to your friend, telling him/her why you like/dislike animals.

- The body of your letter should be 80-90 words.
- Plan your letter in the space provided.
- Pay attention to format, register and sentence construction.
- Reread and edit your letter.
- Write your final piece in the space provided.

The Animal I Like/dislike - PLANNING

A large rectangular box containing 18 horizontal lines for planning the letter.

Your writing will be assessed according to the following rubric:

Criteria	5	4	3	2	1,0
Content	Content is very creative and matches the topic well.	Content is creative and matches the topic.	Some effort is made to write creatively. Content is topic related.	Effort is made to write a paragraph. Content is not related to the topic.	Content does not match the topic. Learners copied instructions.
Paragraph structure	Excellent paragraph structure with 10 sentences written or at least 80 to 90 words.	Good paragraph structure with between seven and eight sentences and almost 80 words.	Acceptable paragraph structure with between four and six sentences with much less or more than 80 – 90 words.	Only one to three sentences written. Word count not considered at all.	One sentence only. Sentences numbered. Not a paragraph. Word count not considered at all.
Spelling and Language structures	Almost no spelling and language errors.	Only some spelling and language errors.	Many spelling and language errors. Reading not affected.	Many spelling and language errors. Difficult to read.	Too many spelling and language errors. Difficult to read.
Letter format	Letter format includes the correct structure with the address, date, salutation and greeting.	Letter format includes most of the correct structure with the address, date, salutation and greeting.	Letter format includes only some of the correct structure with the address, date, salutation and greeting.	Most of the correct letter format has not been included.	The format does not represent a letter at all.
Total: 20					

SECTION D: READING ALOUD**(10 MARKS)**

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<p>This learner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• knows no or very few words.• does not seem to recognise many letter-sound relationships	<p>This learner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• knows just a few common words.• does not seem to recognise some letter-sound relationships or needs a lot of help to read previously unseen words.	<p>This learner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• knows many common words.• needs help to decode previously unseen words.	<p>This learner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• knows many common words and can decode most previously unseen words.• occasionally needs help to decode more challenging words.• reads with some fluency.	<p>This learner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• knows many common words.• can decode previously unseen words.• is one of the best readers in class.