Appendix A

TEST A

.SECTION ONE
READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

I remember a day in March 1944. I happened to be in Orlando that morning. Looking across at the main road which runs through the location, I saw little groups of people, women and children mostly, carrying or dragging along behind them a great bulk which was hard to distinguish. As they marched, what at first appeared to be a few, became a growing but straggling group of people. The bulky shapes upon their backs or in their hands or on their heads were in fact their household goods. In the late afternoon, there were hundreds of people, streaming out into the veld, erecting shacks of mealie-stalks, hessian, biscuit tins, old iron - anything that would provide shelter.

As the week wound on they were joined by hundreds more, some of whom had travelled far along the Reef - to face a winter under such conditions rather than wait any longer for houses that were never built.

So the first of Johannesburg's shanty towns came to be built in protest against the seemingly endless delays in providing housing. It was called **Sofasonke** - which means **We shall die together**.

Practice Questions:
Put a circle around the right answer.

1. *Where does the story take place?*
    (a) America
    (b) London
    (c) Orlando
    (d) Durban

2. *During which season does the story take place?*
    (a) end of winter
    (b) autumn
    (c) spring
    (d) end of summer

QUESTIONS

1. Choose the best heading or title for this story:
   (a) Women and Children March
   (b) Shelters Erected from Hessian and Iron
   (c) The First Shanty Town
   (d) Delays in Providing Housing

2. How do you know that the events described took place in South Africa?
   (a) Shanty towns are found only in South Africa
   (b) The author tells us that the events took place in South Africa
   (c) The story is in English
   (d) Johannesburg is in South Africa

3. What did the people in the story want to do?
   (a) To build shacks to live in
   (b) To protest against the apartheid government
   (c) To carry bulky objects
   (d) To travel far along the Reef

4. Why were mainly women and children involved?
   (a) Only women and children can build shacks
   (b) The men were probably at work
   (c) The men were in another country
   (d) The men were not interested

(5) What did the people use the mealie stalks for?
   (a) To make a kind of coffee
   (b) To make fires
   (c) To feed goats and cows
   (d) To build the walls of the shacks

(6) What is a shanty town?
   (a) A place where only women and children live
   (b) A place for people who are very sick
   (c) A squatter camp
   (d) A town where houses can be bought

- (7) Why did people live in shanty towns?
   (a)Because they preferred to build their own shelters
   (b)Because proper houses were not provided
   (c)So that they could be close to schools and factories
   (d)Because of the low rents

(8) What tells us that there are now many shanty towns in Johannesburg?
    (a) The author calls Sofasonke the _first_ of the shanty towns
    (b) The story was written many years ago
    (c) The author tells us that there are many shanty towns in Orlando
    (d) Hundreds of people travelled along the reef to build shelters
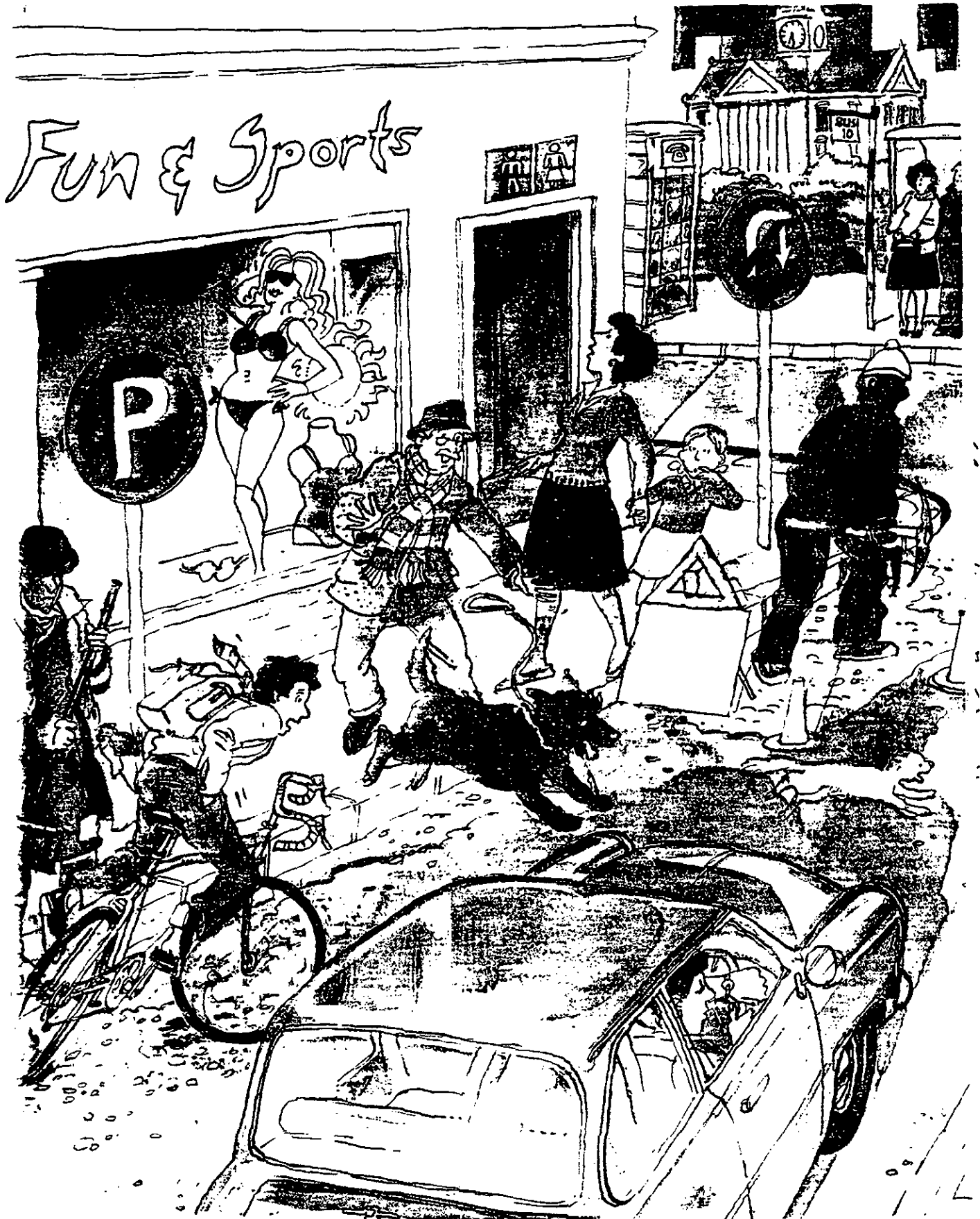
Fill in a word in each of the spaces:

The _____ of Sofasonke became a close-knit community. They shared what little _____ had and depended on each other in times of hardship. They shared their joys too and often the sounds_____ laughter, songs and children's _____ could be heard.

Look carefully at the picture and answer the questions.

Practice Question

*Say whether the following questions are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you know from the picture.*

1.   *In the picture, it is almost lunchtime.*   _____

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QUESTIONS

1.   The dog is running away from its owner.   _____

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2.   The boy on the bicycle was riding very carefully.   _____

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MORE QUESTIONS
Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

3.   Why do you think the little girl holding her mother's hand is looking so surprised?

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4.   Where do you think the boy on the bicycle is going? How can you tell?

5.   If you were the cat in front of the car, what would you be thinking and what would you do next?

SECTION THREE
WRITING

In the space below, describe one of the members of your family, the one you like best! Tell us what this person looks like and what you like about him or her. If you want to, you can also tell us about special times you have had with your favourite family member.

TEST B

SECTION ONE:
READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

An old lady who had become blind called in a doctor and promised him that if he would restore her sight she would pay him very well, but if he failed he would get nothing at all.

The doctor agreed and called at regular intervals to treat the old lady's eyes. But he also stole from her room, taking various valuable items each time he called. After a while he eventually cured the lady and asked for his fee.

But when the lady recovered her sight she found that all her valuable possessions had gone and guessed what the doctor had been doing. So she refused to pay him. Eventually he took her to court to try to force her to pay. In court the old lady told the judge:
"The doctor is quite right; I promise him a fee if he gave me back my sight, but nothing otherwise. Now he says that I am cured but I say that I am not. Before I started to go blind I could see all sorts of furniture and trinkets in my house, but now, when he claims to have restored my sight, I cannot see them at all."

Practice Questions

Put a circle around the right answer

1. *Why did the old lady need a doctor?*
   (a) *Because she could not sleep well*
   (b) *Because she was sick*
   (c) *Because she had gone blind*
   (d) *Because she needed medicine*

2. *How do you know that the old lady was not poor?*
   (a) *She had plenty of money to pay the doctor*
   (b) *She had valuable possessions*
   (c) *She had expensive clothes*
   (d) *Her husband was a rich man*

8 The old lady said she had not been cured because
>   (a) She could not see anything at all
>   (b) She still had trouble with her eyes
>   (c) The Doctor did not know how to cure her
>   (d) She was not able to see her valuable possessions

Fill in a word in each of the spaces:

The story about what the _____ was accused of, soon became known all over town. Many people _____ sympathetic towards the old lady and felt that the doctor had behaved very _____. Others took the part of the doctor, and said that the old lady was just trying _____ avoid paying the doctor's fee.

Practice Question

*Say whether the following questions are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you know from the picture.*

1.   *There is no electricity in this household.*   _____

QUESTIONS

1.   The little baby is playing happily.   _____

2.   The little girl is doing something dangerous.   _____

MORE QUESTIONS

Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

3.   Why is the mother running?

WRITING

School can sometimes be quite tough! In the space below, write about the most terrible or embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you at school. Explain what happened and say how you felt about it.

TEST C

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

One morning in February 1980 Brian Stiles looked out of the kitchen window of his house in Melbourne, Australia. What he saw caused him to drop everything and leap to the door. He gave a shout as he did so.

"What is it Brian?" called his wife anxiously as he rushed past her. Following her husband into the garden she saw him running up the path towards their eighteen month old daughter, Dianne. Dianne was sitting happily in the sun eating something. It was a snake!

When Mr. Stiles reached Dianne he quickly pulled the snake from her mouth and killed it with a blow on the head. Then, picking up his daughter and the remains of the snake, he shouted to his wife to get the car out.

As soon as they were all in the car, Mrs. Stiles drove to the nearest hospital as fast as she could. Rushing into the emergency department, they gasped out their story. They told of Dianne eating the snake and their worry about whether or not it was poisonous. Doctors and nurses got to work immediately.

Some time later, Mr. And Mrs. Stiles received the good news. Dianne was safe and well. "What's more," said one of the doctors, "we certainly know she's got a good set of teeth."

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Put a circle around the right answer.

1. Where did the story take place?
   (a) South Africa
   (b) America
   (c) Australia
   (d) Cape Town

Questions

1. Choose the best title or heading for the story
   (a) Snake Kills Baby
   (b) Brave Man Kills Snake
   (c) Poisonous Snake in Garden
   (d) Baby's Narrow Escape

2. The man was shocked when he looked out of the window because
   (a) He saw his daughter playing with a snake.
   (b) His daughter had been bitten by a snake.
   (c) He saw a poisonous snake in his garden.
   (d) His wife was killing a snake.

3. Brian Stiles did not stop to tell his wife what he had seen because:
   (a) She was too busy.
   (b) She had already seen the snake.
   (c) His wife had to rush to the hospital.
   (d) He had to rush outside to save his daughter.

4. How did Brian Stiles kill the snake?
   (a)He cut off its head.
   (b) He kicked it.
   (c) He hit it on the head.
   (d) He shot it with a gun.

5. Why did Brian Stiles pick up the remains of the snake?
   (a) To stop the baby eating it.
   (b) So that he could find out if it was poisonous.
   (c) So that he could throw it away.
   (d) He did not want snakes in his garden.

6. Why was baby Dianne not harmed by the snake?
   (a) Because the snake had not bitten her
   (b) Because the snake was not poisonous
   (c) Because the snake was already dead
   (d) Because snakes do not harm babies.

7. How do you think Mr. And Mrs. Stiles felt when the doctors told them the good news about Dianne?
   (a) Excited
   (b) Relieved and thankful
   (c) Worried
   (d) Confused

8. Why did the doctor tell Mr. And Mrs. Stiles that baby Dianne had a good set of teeth?
    (a) The doctor had examined her teeth.
    (b) The baby had managed to bite the snake.
    (c) So that Mr. And Mrs. Stiles would laugh and relax
    (d) Babies do not usually have strong teeth.

Fill in the missing words:

It was late in _____ afternoon by the time a relieved Mr. And Mrs. Stiles left the _____ and returned to their home. As they drove home, they discussed the events of the day._____ decided they would invite all their neighbours and _____to a party to celebrate their daughter's miraculous escape.

Look carefully at the picture and answer the questions.
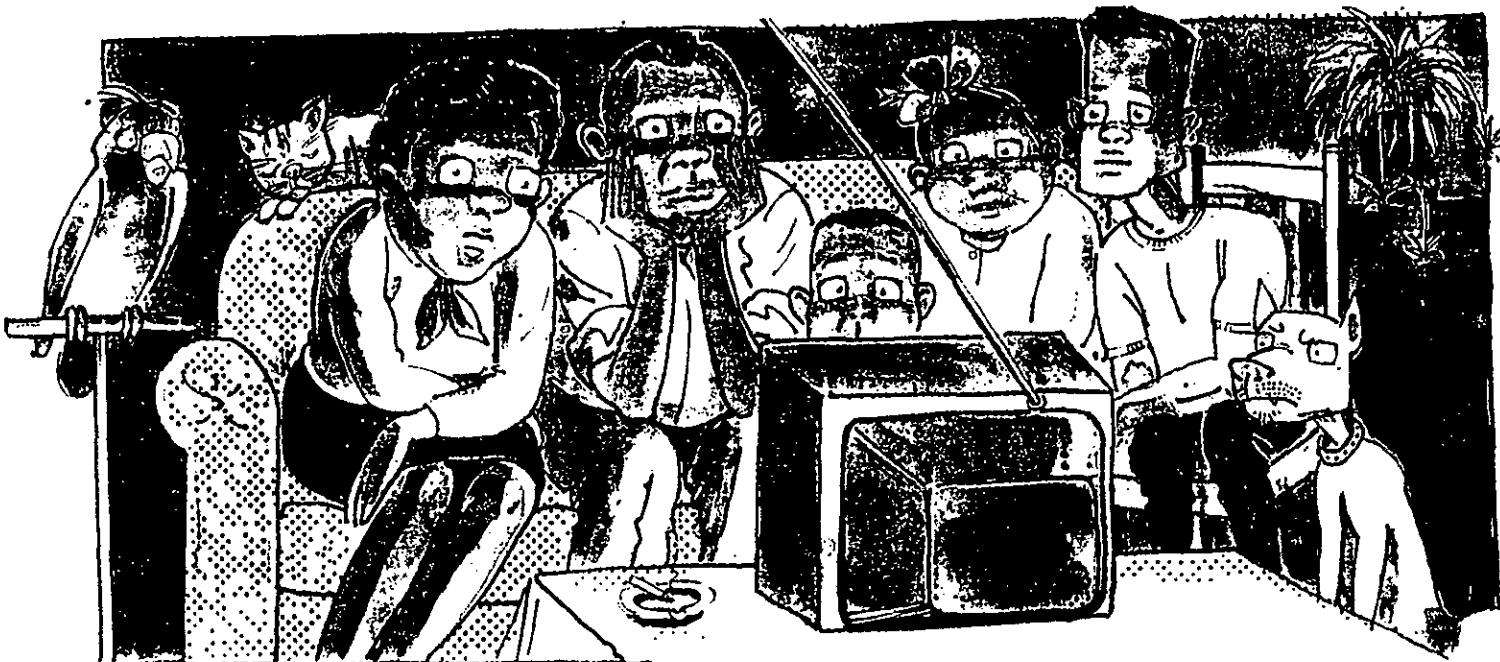
Practice Question

*Say whether the following questions are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you know from the picture.*

1.   *Nobody is allowed to smoke in the house.*   _____

QUESTIONS

2.   The programme on television is very funny.   _____

3.   This family does not like plants and animals.   _____

MORE QUESTIONS

Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

4.   Why do you think all the people in the picture have square eyes?

5.   Do you think having a television is important? Explain why you think so.

6.   What would you do if your friends and your family spent all their time watching television and ignored you?

SECTION THREE
WRITING

In the space below, describe yourself to us! Tell us what kind of person you are, what kinds of things you are interested in and what ideas you have about life. Write as much as you like.

Read these instructions carefully:

1) There should be 5 pages in this question paper. If you are missing any of the pages, please call the teacher.
2) This test will last one hour.
3) You must show all your calculations. You will get marks for your working out. Do not rub anything out.

1.

(a) 1671 + 10809 + 5245 + 6 = 17531

$$\begin{array}{r} 1671 \\ 10 \\ 10809 \\ 1671 \\ + 5245 \\ 6 \\ \hline 17531 \end{array}$$

(b) 94864 − 83531 = 11332

$$\begin{array}{r} 94864 \\ -83531 \\ \hline 11333 \end{array}$$

(c) 77 × 30 = 2310

$$\begin{array}{r} 77 \\ \times 30 \\ \hline 2310 \end{array}$$

(d) 100 × 4011 = 401100

$$\begin{array}{r} 4011 \\ \times 100 \\ \hline 401100 \end{array}$$

(e) 3256 ÷ 4 = 814

$$4\overline{)3256} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 0814 \\ 4\overline{)3256} \end{array}$$

(f) 72 ÷ [24] = 3

    3⟌72   24⟌72   ①

(g) [20] x 3 - 12 = 48

$$
\begin{array}{cccccc}
^1\!14 & ^1\!15 & ^1\!16 & ^1\!17 & 48 & ^3\!18 \\
\times 3 & \times 3 & \times 3 & \times 3 & -12 & \times 3 \\
\hline
42 & 45 & 48 & 51 & 39 & 54
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{cc}
20 & 60 \\
\times 3 & -12 \\
\hline
60 & 48
\end{array}
$$

①

---

2. (a) The whole number just before 1000 is 999   ①

(b) What number is 12 less than 57?   45   ①

$$
\begin{array}{r}
57 \\
-12 \\
\hline
45
\end{array}
$$

(c) The number half way between 10 and 14   12   ①

(d) Write this number

Seventy-nine thousand and sixty-four

~~7964~~ ~~79~~ 79064 ⓪

(e) Arrange these numbers from largest to smallest

3500   3000   3050

~~3500~~ / ~~3050~~ / ~~3050~~ / ~~3000~~ / ②
(largest)   (smallest)

3. (a) Find the total of the prices this shopping bill:
(show your working out)

GROCERY 2 4 LTD	
	$
Fresh milk carton	1.76
Big 25/share 3's	1.64
onions	0.90
bread roll 6's	1.16
butter	1.40

$$\begin{array}{r} {}^21.76 \\ 1.64 \\ 0.90 \\ {}^{1}.16 \\ {}^{1}.40 \\ \hline 6.86 \end{array}$$

R6.86 ✓

(b) How much change will you get ✗ pay for these things with R25

$$\begin{array}{r} {}^{1}{}^{4}{}^{9}{}^{1}\\ R25.00 \\ 6.86 \\ \hline 18.14 \end{array}$$ R18.14 ✓   ③

(5 marks)

Total marks, Section A   21

SECTION B

3:15 a.m.
(1) MONDAY MORNING
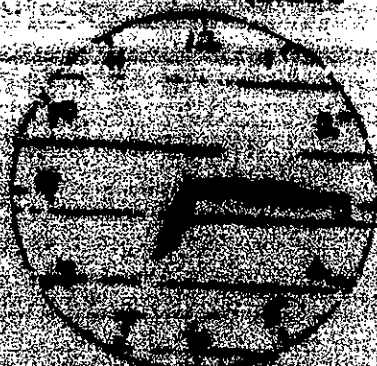
3:45 p.m.
MONDAY AFTERNOON

1. It is now Monday afternoon. How much time has passed since 7:15 Monday morning?

$$\begin{array}{r} 8\,6 \\ 7\!:\!15 \\ -\,3\,45 \\ \hline 0 \\ 3.61 \end{array}$$

3%   ①
(3 marks)

2. How long is the fence around the school grounds?

$$\begin{array}{r} 306{,}5\,m \\ 152{,}5\,m \\ 149{,}0\,m \\ 321{,}0\,m \\ \hline 929{,}0\,m \end{array}$$

929m

②

(2 marks)

(3) How many bricks are in this wall?   48
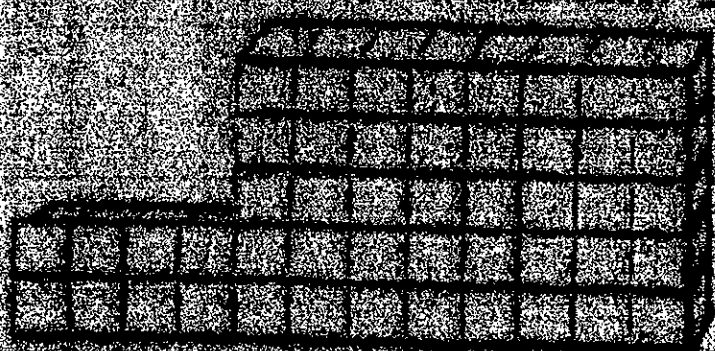
$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline 8 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline 40 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 40 \\ +\,8 \\ \hline 48 \end{array}$$

①

4. Show how to work out how many bricks are in the wall WITHOUT COUNTING all the bricks.

(5) Which piece can fill the hole?
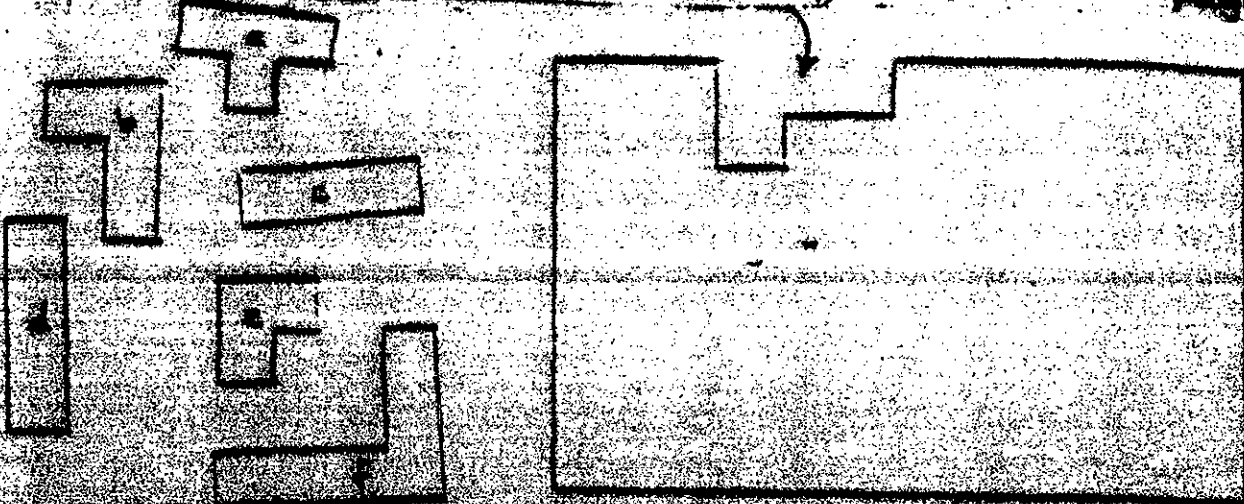
6. Show how you can cut and share these sandwiches so that each child gets the same amount of food. There should be nothing left
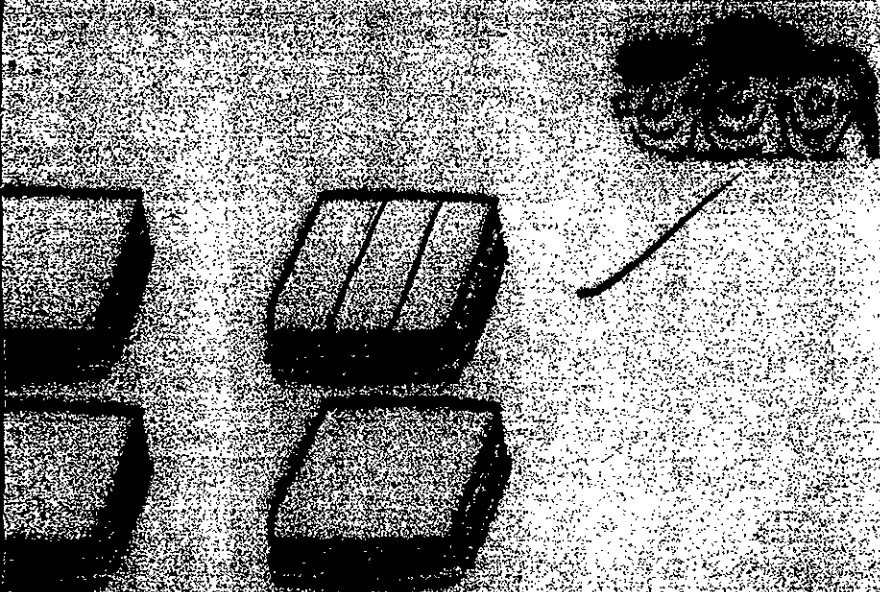
What fraction of these pictures are shaded

$\dfrac{6}{16}$
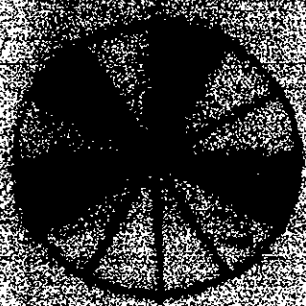
$\dfrac{12}{16}$

$\dfrac{4}{8}$

(9) a) How many triangles do you see in the shape below?

_12_

b) How many squares do you see in the shape below?

_6_
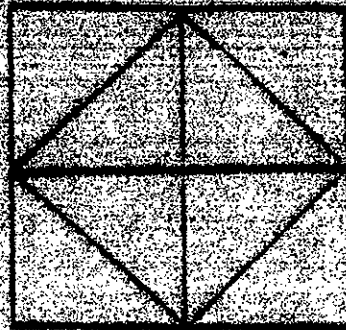
SECTION C

(1) Fill in the numbers to complete the patterns:

(a) 2 , 4 , 6 , 8 , _10_ , _12_

(b) 8 , 4 , 3 , 2 , _1_ , _0_

(c) 15 , 12 , 9 , 6 , _3_ , _0_

(d) 0 , 1 , 3 , 6 , 10 , _16_ , _21_

(2) If one book costs R1,50 how much will seven books cost?

```
 1,50
x   7
10,50
```

10,50

3) A school has 3761 students. If 1295 of them are girls, how many are boys? _____

$$\begin{array}{r} 3761 \\ -1295 \\ \hline 2466 \end{array}$$

⑦

4) ...

	TRUE/FALSE	WHY
Example: 45 ÷ 5 = 26	false	45 ÷ 5 = 9
(a) (123 + 11) equals 1176	True	⑦
(b) 3 + 3 = 9	False	3+3=6 ⑦
(c) $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{4} = 4$	False	$\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{2}$
(d) $\frac{25}{100}$ is more than $\frac{1}{4}$	Fals	$\frac{25}{100} = \frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ is more. One $\frac{1}{4}$ ⑦

(2) Fill in the following signs + , — , ÷ , × to make this sum true

4 __ 2 __ 3 = 2

(3) Draw the next picture in the pattern.
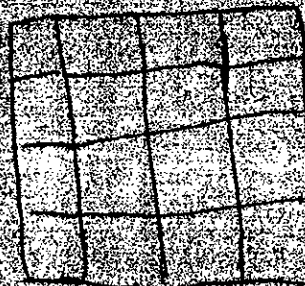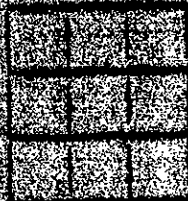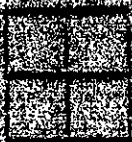
(4) I have two friends. They are differed ages. Tell me how to work out the exact order of the ages to tell my other friend

Ask them how old are they.

You have finished the test. To over all your own there are some time that you have not left out any questions or made any mistake.

Appendix B

Example of Cover Sheet

RECORD NO. _____

PRESIDENT'S EDUCATION INITIATIVE

ST. BARNABAS COLLEGE EVALUATION INSTRUMENT

SURNAME _____

FIRST NAMES _____

	YEAR	MONTH	DAY
TODAY'S DATE			
DATE OF BIRTH			

AGE ___YRS ____ MONTHS

GIRL	BOY

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME _____

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

GRADE _____   TEST FORM ___C___

NAME OF ENGLISH TEACHER _____

NAME OF MATHS TEACHER _____

SCORING

LANG1		MATHS1	
LANG2		MATHS2	
LANG3		MATHS3	
LANG TOTAL		MATHS4	
		MATHS TOTAL	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST

TEST A

SECTION ONE
READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

I remember a day in March 1944. I happened to be in Orlando that morning. Looking across at the main road which runs through the location, I saw little groups of people, women and children mostly, carrying or dragging along behind them items which were hard to distinguish. As they marched, what at first appeared to be a few, became a growing but straggling group of people. The bulky shapes upon their backs or in their hands or on their heads were in fact their household goods. In the late afternoon, there were hundreds of people, streaming out into the veld, erecting shacks of mealie-stalks, hessian, biscuit tins, old iron - anything that would provide shelter.

As the week wound on they were joined by hundreds more, some of whom had travelled far along the Reef - to face a winter with only the protection of a shack - rather than wait any longer for houses that were never built. The endless delays in providing housing had prompted people to shape their own futures.

So the first of Johannesburg's shanty towns came to be built. It was called **Sofasonke** - which means **We shall die together**.

Practice Questions:
Put a circle around the right answer.

1. *Where does the story take place?*
   - *(a) America*
   - *(b) London*
   - *(c) Orlando*
   - *(d) Durban*

2. *During which season does the story take place?*
   - *(a) end of winter*
   - *(b) autumn*
   - *(c) spring*
   - *(d) end of summer*

QUESTIONS

1. Choose the best heading or title for this story:
   - (a) Women and Children March
   - (b) Shelters Erected from Hessian and Iron
   - (c) The First Shanty Town in Johannesburg
   - (d) People say "We Shall Die Together"

2. How do you know that the events described took place in South Africa?
   - (a) Shanty towns are found only in South Africa
   - (b) The author tells us that the events took place in South Africa
   - (c) The story is in English
   - (d) Johannesburg is in South Africa

3. What did the people in the story want to do?
   - (a) To build shacks to live in
   - (b) To protest against the apartheid government
   - (c) To carry bulky objects
   - (d) To travel far along the Reef

4. Why were mainly women and children involved?
   - (a) Only women and children can build shacks
   - (b) The men were probably at work
   - (c) The men were in another country
   - (d) The men were not interested

(5) What did the people use the mealie stalks for?
   - (a) To make a kind of coffee
   - (b) To make fires
   - (c) To feed goats and cows
   - (d) To build the walls of the shacks

(6) What is a shanty town?
   - (a) A place where only women and children live
   - (b) A place for people who are very sick
   - (c) A squatter camp
   - (d) A town where houses can be bought

(7) Why did people live in shanty towns?
   - (a)Because they preferred to build their own shelters
   - (b)Because proper houses were not provided
   - (c)So that they could be close to schools and factories
   - (d)Because they enjoyed living close together

(8) What tells us that there are now many shanty towns in Johannesburg?
    (a) The author calls Sofasonke the <u>first</u> of the shanty towns
    (b) The story was written many years ago
    (c) The author tells us that there are many shanty towns in Orlando
    (d) Hundreds of people travelled along the reef to build shelters

Fill in the missing words:

<u>Practice Exercise</u>

Migrant workers usually left their families behind when they _____ to the cities and mines in search of work. Many _____ suffered greatly because of this.

Now you fill in the missing words in this paragraph:

The _____ of Sofasonke became a close-knit community. They shared what little _____ had and depended on each other in times of hardship. They shared their joys too and often the sounds_____ laughter, songs and children's _____ could be heard.

Look carefully at the picture below and then answer the questions on it.

Say whether the following sentences are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you can tell from the picture.

Example:

*   *In the picture, it is almost lunchtime.*   <u>FALSE</u>

> *I can see that it is 7.30 because there is a clock on the church tower.*

QUESTIONS

1.   The dog is running away from its owner because the owner is beating it. _____

(2)

2.   The boy on the bicycle was riding very carefully.   _____

(2)

MORE QUESTIONS
Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

3.   Why do you think the little girl holding her mother's hand is looking so surprised?

(2)

4.   Where do you think the boy on the bicycle is going? Give two reasons why you can tell.

(3)

5.   If you were the cat in front of the car, what would you be thinking and what would you do next?

(3)

PLEASE TURN OVER

SECTION THREE
WRITING

In the space below, tell us about yourself! Tell us what kind of person you are, what kinds of things you are interested in and what ideas you have about life. Write as much as you like.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST

TEST B

SECTION ONE:
READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

An old lady who had become blind called in a doctor and promised him that if he would restore her sight she would pay him very well, but if he failed he would get nothing at all.

The doctor agreed and called at regular intervals to treat the old lady's eyes. But he also stole from her room, taking various valuable items each time he called. After a while he eventually cured the lady and asked for his fee,

But when the lady recovered her sight she found that all her valuable possessions had gone and guessed what the doctor had been doing. So she refused to pay him. Eventually he took her to court to try to force her to pay. In court the old lady told the judge:
"The doctor is quite right; I promised him a fee if he gave me back my sight, but nothing otherwise. Now he says that I am cured but I say that I am not. Before I started to go blind I could see all sorts of furniture and trinkets in my house, but now, when he claims to have restored my sight, I cannot see them at all."

Practice Questions

Put a circle around the right answer

1. *Why did the old lady need a doctor?*
    (a) *Because she could not sleep well*
    (b) *Because she was sick*
    (c) *Because she had gone blind*
    (d) *Because she needed medicine*

2. *How do you know that the old lady was not poor?*
    (a) *She had plenty of money to pay the doctor*
    (b) *She had valuable possessions*
    (c) *She had expensive clothes*
    (d) *Her husband was a rich man*

QUESTIONS

Put a circle around the correct answer.

1. Choose the best title or heading for the story:
   - (a) How a Wonderful Doctor Helped an Old Lady
   - (b) The Blind Grandmother
   - (c) A Thieving Doctor Tries to Trick an Old Lady
   - (d) An Old Lady Regains her Sight

2. When did the old lady say she would pay the doctor?
   - (a) At the end of the month
   - (b) Only if he cured her
   - (c) When she had enough money
   - (d) After a period of time

3. What did the old lady discover when she regained her sight?
   - (a) Her expensive trinkets had disappeared
   - (b) The doctor had disappeared
   - (c) She did not have many valuable items
   - (d) The doctor asked for his fee

4. When did the doctor steal the old lady's possessions?
   - (a) Late at night
   - (b) When the old lady was not at home
   - (c) When he came to treat her eyes
   - (d) Over the weekend

5. How did the doctor cure the old lady?
   - (a) He gave her medicine
   - (b) He knew a secret cure
   - (c) He performed an operation
   - (d) The story does not tell me this

6. Why did the old lady refuse to pay the doctor?
   - (a) Because she had no more money
   - (b) Because the doctor had stolen her possessions
   - (c) Because he was a bad doctor
   - (d) Because the doctor had not cured her

7. Why did the doctor take the old lady to court?
   - (a) Because she would not pay his fee
   - (b) Because she accused him of theft
   - (c) Because the judge had ordered him to do so
   - (d) Because she had tricked him

8. The old lady said she had not been cured because
    (a) She could not see anything at all
    (b) She still had trouble with her eyes
    (c) The doctor did not know how to cure her
    (d) She was not able to see her valuable possessions

Fill in the missing words:

Practice Exercise

The old lady lived on her own in a large _____. Her husband, who had died some years before, had been _____ very rich man. She had inherited all his _____.

Now you fill in the missing words in this paragraph:

The story about what the _____ was accused of, soon became known all over town. Many people _____ sympathetic towards the old lady and felt that the doctor had behaved very _____. Others took the part of the doctor, and said that the old lady was just trying _____ avoid paying the doctor's fee.

Look carefully at the picture below and then answer the questions on it.

Say whether the following sentences are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you can tell from the picture.

Example

*   *There is no electricity in this household.* $\underline{FALSE}$

| I can see an electricity chord wire |
| in the picture. |

QUESTIONS

1. The little baby is playing happily. _____

| |
| |
| |
| |

(2)

2. The little girl is doing something dangerous. _____

| |
| |
| |
| |

(2)

MORE QUESTIONS
Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

3. Why is the mother running?

| |
| |
| |
| |

(2)

4.   What accident could happen to the mother if she is not careful?

(3)

5.   If you were the mother, what would you say to the little girl?

(3)

PLEASE TURN OVER

SECTION THREE
WRITING

In the space below, tell us all about one of the members of your family - the one you like best! Tell us what this person looks like and what you like about him or her. If you want to, you can also tell us about special times you have had with him or her.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST

TEST C

SECTION ONE:
READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story and then choose the right answer for each question.

One morning in February 1980 Brian Stiles looked out of the kitchen window of his house in Melbourne, Australia. What he saw caused him to drop everything and leap to the door. He gave a shout as he did so.

"What is it Brian?" called his wife anxiously as he rushed past her. Following her husband into the garden she saw him running up the path towards their eighteen month old daughter, Dianne. Dianne was sitting happily in the sun eating something. It was a snake!

When Mr. Stiles reached Dianne he quickly pulled the snake from her mouth and killed it with a blow on the head. Then, picking up his daughter and the remains of the snake, he shouted to his wife to get the car out.

As soon as they were all in the car, Mrs. Stiles drove to the nearest hospital as fast as she could. Rushing into the emergency department, they gasped out their story. They told of Dianne eating the snake and their worry about whether or not it was poisonous. Doctors and nurses got to work immediately.

Some time later, Mr. And Mrs. Stiles received the good news. Dianne was safe and well. "What's more," said one of the doctors, "we certainly know she's got a good set of teeth."

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Put a circle around the right answer.

1. *Where did the story take place?*
    (a) *South Africa*
    (b) *America*
    (c) *Australia*
    (d) *Cape Town*

2. *What good news did the doctors tell Mr. And Mrs. Stiles?*
   (a) The snake was not poisonous.
   (b) Dianne was growing well.
   (c) They would give Diane medicine.
   (d) Dianne had not been hurt.

Questions

1. The man was shocked when he looked out of the window because
   (a) He saw his daughter playing with a snake.
   (b) His daughter had been bitten by a snake.
   (c) He saw a poisonous snake in his garden.
   (d) His wife was killing a snake.

2. Brian Stiles did not stop to tell his wife what he had seen because:
   (a) She was too busy.
   (b) She had already seen the snake.
   (c) His wife had to rush to the hospital.
   (d) He had to rush outside to save his daughter.

3. How did Brian Stiles kill the snake?
   (a)He cut off its head.
   (b) He kicked it.
   (c) He hit it on the head.
   (d) He shot it with a gun.

4. Why did Brian Stiles go to the emergency department of the hospital?
   (a) So that baby Dianne could be treated immediately.
   (b) The hospital did not have any other department.
   (c) It was the nearest department.
   (d) Mrs. Stiles told him to go there.

5. Who drove the car to the hospital?
   (a) Brian Stiles
   (b) Dianne's mother
   (c) Mr. Stiles' neighbour.
   (d) The story does not tell me this.

6. How do you think Mr. And Mrs. Stiles felt when the doctors told them the good news about Dianne?
   (a) Satisfied
   (b) Relieved and thankful
   (c) Worried
   (d) Confused

7. Why did the doctor tell Mr. And Mrs. Stiles that baby Dianne had a good set of teeth?
   (a) Because the baby had not been bitten by the snake.
   (b).Because she was not a healthy child.
   (c) So that Mr. And Mrs. Stiles would laugh and relax.
   (d) Because babies do not usually have strong teeth.

8. Choose the best title or heading for the story:
   (a) Snake Kills Baby
   (b) Brave Man Kills Snake
   (c) Poisonous Snake in Garden
   (d) Baby is Unhurt: A Miracle

Fill in the missing words:

PRACTICE EXERCISE
Brian Stiles had never seen a snake in his _____ before. Although the family lived near _____ forest, snakes seldom ventured as far as the town. Neighbours were shocked when they heard what had happened to _____ Dianne.

Now you fill in the missing words in this paragraph:
It was late in _____ afternoon by the time a relieved Mr. And Mrs. Stiles left the hospital and _____ to their home. As they drove home, they discussed the events of the day. _____ decided they would invite all their neighbours and _____ to a party to celebrate their daughter's miraculous escape.

SECTION TWO
READING PICTURES

Look carefully at the picture below and then answer the questions on it.
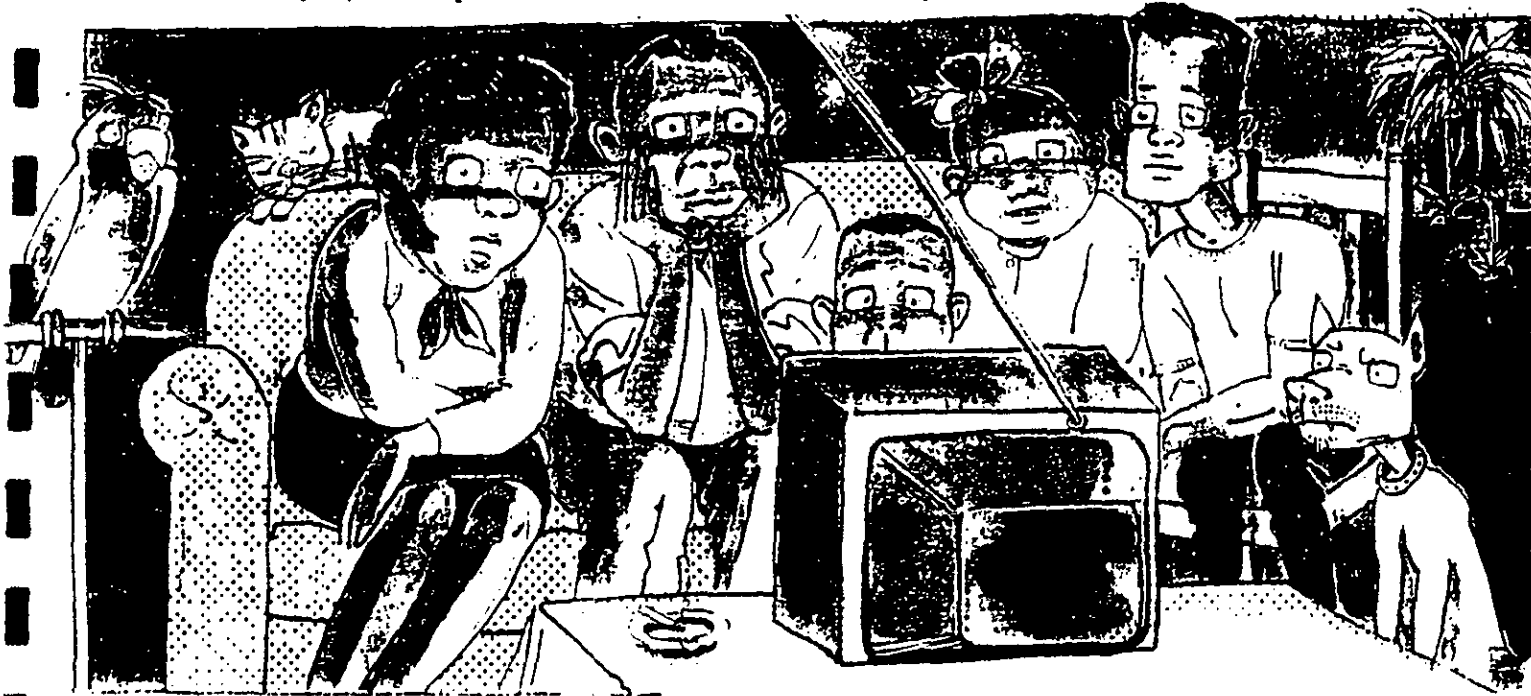
Say whether the following sentences are **TRUE** or **FALSE** then explain how you can tell from the picture.

Example

* *This family does not like plants and animals.* _FALSE_

> I can see there are plants and a cat,
> dog and bird in the picture.

QUESTIONS

1. The programme on television is very funny. _____

> | |
> | |

(2)

2. Nobody is allowed to smoke in the house. _____

> | |
> | |

(2)

MORE QUESTIONS
Answer these questions in full sentences in the boxes.

4. Why do you think all the people in the picture have square eyes?

| |
| |
| |

(2)

5. Do you think having a television is important? Give three reasons why you think so.

| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

(3)

6. What would you do if your friends and your family spent all their time watching television and paid no attention to you?

| |
| |
| |
| |

(3)

PLEASE TURN OVER

SECTION THREE
WRITING

School can sometimes be quite tough! What is the worst thing that has ever happened to you at school? In the space below, write about what happened and say how you felt about it afterwards.

Pototype 7

Name : _____   Age : _____

School : _____

Date : _____

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE TEACHER	
SECTION A (MECHANICAL)	_____/12
SECTION B (LANGUAGE)	_____/9
SECTION C (SPATIAL)	_____/20
SECTION D (DEDUCTIVE)	_____/25

If you do not understand a question.then write next to the question
I don't understand .

ROUGH
WORK

SECTION A

1)   1 671
           10 609
            5 245
                6
      +   ———

                                                    (2)

2)   94 864
      −   83 531
            ———

                                                    (2)

3)   77
      ×   30
            ——

                                                    (2)

4)   67
      ×   43
            ——

                                                    (2)

5) Divide 3256 by 4 : $4\overline{)3256}$

(2)

---

6) Fill in what is missing in the blocks :

a) $72 \div \boxed{} = 3$

(1)

b) $\boxed{} \times 3 - 12 = 48$

(1)

SECTION B

7) The whole number (counting number) just before 1000 is _____

(1)

---

8) What number is 12 less than 57 ? _____

(1)

---

9) The number halfway between 10 and 14 (in the middle of 10 and 14) is

_____.

(1)

---

10) Write   seventy-nine thousand and sixty-four   in numbers.

_____

(1)

11) Write down the following numbers from smallest to biggest :

3300   3000   3003   3030

_____   _____   _____   _____

smallest   biggest   (2)

12) a) When I went to a shop, I bought the following groceries ::

Item	Cost (in Rand and cents)
Milk	1.76
Eggs	1.64
Onions	0.90
Rolls	1.16
Oranges	1.40
	_____
	_____

How much did I have to pay in total ? _____

(1)

b) I paid for all the groceries with a R20 note. How much change did I get ?

_____

(2)

SECTION C

13) I caught a Taxi to Pretoria at 7.15 in the morning.
     I arrived in Pretoria at 3.45 in the afternoon.

       7.15 am (Monday morning)   3.45 pm (Monday afternoon)
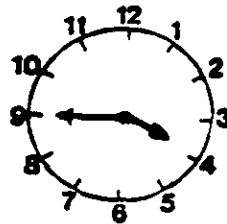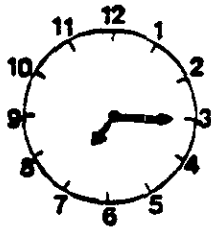
How much time did the journey take ? _____

(3)

14) The picture shows the school, with a fence around it.

152.5 m

306.5 m

321 m

149 m
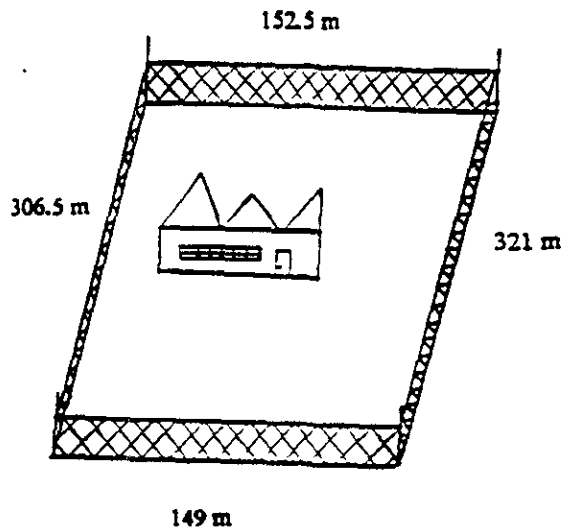
What is the total length of the fence ? _____ (2)

15) a) How many bricks are in the wall ? _____
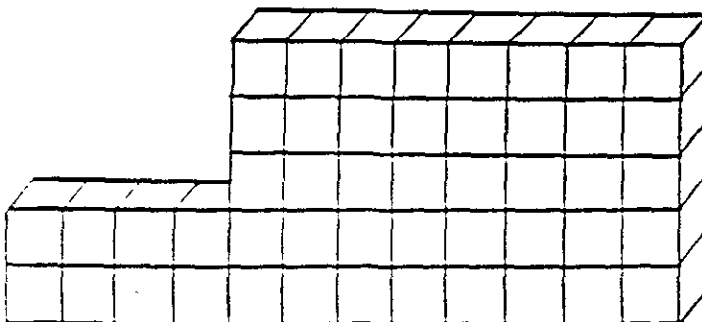
(1)

b) Describe in words how you would work out how many bricks there are in the wall. without counting all the bricks.

(2)

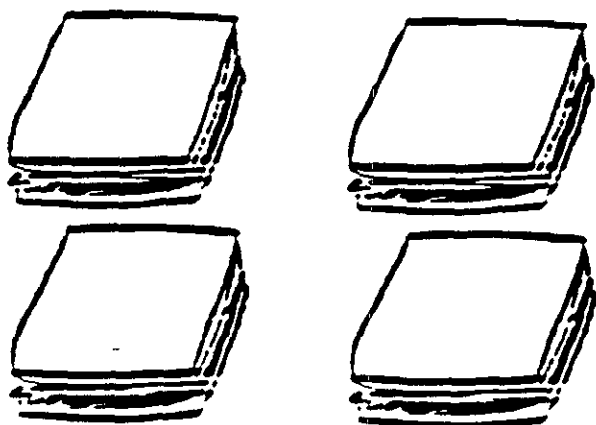16) Which of the pieces a, b, c, d, e will fill the space in the wall ?

Piece _____
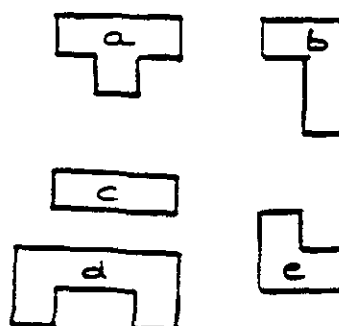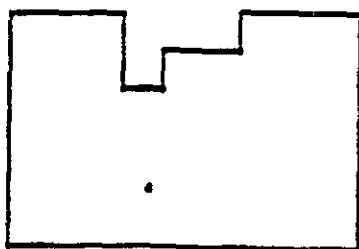
(1)

17) The four sandwiches must be shared between the 3 children, so that each gets an equal share and nothing is left over.

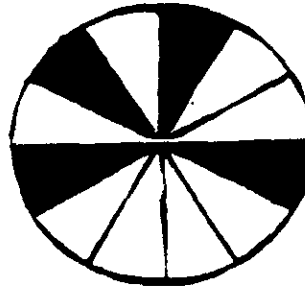Show by drawing lines on the sandwiches how to divide the sandwiches into 3 equal amounts.

(1)

18) What fraction of the pictures are shaded ?

_____   _____

_____   _____   (4)

_____

19) Here are 12 quarter circles. How many whole (full) circles can you make using all the pieces ?

_____

⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐⌐   (2)
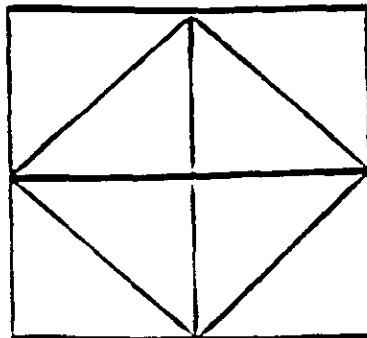
_____

20)   a) How many triangles do you see in the picture below ?

_____   (2)

b) How many squares do you see in the picture below ?

_____   (2)

SECTION D

21)   Fill in the next numbers in the pattern :

   a)   2 ; 4 ; 6 ; 8 ; _____ ; _____

   b)   5 ; 4 ; 3 ; 2 ; _____ ; _____

   c)   15 ; 12 ; 9 ; 6 ; _____ ; _____

   d)   0 ; 1 ; 3 ; 6 ; 10 ; _____ ; _____

                                                                                (8)

---

22)   If one book costs R1.50. how much will you have to pay for 7 books ?

   _____

                                                                                (2)

---

23)   A school has 1 361 students. 293 of the students are girls. How many boys are in the school ?

   _____

                                                                                (2)

24) In each of the following statements, write TRUE or FALSE. Give a reason for writing TRUE or FALSE.

	TRUE/FALSE	REASON
Example : $16 + 9 = 24$	false	$16 + 9 = 25$
a) $(121 \div 11)$ equals $(17 - 6)$		
b) $3 \div 3 = 0$	_____	
c) $\frac{3}{2} \div \frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = 1\frac{1}{2}$	_____	
d) $\frac{25}{100}$ is more than $\frac{1}{3}$	_____	

(8)

25) Choose two of these signs   – • ÷ x =   to make the sum true.

48 ___ 8 ___ 6

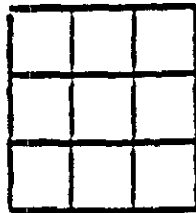(2)

26) Draw picture number (4).

(1)   (2)   (3)   (4)

(1)

_____

27) I have two friends - Thembi and Shaamila.
Thembi was born in 1984 and Shaamila was born in 1986.
Who is the oldest and by how much ?

Oldest _____

How much _____

(2)

_____

YOU HAVE NOW FINISHED THE TEST. GO OVER ALL YOUR WORK
AGAIN AND MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE NOT LEFT ANY QUESTIONS
OUT, OR MADE ANY MISTAKES.

Appendix C

STANDARD 5 NOVEMBER 1997   MARKS : 75

QUESTION 1

Work out

a. 46 x 0 =   b. 46 - 1 = c. How many cents make R2 ?

d. (7/5) days make a week.   4 x 1 = 4

QUESTION 2

Round off.

a. To the nearest 10   (i) 67   ii) 45

b. To the nearest 100 i) 672 ii) 428   4 x 1 = 4

QUESTION 3

Choose the correct answer:

a. $0,5 = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{5})$. b. $0,25 = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$ c. $10\% = (\frac{11}{100}, \frac{50}{100}, \frac{10}{100})$

3 x 1 = 3

QUESTION 4

Give 6 types of angles 6 x 2 = 12

QUESTION 5

Name 3 types of triangles according to sides. Give the explanation also.
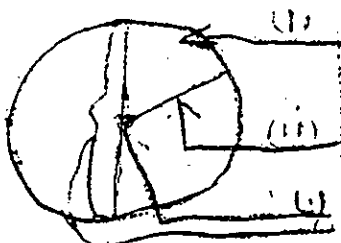
3 x 2 = 6

QUESTION 6

Simplify

a. $\frac{3}{9}$ b. $\frac{4}{12}$

QUESTION 7

a. A right angle is equal to ———— degrees.

b. A revolution is equal to ——— degrees.

c. A straight angle is ——— degrees.   3 x 1 = 3

QUESTION 8

NAME THE FOLLOWING PARTS OF A CIRCLE.

4 x 1 = 4

BAROPODI PRIMARY SCHOOL

ENGLISH   PAPER ONE
GRADE 7
PROMOTION EXAM   MARKS : 100   TIME : TWO AND HALF HOURS
EXAMINER : NKADIMENG M. S.

QUESTION 1

Write a composition on one of the following topics. The length of your composition should not exceeds a page.

1. If you were a teacher.
2. A lesson I shall never forget.
3. The day Plaza was opened.   (15)

QUESTION 2

Write one of the following letters. Your letter should not exceeds a page.

1. To your friend telling him/her about a birthday party you attended recently.
2. You are doing grade 7. Write a letter to the headmaster of the school you wish to go next
   year.   (10)

PAPER TWO

QUESTION 2

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow very carefully

Sipho stopped outside the store because his bicycle had a flat tyre. He did not know how to repair a puncture, so his friend Amos, helped him. Amos removed the tyre and the inner tube with a lever. He pumped air into the inner tube and then put it into a bucketful of water.
The two boys then examined the inner tube closely and looked for bubbles of air escaping from the hole. Then Amos marked the hole with a piece of chalk. Next he dried this area thoroughly and stuck a patch of rubber over whole. They waited for a few minutes until the glue was dry and then replaced the inner tube and tyre. Sipho thanks Amos and rode off.

1. Who stopped outside the store ?
2. Who helped Sopho to repair the punture ?
3. What instrument did Sipho use to remove the tyre and the inner tube ?
4. What did the two boys look for when they examine the inner tube ?
5. What was used to mark the hole ?
                                              (10)

BAROPODI PRIMARY SCHOOL

QUESTION 2

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING THE ADJECTIVES IN BRACKETS AS ADVERBS IN THE SENTENCES

1. The mule stood there ____ (stubbornly)
2. He kept his money ____ in the leather belt (secure)
3. At first he spoke ____ to the mule (gentle)
4. He waited ____ along the path (weary)
5. At first the gentleman walked ____ along the path (proud)   (10)

QUESTION 3

CHOOSE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERBS IN BRACKETS

1. Zambia (produce/ produces) a large amount of copper each year.
2.
3. In Japan large factories (make / makes) cars and trucks .
4. In South Africa gold mines (produce ? produces) a lot of gold.
5. Farmers (plant ? plants) many different crops in the country.   (5)

QUESTION 4

FILL IN THE RIGHT PREPOSITIONS IN THE SENTENCES BELOW

1. It is time ____ you to learn how to climb a tree.
2. Banjo the oldest, climb ____ first.
3. Do not worry Mabel. You can try ____ tomorrow.
4. If you want ____ eat them.
5. The watch is ____ the table.   (10)

QUESTION 5

CHANGE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES INTO SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

1. Peter and Mabel walked to school.
2. She surprised us when she come home late.
3. Do not worried she will be there in time.
4. If you wanted to see me, you must come as early as seven 0' clock.
5. Mother baboon comforted Mabel -   (10)

QUESTION 6

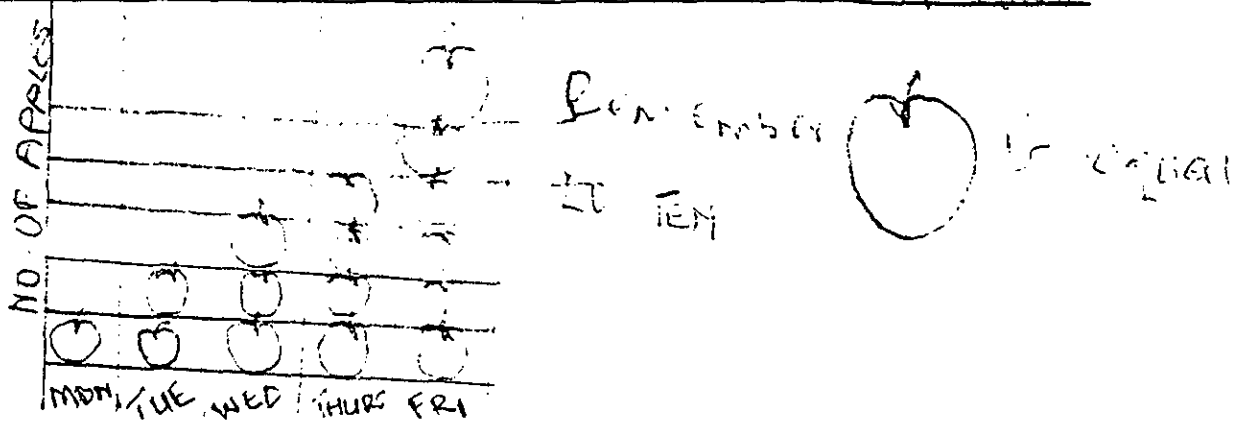### IDENTIFY THE VERBS IN THE FILLOWING SENTENCES BY UNDERLINING THEM.
1. Patrick holds the boy in his arms.

2. She blows air into his lungs through his mouth.
3. Patricia breathes air in for one second.
4. She keeps her head black.
5. The boy coughs up all the water in his lungs.   (10)

QUESTION 7

LOOK AT THE GRAPH AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT   FOLLOWS:-

1. How many apples did the children eat on Monday ?
2. How many did they eat on Friday ?
3. How many did they eat on Monday and Friday added togather ?
4. On which day did the children eat the most apple ?
5. How many did they eat on that day ?   (10)

QUESTION 8

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES BY USING THE CORRECT PHRASES BELOW.

1. Please , speak _____
2. Cut the apple _____
3. Does he live _____
4. My birthday is _____
5. He came to school _____

in Botswana, in two, in English , in June , in his uniform .   (10)

SECTION A

Read the following passage and then answer the questions below.

...he was made to work from early in the morning till late at night. Then, when summer ... and the wheat began to ripen, she was sent to the fields to drive away the birds. No one else would do it, for it was hard work, but Moakho bore it as best she could. ...also had her wonderful basket, and this she now began to use. Every morning when ...reached the fields she would put it down on the ground. Then she would give three ...calls, and within a few moments all the birds for kilometres around would come ... settle round the basket. And there they had to remain until she allowed them to ... again.

What work was Moakho given ... in summer?
How did Moakho use her magic basket?
Why would no one else drive the birds away?
What happened when Moakho gave her magic calls?
Find a word in the passage which is opposite to " green ".
How long did the birds have to stay round the basket?
Why was it necessary to drive the birds from the fields?
How do we know that Moakho was a girl?
How long did it take to settle round the basket?
What is a magic?

SECTION B
Question 1

Change the following sentence into Present Perfect Tense:

1. cow (to hide) her calf away.
2. Somebody (to send) my pump.
3. One of the farmers (to build) himself a big house.
4. Mary and Nancy (to drink) two glasses of milk.   (5 x 1 = 5)
5. James and I (to become) great friends.

Question 2

Put the following sentences in Indirect speech.

1. Mary says, " I am going to church on Sunday."
2. Mother said, " It is very cold in Johannesburg."   (5 x 1 = 5)
3. Caroline says," I have to do the washing"
4. Graham said, " I am mending a puncture "
5. The teacher says, " Stanley needn't rewrite his composition."

Question 3

Give the Negative Form of the following sentences.

1. My father works in Johannesburg.
2. She believed me.   (5 x 1 = 5)
3. Peter will be able to help me.
4. I knew about it.
5. James likes cats.

Question 4

Change the following sentences to Passive Voice:

. John waters the garden.
. Mother milks the cows.
. The horse kicked Tom.   (5 x 1 = 5)
. I saw her.
. He hit him.

Question 5

Give the correct form of the adjective in brackets:

. Of all the boys Andrew is the (lazy)
. Nancy made the (little) number of mistakes.
. Betty is (fat) than Lucy.   (5 x 1 = 5)
. You must be (careful) in future.
. Mr Smith is the (rich) man in the district.

Question 6

Fill in the correct Prepositions.

. The little girl leaned .... the wall.
. The buck ran .... the road.
. Mother hid the keys .... the carpet.   (5 x 1 = 5)
. We were dressed .... our best clothes.
. The referee sent the player .... the field.

Question 7

Fill the correct Pronoun.

. The cat lay on .... back.
. Mary was wearing .... best dress.
. Dick is shorter than .... sister.   (5 x 1 = 5)
. The horse broke ...... leg.
. We dressed .... in our uniform.

Question 8

Give the opposites of the underlined words.

. George is not a clever boy.
. I was asleep when father arrived.
. He accepted my offer to him.   (5 x 1 = 5)
. The sick child is much better today.
. Tom won the race.

TOTAL = 60

N.B.: Answer all questions

QUESTION 1

(a) Arrange the following fractions in an ascending order. (3)

$^1/_2$: $^3/_4$: $^1/_3$

(b) Convert the following into decimal fractions. (2)
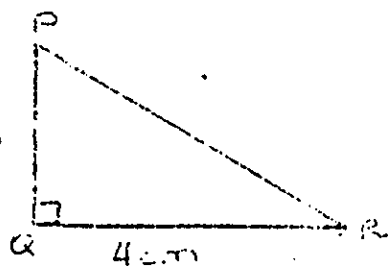
(i) $^4/_5$

(ii) $^3/_4$

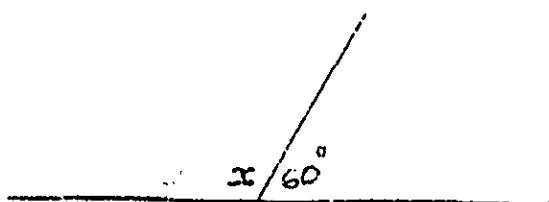(c) Round the following to the nearest whole numbers. (3)

(i) 0,95

(ii) 3,4

(iii) 15,7

QUESTION 2

(a) DPQR is a right-angled triangle. Calculate area of this triangle. (4)

(b) Calculate perimeter of a rectangle which is 10cm long and 8cm wide. (4)

(c) Use your pair of compass: a pencil and a ruler to construct an angle of 90°. (5)
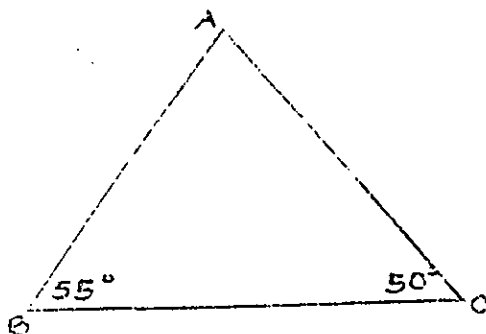
(d) Calculate the size of angle x. (3)

Calculate:

(4)
(6)
(3)

(a) $6^2/_3 \times 1\,\%$

(b) $2^2/_3 \div (1^1/_3 \div {}^6/_9)$

(c) $3^1/_2 + 2^1/_5$

QUESTION 4

(3)
(2)

(a) Add: 13km + 142m + 12,5km (Answer in metres).

(b) (i) $9\text{Ccm}^3 =$ _____ ml.

(ii) $2\text{cm}^2 =$ _____ mm^2.

QUESTION 5

(3)
(4)

(a) Calculate the size of angle A.

(b) What is volume of a rectangular prism with the following sizes of edges.

Length = 10cm

Breadth = 6cm

Height = 5cm

QUESTION 6

(2)

(a) Add: 1,647 + 0,1354 + 42,1.

(4)

(b) Substract: (i) 0,073 – 0,0642.

(ii) 1 – 0.92.

(3)

(c) Multiply 7,68 x 0.7.

3..../

QUESTION 7

(a) Write any 2 fractions equivalent to $5/6$..   (2)

(b) Write $17/4$ as a mixed number.   (2)

(c) Convert to common fraction to lowest terms.   (4)
   (i)   0,14
   (ii)   0,25

QUESTION 8

Find one word for each of the following. Just answer: What is . . . . . .
(a)   the sum of angles of a quadrilateral.
(b)   the size of a right angle.
(c)   the point where two arms meet.
(d)   a shape with six sides.
(e)   the distance around a shape.   (10)

QUESTION 9
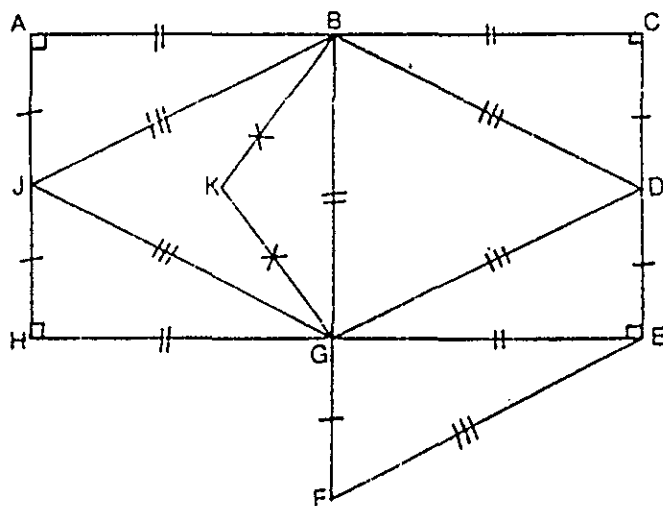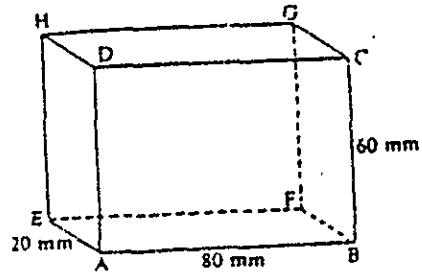
Study the diagram carefully and identify the following shapes.
Identify one in each case:-
(a)   An isosceles triangle
(b)   An obtuse angled traingle
(c)   A parallelogram
(d)   A kite
(e)   A trapezium
(f)   A rectangle
(g)   A square
(h)   A rhombus
(i)   A line parallel to DG

edges are given.

What are the lengths of the following edges ?

(i) HE   (ii) BF   (iii) HG   (iv) GF   (4)

MATHEMATICS

NOV/DEC 1997
STD 5
QUESTION I
WRITE TRUE OR FALSE

1. The L.C.M. of 4 and 5 = 20
2. $\frac{3}{2}$ is an improper fraction
3. $3\frac{1}{2}$ is a mixed fraction
4. $3\frac{3}{4} + 2\frac{1}{2} = 6\frac{1}{4}$
5.

$$\frac{48}{50} = 96\%$$

6. If x+7 = 11 it means that x = 5
7. If $\frac{9}{y} = 3$ y =3

8. In a given rectangle the length = 9cm and the breath =8cm therefore the perimeter = 17cm
9. The volume of a box of length 50cm, Width 20cm and height 15cm = 1500cm^3
10. An angle which is 90° is called a right angle   (10)

Question 2

MULTIPLE CHOICE CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER AND WRITE ONLY THE LETTER SIMBOL.

1. A certain number decreased by 11 is equal to 17
A. 16 B.10. C. 28 D7

2. Six more than twice a certain number is 20
A12   B.14   C7.   D6
3. Six subtracted from a certain number is equal to 12
A6   B12   C. 18   D.20
4. The Quotient of 72 and 18 is
A.54 B.4 C.80   D.18
5. The product of a certain number and 10 is less than 100.
A.9 B.10   C.90   D.5

                                    (10)

Question 3

Answer the following Questions
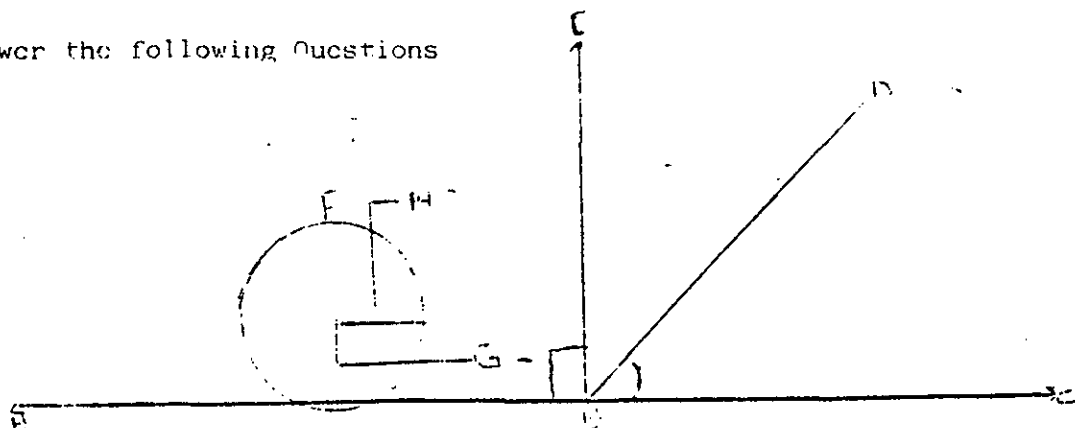
1. What do we call angle ABC
2. What do we call angle DBC
3. The size of angle ABE is
4. The size of angle ABC is
5. Angle ABE is called
6. What do we call angle F
7. Line G is called..........
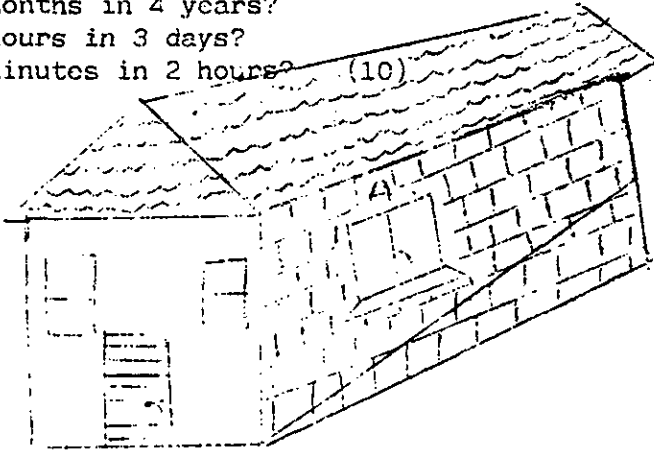8. Line H is called ....

9. The measure/size of angle F is ....
10. Angle EBC is called ....   (20)

QUESTION 4

CALCULATE THE FOLLOWING

1. Find the number of days between 7th Oct to 25 Dec
2. How many years in 84 Months?
3. How many months in 4 years?
4. How many hours in 3 days?
5. How many minutes in 2 hours?   (10)

QUESTION 5

1. If the length of this house is 90mm and breadth 30mm what is the Perimeter? NB (use the formula) (3)
2. If window A is in a square shape whereby the side is 2cm what will be the area of that window? (3)
3. Look at that house and name 4 types of lines that you see there. (4)
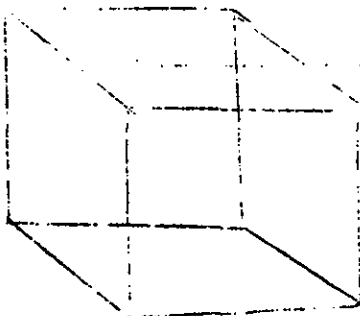
QUESTION 6

Convert the following
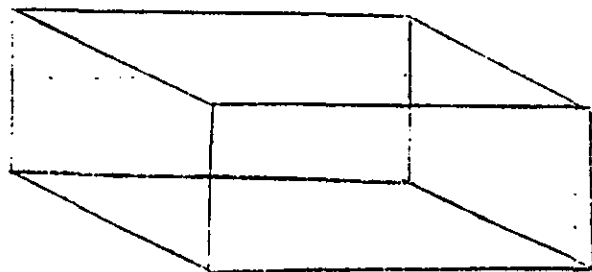
1. 100mm = ?mm
2. 20cm = ?mm
3. 200cm = ?m
4. 5m = ?cm
5. 1000l = ?kl   (5)

Question 7

BOX A   BOX B

1. What is the difference between Box A and Box B (4)
2. Find the volume of box A if B = 4cm (3)
3. Find the volume of box B if the length = 15cm, Width = 8cm height 4cm (3)
4. B use the formula for calculations.

                        (10)   total = 75

QUESTION 9

Work out

~~and a fraction~~

a. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$ (4)

b. $\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{2}$ (4)

QUESTION 10

a. If the perimeter of a rectangle is $L + B + L + B$, we have a length of 5 cm, breadtth of 2cm what will be the perimeter.(1)

b. If we have the area of 16 cm² of a square one side is 4 cm, what will be the other side. (1)

QUESTION II

Which is the next number ?

a. 12;18;24;———;———   b. 49;56;63;———;———   4 x 1=4

QUESTION 12

a. If I have R60, I give half of it to Berlinda; with how much will I remain ?

b. If a jacket is R200 then I get a discount of 50% how much will I pay for the jacket ?   4 x 1 = 4

QUESTION 13

Draw the following angles:

a. 45°   b. 180°   c. 120°

QUESTION ~~14~~ 14

Change to common fractions;

a. 2,5   b. 3,41   /2/

QUESTION ~~14~~ 15

a. How many hours make one day ?

b. ———mm make one centimetre.

c. Give the formula for finding the volume of a cube.

QUESTION 16

Work out

$2\frac{1}{4} + 3\frac{2}{3}$

Appendix D

Appendix D

Profiles on Schools Included in Prototype 2.

Baropodi Primary

Baropodi Primary School, located in the district of Jane Furse in the Northern Province, was identified as a high-performing feeder school by St. Mark's, in Jane Furse. Many of the communities surrounding the school are characterised by poverty and unemployment.

Baropodi began as a community school in 1981, when three classrooms were built by the community. The school now has 22 classrooms, some built by the Education Department and others by various businesses and trusts. There are 962 pupils at the school. The newer classrooms have electricity, but not the older ones. The school has a telephone, but the service is unreliable. There is a library, Science and Biology labs, an administration block, and a staff room. It was observed that there were five computers in the admin. block and ten computers in the Grade 1 class. The school has a photocopier used to reproduce teaching material, although their budget is limited. There is a flushing toilet in the admin block, but pit toilets for the pupils.

The principal reported that, apart from assistance with the provision of classrooms, the school has received assistance from institutions such as University of Pretoria and Reach and Teach and is currently part of a whole school development project being run by Sacred Heart in Johannesburg.

While we were at the school, we observed that a number of classes were not being taught. We also observed small groups of teachers chatting outside classrooms during school time. We noticed as well as that much of the new equipment that has been donated to the school, was not in use.

A further problem is the large and increasing number of pupils at the school. The school apparently has a good reputation in the surrounding communities and many parents choose this school in preference to others. It appeared that this was putting strain on the resources of the school.

The present principal is acting in the position while the appointed principal is on study leave. The principal appeared to be experiencing a great deal of pressure as regards overseeing the smooth running of the school, as well as putting the new equipment into use and implementing the management strategies advocated by the Sacred Heart whole school development programme. Our feeling was that the principal was not receiving much support from the rest of the staff, as regards these demands.

Little Bedfordview School

Little Bedfordview School, located in the district of Lobowakgomo in the Northern province. Testing was identified by both St. Mark's and St. Brendan's as a high-performing feeder school.

Many of the parents of the pupils at the school are employed in the civil service. The principal of the school reported that parents are closely involved with the school and very supportive. School funds mostly paid up, enabling the school to purchase additional stationery and even to employ a gardener/maintenance man.

The school was "adopted" by the town council of Bedfordview (Johannesburg) in 1972. The school was assisted with annual cash donations and other goods for a number of years. A library was gradually built up with the assistance of the former Mayoress of Bedfordview. This support has now dwindled and is sadly missed by the school.

The school buildings are in good repair and surrounded by a well-maintained formal garden. The school has 17 classrooms, a laboratory, a library and a small staff room. There is no admin block, hall, photocopier, computer or other office equipment. The school has electricity, a telephone, flushing toilets, and an old duplicating machine which is in working order. There are 23 teachers and 800 pupils at the school. The number of pupils in each classes ranges between 40 and 50. A problem for the school is the insufficient number of classrooms - two classes share a room in certain grades.

There was evidence of a great deal of motivation and enthusiasm at the school. We were informed of a number of projects on the go, including drum majorettes, sporting teams, choirs, athletics, and vegetable gardening. The principal took great pride in displaying trophies, which had been won, by the school. We formed the opinion that the teaching staff at the school is stable and committed. All of the teachers that we met expressed loyalty to the school and enthusiasm regarding their teaching.

St. Scholastica

St. Scholastica's is located in Mulima in the formerly independent state of Venda. It was established in 1928 as a Roman Catholic mission school. The school still has links with the Catholic Church. St. Scholastica was identified as the major feeder school for St. Brendan's.

It is a boarding school with boarding facilities for 149 pupils. The other 404 pupils are day scholars who travel to the school from surrounding villages by taxi. There are 14 teachers on the staff, 12 of whom are paid for by the Department of Education. The school is able to employ two further teachers as well as two clerks. The school also purchases stationery and textbooks.

The school has a hall, a staff room and 12 large classrooms. There are plans for a library, although at present the school has only a very small stock of books. A clinic on the school property is run by a Catholic sister and provides a service to the school as well as to surrounding communities. School buildings are fairly old and in need of maintenance but still serviceable. The school has Escom power, which is not always reliable, but has a generator for back-up.

The school has a partnership arrangement with Turfloop University. The University has provided 5 computers and a printer as well as two facilitators who are currently training some of the teachers to use the computers.

The principal of the school is young and dynamic. Most of the teachers on the staff are young, for many of them this is their first teaching assignment. We observed that levels of motivation and enthusiasm are high. The school has longer school hours than most schools, in addition to compulsory study periods in the evening. Teachers receive no additional remuneration for these extra hours. Teachers were proud to inform us that they had not participated in the recent SADTU strikes and that many SADTU members had enrolled their own children at St. Scholastica in order to avoid the disruptions which they themselves had organised at other schools.

St. Theresa's

St. Theresa's in Coronationville, Johannesburg was identified by St. Barnabas as a high-performing feeder school drawing pupils from relatively disadvantaged communities.

Although St. Theresa's receives some support from the Catholic Church, it relies mainly on government subsidy and school fees. This is a major problem for the school as many parents are not able to maintain this commitment. School fees are higher than surrounding state schools, but far lower than other "private" schools in Gauteng. Pupils are drawn from the surrounding areas of Coronationville, Bosmont, Newclare and Riverlea as well as from all areas of Soweto. Systems of taxi transportation are in place, which place an extra financial burden on parents.

The school is housed in a collection of old and new buildings, comprising 29 classrooms and an admin block. There is an attractive central courtyard which is used as an assembly point and a small but well-stocked and functioning library. There are computers and a photocopier in the admin block. There are 28 teachers and 565 pupils at the school, resulting in a favourable pupil:teacher ratio of 26 to 32 pupils per class. The school was selected by IBM to serve as one of their test sites in Gauteng. IBM has provided 5 computers in each of 17 classrooms. The contact with IBM has now come to an end.

Teachers at the school are committed and enthusiastic. The school is supported by extensive parent involvement as demonstrated in numerous fetes, meetings, sports days and open days. Lack of finances and decreasing numbers are the major problems faced by the school and their future is uncertain due to cuts in government subsidy.

Appendix E

DEVELOPMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTS TO ASSESS GRADE 7 LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS

Khulisa Management Services and St Barnabas College

Introduction

This project is one of the first wave of research and development programmes which aim to assess the outcomes of learning by means of written tests. Over the last few years the educational climate has not been sympathetic to this kind of enterprise. Programmes of this type are thus truly pioneering, not only in developing instruments and establishing benchmarks of performance, but also in changing public opinion towards the acceptance and understanding of these indispensable tools of quality assurance and accountability.

Construction of the tests

Section 3.1 is inadequate in its description of how the tests were constructed. Two examples illustrate the point.

Under Section 3.1.2 (p5). the statement "Learners will be able to demonstrate understanding about ways of working with numbers" (from the Specific Outcomes produced by the MLM Learning Area Committee) motivates the derivation of a set of items to test learners ability to perform the 4 basic operations "at a level appropriate to Grade 7". Yet the 'Specific Outcome' quoted gives no guidance concerning:

- the types of numbers to be used in such computations (eg, whole numbers, common fractions, decimals, integers, etc); nor
- the appropriate levels of complexity for each respective type of number at the different Grades (eg, whole numbers up tp hundred thousands, mixed fractions with denominators up to hundredths, decimals up to thousandths, etc)

Indeed. this lack of specificity in the 'Specific Outcomes' is one of the largest single hindrances to the implementation of Curriculum 2005 by teachers, the writers of learning materials, and the developers of diagnostic tests. Section 3.1 gives no indication as to how the researchers solved this problem. Did they construct systematic and comprehensive learning programmes for English Language and Mathematics at the Grade 7 level? If so, on what basis was the selection of the items comprising the tests made, from what would be a very large body of graded items covering all aspects of the learning programmes? It is widely acknowledged that this

step relies heavily on expert opinion. In this regard, expert teachers such as Ms De Gouveia should be used in constructing the tests, rather than commenting afterwards.

Only within the framework of the kind of learning programmes described above can tests be said to be:

- **diagnostic**, in assessing which topics the pupils have mastered, and to what degree they have done so; and
- **standardised**, in setting absolute benchmarks for the national population of Grade 7 learners.

A similar problem inheres in the operationalisation of the SAQA Critical Outcomes and the "OBE directives", listed as items 1-7 on p3. Which test items, for example, embody the Critical Outcome "Collect, analyse, organise and critically evaluate information"? How do these particular items achieve this outcome? Furthermore, the 'types of skills' described on p4 (literal understanding, inferential thinking, critical response) do not, on their own, pose different levels of cognitive challenge. It is the combination of subject matter and type of skill that is called up that sets the level of cognitive engagement: for example, a literal understanding of a passage from Ndebele's Fools would probably pose a considerably greater challenge to any Grade 7 learner than a critical response to an extract from Noddy's New Car, irrespective of cultural considerations.

Validation

Regarding the statistical methods used to validate the tests, the bell curves and associated normality plots are, on the whole, convincing to the lay reader. While Peter Fridjhon (whose name is incorrectly spelt in the report) is a well respected educational statistician, this aspect of the report would benefit from a second opinion, since the reader is not qualified to comment on such technical matters.

Nevertheless, it does not require a statistician to recognise two serious problems with regard to the sampling techniques employed. First, no test based on a sample of four schools of a possible population of thousands of 'high performing schools', can be said to be standardised in any sense of the word.

Second, the criterion for selecting these 'high performing schools' is vague in the extreme: the point is reinforced by the fact that one of the schools, Baropodi Primary, performs at levels significantly below the other three. Furthermore, it is by no means clear in what sense these three schools "provide a valid representation of the majority of primary school learners in South Africa" (p8).

Taking into account all the problems mentioned above, the best that can be said about these tests is that, rather than being criterion referenced so as to "reflect the end-goal towards which educational practice at a Grade 7 level should be moving" (p12), they are norm referenced with respect to 3 particular schools; even then, they are not challenging enough for these pupils.

Conclusion

These comments are not designed to elicit extensive elaboration or rewriting of the report: a paragraph or two on some of the main issues raised will suffice. As it stands, the project represents an important pilot: a sighting shot fired into the virgin waters of what is showing every sign of becoming a major growth point in South African education. It is already making waves, as indicated by the above discussion.

Nick Taylor
23 September 1998