



EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ESWATINI
Eswatini General Certificate of Secondary Education

CANDIDATE
NAME

CENTRE
NUMBER

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CANDIDATE
NUMBER

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE 6873/01

Paper 1 READING and WRITING

October / November 2021 - 2023

2 hours

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.
No Additional Materials are required

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen in the spaces provided on the Question Paper.
Do **not** use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.
Dictionaries are **not** allowed.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Examiner's Use	
Exercise 1	
Exercise 2	
Exercise 3	
Exercise 4	
Exercise 5	
Total	

This document consists of **11** printed pages and **1** blank page

Exercise 1

Read the following passage about rooibos tea and answer the questions that follow.

ROOIBOS

Rooibos tea is a herbal tea made from an indigenous plant with a characteristic red brown colour, hence its name rooibos (red bush).

The Khoi people historically used to make tea from rooibos about 300 years ago and were well aware of its medicinal value. They passed their knowledge on to Dutch settlers. Rooibos is grown in an area that stretches in a 150km radius from the town of Clan William in the Western Cape. This region has a unique micro-climate with very cold winters and very hot summers. The plants are adapted to surviving in dry areas by having roots that reach deep down to the groundwater. Roots go under the soil surface to absorb any surface moisture.

The planting and harvesting of the tea is a meticulous process. Processing begins when the seeds pop out of the fruits and they are collected for sale. Planting takes place in February and March, when the seeds are sown in seed beds. The land is cultivated and fertilized in April and May after the first winter rains. In June and July the seedlings are planted out in rows one metre apart. Harvesting is done when needle-like leaves and stems appear, which can be done after 18 months of growth. Interesting to note is that Rooibos plants produce three to four crops, and then they die down.

The green leaves and twigs are finely broken up and collected into mounds. Two types of fermentation produce two types of tea. In making traditional red rooibos tea, the mounds are allowed to ferment, which brings out the flavour and gives the tea its red colour. The tea is sterilized by steam and then dried before being sifted and packed. Why is rooibos tea so unique? It has a red colour and a sweet nutty flavour. It has no caffeine, colourants, additives or preservatives and little tannin. It is rich in antioxidants, calcium and iron and produced in

no other country except South Africa. It is then internationally marketed to over 30 countries.

Rooibos really has health benefits. Many doctors recommend rooibos tea for infant colic (stomach ache), insomnia, hypertension and irritability. The effect of antioxidants from the tea has not been tested in humans, so the health benefits remain unproven.

The question is, how is the ecosystem affected? There is a variety of commercial plants which are used for food, drugs and horticulture. This means there is a fierce competition between saving indigenous species as opposed to growing plants for commercial purposes. As the industry expands, it is important that it is managed so that a balance is maintained between commercialism and conservation of indigenous flora. Sustainable harvesting and replanting programmes are to be followed and care needs to be taken that the soil is not degraded.

What about the future? The Rooibos industry is very important economically because it provides work for thousands of people in poor and rural areas. However, great market potential exists in the Far East, USA, Europe and Australia, and this comes with problems related to the expansion of the industry: it is costly to get into new markets and the growing area is small, limiting expansion. Moreover, the effects of global warming may cause temperatures to rise by 3 degrees inland by 2050 and this could be fatal for this industry.

- (a) Why has Rooibos been termed 'the Red Bush'?
..... [1]
- (b) What evidence is there that the **Khoi** understood the medicinal value of rooibos tea?
..... [1]
- (c) What makes the area in the Cape favourable for the growing of rooibos tea? Give **two** details.
- (i) [1]
- (ii) [1]
- (d) Explain what is suggested by the expression that growing and harvesting is a 'meticulous' process?
..... [1]
- (e) Why would rooibos tea be ideal for infant illnesses?
..... [1]
- (f) What **two** strategies can be employed to ensure that the ecosystem remains intact even after the growing of rooibos?
- (i) [1]
- (ii) [1]
- (g) Why does the writer think the rooibos industry is at risk in South Africa? Give **two** reasons.
- (i) [1]
- (ii) [1]
- (h) Give **four** reasons why rooibos should continue being grown and harvested.
- (i)
- (ii)
- (iii)
- (iv) [4]

[Total: 14]

Exercise 2

Read the following article about mountaineering then complete the notes on the opposite page.

MOUNTAINEERING

Mountaineering is the sport or hobby or profession of hiking and climbing mountains. While mountaineering began as an attempt to reach the highest mountain, it has branched into different aspects of tackling the mountain and consists of rock climbing which involves climbing up and down or sideways across a natural or artificial rock face. Other climbers prefer snow gliding as they enjoy the challenge and risk in climbing over snow-covered mountains. Whether the route chosen, is over rock, snow or ice, it is still an enjoyable sport. More agile climbers prefer skiing, all of these require experience, athletic ability and technical knowledge to maintain safety.

Mountaineering is often called Alpinism, especially in European languages, which means climbing with difficulty. A mountaineer with such great skill is called an Alpinist, referring to climbing for the purpose of enjoying climbing itself as a sport or recreation. This is distinct from climbing while hunting or as a religious pilgrimage.

Compacted snow conditions allow mountaineers to progress on foot and therefore require specialised equipment. Frequently crampons are required to travel efficiently over snow and ice. Ascending and descending a slope safely requires the use of an ice axe and many different footwork techniques. When travelling over glaciers, crevices pose a grave

danger. These giant cracks in the ice are not always visible as snow can be blown and freeze over the top to make a snow bridge.

Shelter is a very important aspect of safety for the climber, as the weather in the mountains may be very unpredictable. Tall mountains may require many days of camping on the mountain. The base camp of a mountain is used for staging an attempt at the summit. Tents are the most common form of shelter; they may vary from simple tarps to much heavier designs intended to withstand harsh mountain conditions. Some climbers do not use tents at high altitudes but use snow caves as they are silent and much warmer than tents.

Mountaineering is considered to be one of the most dangerous activities in the world. Dangers in these areas are sometimes hazards that occur unexpectedly, like avalanches or rock falls. Some are caused by the climber's negligence and fatigue. Dangerous slides are most likely to occur on the same slopes preferred by many climbers. The primary dangers are caused by the weather. Changes it causes on the snow and rock conditions can make movement suddenly much more difficult and hazardous than under normal circumstances.

Mountaineering has become a popular sport throughout the world. It is still popular in Europe where it originated.

You are a mountaineering guide with some advice to give to a group you are taking on a climbing expedition. Using the information on the article, make short notes under each heading as a basis for your short lecture.

Types of Mountaineering

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Dangers of mountaineering

-
-
-

Reasons why shelter is a necessity

-
-

[Total: 8]

Exercise 3

Read the following article about four students who talk about Waterfalls they visited and then answer the questions that follow.

A Sicelo Dube

I headed to Mpumalanga to enjoy viewing a clutch of graceful waterfalls – Macdonell Falls, Libya Falls, Safie Falls, Bridge Veil Falls, Berlin Falls, Marcia Falls and Fern Falls. These are located along a route which is renowned for its significance to our country's cultural heritage. Two of these were breathtaking: Macdonell and Libya Falls.

Macdonell Falls, rising 65m, is located 13km outside Safie in a family-friendly environment with a picnic spot at the bottom of the Macdonell Pools, where you can swim in crystal-clear mountain spring water.

Libya Falls, at 92m, is the highest and most scenic waterfall in the region and is located close to Mahamba Gorge. A picnic is always ideal near the falls, where bird lovers can enjoy spotting avian species.

B Fezile Dlamini

The Garden Falls, on the Lowveld Coast is spectacular. The waterfall lies in the middle of the 1800ha Garden Tea Plantation, the country's last remaining tea estate just outside Lushikishikini, north of the Riverside Plateau. Rising 142m in height, Garden Falls is often regarded as the lesser Victoria Falls in Zambia and Zimbabwe. There's plenty of accommodation in both Lushikishikini, and Riverside Plateau.

The Kitaro Falls is located on the Potato River in the centre of Gucuka's rainforest. It is the world's largest single-drop waterfall by hollow of the sheer volume of water rushing over it. While many falls have a greater height, few have this combination of height and water volume. The waterfall is a major tourist attraction.

C Nhlanhla Gama

The Peak Falls drop 107m into the scenic Phophonyane Gorge within the Peak Forests in the Northern part of the country. This is one of the region's most remarkable natural settings. Here adrenaline junkies can bungee-jump, abseil or hurtle off the edge. This is made possible by the highest swing in the world, which hangs over the gorge. To visit the falls, you can stay in the Orion Hotel or Phophonyane Lodge.

Angel Falls in the Middleveld is the highest uninterrupted waterfall in the world, with a height of 979m and a drop of 807m. Set deep within the Cayman National Park, a wilderness spanning three million hectares on the country's eastern borders, the waterfall is so high that at warmer times of the year, the water turns into a mist before reaching the river below.

D Cebile Vilane

If you want to completely tune out of the world and relax, head to Thirty-Ten Waterfalls in Queens Park. Set in a private nature reserve and fed by springs all year round, the Thirty-Ten Waterfalls are an amazing sight. There are overnight camping sites and plenty of activities to enjoy in the area, including hiking, fishing and mountain – biking. Should you decide to hike around the falls, you'll be rewarded by the sight of outstanding indigenous trees and wildlife such as the klipspringer, Cape leopard and rhebok. The reserve is also a nature lover's paradise.

The questions below are about the students A-D who talk about Waterfalls.

For each question, write the correct letter A, B, C, or D on the

- (a) Who visited an area suitable for people with high energy levels? [1]
- (b) Who went to a place where they were surrounded by nature? [1]
- (c) Who visited the lowest waterfalls? [1]
- (d) Who went to a waterfall that emits water vapour in summer? [1]
- (e) Who compares the falls they saw to the Victoria Falls? [1]
- (f) Who enjoyed watching birds? [1]
- (g) Who thinks the waterfall is a rare combination? [1]
- (h) Who enjoyed native wildlife and vegetation? [1]

[Total: 8]

Exercise 4

Read the following article on today's youth and then answer the questions that follow.

RESCUING A GENERATION

Not to sound depressing but, we as the youth, need to be saved. If you can look at the youth of today, not many of them know who they are anymore; where they belong; where they are going and how they will get there. At a crucial time when the world is desperate for firm leadership and refreshment, our youth is not ready. This is a crisis.

We started off well; being curious and inquisitive and wanting answers from wherever we could get them. I bet we were promising, until our constant questioning became quasi-rebellion, which later became plain rebellion and abandonment of our traditions. Science and technology cannot be blamed for this, but the confusion that is seen around could be shared.

In this relay of life, many of us do not even know whom we take after. We just found ourselves carrying a baton which we picked from the ground because those who ran before us never had the decency to give it to us. Perhaps the previous generation never even finished the race and we had to go back to fix their problems before we could move forward. Yes, absent parents... that is what I am talking about. Our generation has practically raised itself.

We are not out of the woods just yet. Peer pressure has also contributed in wiping out whatever morals we were taught. It would have

been easy if we knew our identity – our roots and what our existence means, but we lack that understanding. This makes it difficult to discover ourselves as the youth. If you ask me, failing to fight peer pressure means there is an identity crisis. Have you noted how every teenager looks the same and does the same things? This shows lack of identity which they have not been taught. What is dangerous about this is that it is not noticed but instead, it is silent and can result to a lack of interest in doing many activities. Only our conscience can talk us out of it and if all attempts fail, we could try to get support by finding someone we can talk to. One must look for people who they can trust, make them feel safe and cared for.

The kind of respect that the previous generation wants is not in line with the effort they have put in, in terms of carrying out their responsibilities as parents. And because we are 'rational' beings, we refuse to behave accordingly because no one has taught us how. It seems quite logical but our death is in that misunderstanding. We are wondering off like a dog with no leash, running for a bone that is not tasty. We feel we do not need those that come before us and we feel they do not know anything anyway.

(Adapted from Swazi News, January, 26, 2019).

- (a) Why does the writer think that the youth needs to be saved?
..... [1]
- (b) Why is life described as a 'relay'?
..... [1]
- (c) According to the writer, why are we not yet out of the woods?
..... [1]
- (d) Suggest why the writer thinks that peer pressure has been able to 'wipe out' whatever morals that we have been taught.
..... [1]
- (e) Explain the following:
 - (i) "...wandering off like a dog with no leash..."
..... [1]
 - (ii) "...running for a bone that is not tasty."
..... [1]
- (f) Comment on the writer's attitude towards today's youth.
.....
..... [2]
- (g) Briefly explain why the title of the passage is suitable.
.....
..... [2]

[Total: 10]

Exercise 5

Read the following passage. On the opposite page, write a summary describing the bad effects of winter fires and explaining what can be done to prevent them.

Your summary should be about 100 words (and not more than 120 words). You will receive up to 6 marks for the content of your summary and up to 4 marks for the accuracy and style of your language.

RUNAWAY WINTER FIRES

Farmers and the general public have to take all necessary precautions to prevent devastating winter fires. During the first month of the winter season, the risk of wild fires is high. Every year in winter and early spring wild fires cause great suffering and misery to many families. Entire homesteads and houses with all the most expensive durable household assets such as plasma TV sets, computers and apple brand laptops acquired after a lot of hard work and over a long period of time, are destroyed in just a few minutes. Knowing that this situation could have been prevented worsens the condition.

It is common knowledge to many people that winter fire accidents destroy large areas of pasture land leaving a lot of livestock without sources of food to sustain them. For example, five years ago in Mila Pato huge areas of pasture land were destroyed by uncontrollable flames of fire which lasted for a whole week. Services of different groups of fire fighters were engaged in an attempt to arrest the fire. Their sleepless nights and efforts were in vain. The fire was eventually extinguished with the help of fire fighters from the neighbouring Azat. It is very sad to know that this fire had been started by someone who just wanted to clear his land to make a small vegetable garden. Economic losses experienced every year cannot be

accurately established. This amount to millions of dollars which could have been used for various purposes. For example, the fires destroy forest plantations which also play an essential role in boosting a country's economy, like what happened to the Sappi Usuthu commercial forest plantations in Bhunya, Eswatini which were ravaged by a mysterious uncontrollable fire.

The economic wounds inflicted do not fully heal, for example billions of revenue collected as tax is lost. Thus people who want to burn fire to clear land must get a permit from the director of agriculture. This will help to limit the risk of uncontrollable runaway fires and horrible fire accidents which are more common during the windy seasons. It is important for people to notify the fire and emergency department which is readily available and well equipped to attend to fire emergencies in case there is a need for a backup. Failure to comply with the above requirements should be taken as a serious offence. Honey bee hunters must stop using fire which they sometimes fail to control to subdue bees when collecting honey. Honey is sweet, delicious and enjoyable as a sweetener for different types of beverages, and food as well as medication and cosmetics but the use of fire to extract it might have detrimental effects.

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