



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
YOUTH & INFORMATION

Primary Exit Profile

May/June 2018

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Grade 6

Language Arts

This paper consists of TEN (10) items.

Language Arts CBT Practice Items

Question 1

Strand: Reading for Meaning and Enjoyment (Comprehension)

Objectives:

- Use evidence from text to deduce implicit information
- Infer writers' perspectives from what is written and what is implied

Item type: Constructed Response - Short Constructed Response

Read the passage carefully then answer the questions that follow.

GREEN THUMB'S TIP

Put the tobacco contained in a single cigarette (or use five cigarette butts) to soak in one litre of water overnight, and there you have a strong pesticide that will kill just about every bug on your garden plants.

Caution: This is poisonous stuff, so use only on strong plants such as ixoras, but never on delicate specimens such as gloxinias, lilies or, God forbid! African violets.

Source: Anonymous

A. What is the main idea of the passage?

B.

Write an explanation for your selection of the main idea.

(3 marks)

Question 2

Strand: Reading for Meaning and Enjoyment (Comprehension)

Objectives:

- Use evidence from text to deduce implicit information
- Infer writers' perspectives from what is written and what is implied

Item type: Selected Response – Single Selected Response

Read the passage carefully then answer the questions that follow.

What's fiercer than a lion but smaller than a beagle? The honey badger is one of the toughest mammals in Africa and western Asia. Honey badgers stand less than a metre high. They are only a couple metres long. They weigh just over 9 kilograms. Yet they have a reputation for toughness that is far greater than their size. Some honey badgers will chase away lions and take their kills. I guess that goes to show you that size isn't the only thing that matters in a fight.

Source: Readingworksheets.com

What is meant by *kills* (line 5)?

- A. fight
- B. food
- C. lionesses
- D. pride

(1 mark)

Question 3

Strand: Writing

Objectives:

- Write descriptive pieces, using adjectives and adverbs appropriately and with appeal to the senses.
- Use adjectives, adverbs and descriptive phrases to create different effects in writing

Item type: Constructed Response – Extended Response

Your parents took you on a summer vacation to a north coast hotel. When you got back home, you sent your best friend the picture below.



(4 marks)

Write a letter to your best friend, using the picture to help you describe the experience you had at the hotel.

Question 4

Strand: Reading for Meaning and Enjoyment (Comprehension)

Objective:

- Use text main ideas/ important points to identify theme(s)

Item types: Constructed Response - Short Constructed Response

Selected Response - Table Grid

Read the passage carefully then answer the questions that follow.

The Black River is one of the longest rivers in Jamaica at a length of 53.4 km. It was believed to be the longest until it was discovered that the Rio Minho was 92.8 km long. Its name refers to the darkness of the river bed caused by thick layers of decomposing vegetation. Over 100 species of birds have been recorded living in or on the banks of the Black River Morass.

One section of the river consists of marshland and mangrove swamps providing a rich natural environment for a broad range of fish (such as mangrove snappers, snook and mullet), birds and other creatures. Here the river is joined by the YS River making this portion of the river the largest swamp environment in the Caribbean

American Crocodiles inhabit the swamps, but the population has declined due mainly to loss of habitat as heavy draining for agricultural or tourism purposes destroys their nesting places. Birds found here include egrets, herons and ospreys. Their numbers are also declining. The mangrove trees on the banks of the Black River are sometimes spectacular with roots sent out like spiders' legs, sometimes dropping 12 metres into the river.

A. What is the main idea in the passage?

- B. **Read the statements in the table below. Then, indicate by using a tick (✓), the statements that support the main idea.**

Statements	Supporting the main idea
Osprey is a kind of bird.	
The Rio Minho is the longest river in Jamaica.	
Mangroves with spider-like roots grow along the Black River.	
The Black River got its name from the colour of the river bed.	
Fewer American Crocodiles are now living in the Black River.	
Man-made activities are mostly responsible for the loss of habitat in the Black River.	

(3 marks)

Question 5

Strand: Word Recognition and Vocabulary Development

Objective:

- Apply context clue techniques to determine word meanings

Item type: Selected Response – Multiple Choice - Single select

Read the passage carefully. Then, from the list below, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to those underlined in the passage.

Last summer, a forest fire (1) broke out about four blocks away from our home and it threatened to reach our yard in a few days' time. We were not prepared to leave (2) all our belongings behind unless it was absolutely necessary.

For days, thick white smoke (3) enveloped the entire area and it became (4) perpetual night time for us. Many of the elderly and very young suffered respiratory related illnesses. We (5) literally lived in darkness both physically as well as with regards to our fate.

Source: (Adapted) Primary English

1. A. started B. blazed C. terrorized D. formed
2. A. security items B. household items C. valuable items D. everything
3. A. curled around B. blanketed C. sealed off D. crept up on
4. A. upcoming B. complete C. continuous D. unthinkable
5. A. actually B. insignificantly C. courageously D. boldly

(5 marks)

Question 6

Strand: Grammar and Conventions

Objective:

- Use punctuation marks to create varying effects (comma, full stop, question marks, colon, semi-colon).

Item type: Constructed Response - Short Constructed Response

Read the sentence below then answer questions 1 and 2.

The principal, Ms Kennedy and the chairman were at the meeting.

1. How many persons were at the meeting? _____.
2. Justify your answer.

(3 marks)

Question 7

Strand: Grammar and Conventions

Objective:

- Apply knowledge of the basic rules of punctuation and capitalization when writing.

Item type: Constructed Response

Which letters should be capitalized in the sentence below? Rewrite the sentence using capital letters where needed.

jaimie warren is the president of the debating club at new leaf primary school.

(2 marks)

Question 8

Strand: Grammar and Conventions

Objective:

- Apply the functions of parts of speech: conjunctions, nouns, preposition

Item type: Selected Response – Single Selected Response

Which word is NOT used as a noun in the sentence below?

The waiter was asked to man the kitchen while the chef went to get his injured hand bandaged.

- A. waiter
- B. man
- C. kitchen
- D. chef

(1 mark)

(4 marks)

Question 10

Strand: Writing

Objective:

- Develop several linked paragraphs using a variety of strategies and organisational patterns
 - Item Type: Order Match
-

This is the beginning of a story written by a student who wants to use dialogue.

Sam was always afraid of different crawling and flying insects and lizards. Sam was screaming and running away every time he saw a moving spider or a running lizard. When Sam went on a field trip with his class, he didn't want his classmates and his teacher to know he was scared of insects.

1. "Are you afraid of this lizard, Sam?" the teacher smiled as she moved the tree branch away from Sam.
2. Sam almost fainted when he saw a lizard sitting on a tree branch.
3. "Not at all. Well, not really." Sam smiled hoping that his teacher hadn't noticed.

In the dialogue that the student wants to use, place the three sentences, marked 1, 2 and 3, as shown above, in the correct order from the start of the dialogue to the end.

Which sentence should come first? _____

Which sentence should come second? _____

Which sentence should come third? _____

(3 marks)