

Conquesta 2008

(International Multiple Choice Primary School Olympiads – Est. 1998)

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English Language 1 – Grade 4

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. As you read and answer the questions, we hope that you enjoy and learn from the information. Once you have read the information and the questions carefully, you have to make a choice. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, completely fill in the matching square on your answer sheet using a 2B or a B pencil. For example, if the answer to question 4 is c, then neatly fill in the square containing c next to the number 4. See example below. Fill in only one square per question and make sure you completely rub out any mistakes so that the answer is clear.

Example:-

4.	a	b	c	d
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Read the extract on the right for questions 1-7:-

1. **What was the name of the ship?**
(a) *Whaling Ship* (b) *Star of the East*
(c) *Bartley* (d) *The Big Ship*
2. **Why did Bartley fall into the water?**
(a) He slipped off the edge of the boat.
(b) The crew pushed him in.
(c) The whale had destroyed the boat.
(d) He dived in to get his harpoon.
3. **Why did the sailors think that Bartley was dead when they took him out of the whale's stomach?**
(a) His eyes were wide open.
(b) His body was blue.
(c) He was bleeding.
(d) He was still.
4. **What did Bartley think the whale's mouth looked like?**
(a) A tent. (b) A ship.
(c) A huge jaw. (d) An egg.
5. **Which of the following reasons would best explain why it was so hot inside the whale?**
(a) Hot air rises.
(b) A whale's body heat is greater than a human's.
(c) A whale swims very fast.
(d) A whale sinks slowly.
6. **Which word describes the fat of a whale?**
(a) blubber (b) jelly (c) gristle (d) slime
7. **What is the collective noun for a group of whales?**
(a) herd (b) pod (c) fleet (d) shoal



A Real-Life Jonah

On August 25, 1891, the whaling ship *Star of the East* came upon some huge whales. One of the ship's small boats was lowered. The sailors chased the whales. Then one man threw a harpoon and wounded one of the beasts.

The sailors rowed closer to drag in the whale. The whale then turned. It raced towards them. It seized the boat in its great jaws. Then it cracked the boat like an egg. The men screamed and fell into the water.

One sailor, James Bartley, fell right next to the whale. The angry beast turned and opened its mouth. The jaws closed over Bartley.

The whale silently dived below the waves. The rest of the men, who were very frightened, were picked up by the big ship.

Later that day, a dead whale floated to the surface of the sea. The creature was dragged to the whaling ship. There the men began to cut off its fat. This took two days.

One of the men had a wild idea. Could this have been the whale that swallowed Bartley?

The men decided to find out. They cut deep into the whale. Slowly they worked towards the whale's stomach. Inside it, lay Bartley! At first he seemed dead. His whole body was a blue colour. The men removed him from the whale and into the fresh air. After a while, Bartley opened his eyes.

"When the whale opened his mouth it was like a big pink tent that had come over me," explained Bartley. He told the men that he had slid down into the whale's stomach and it felt very hot.

The last two things he remembered was the terrible heat and that he could not move his body.

At first people did not believe the story. But Bartley and his friends said it was all true. They had to answer many questions. At long last people believed them.

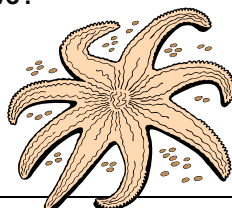
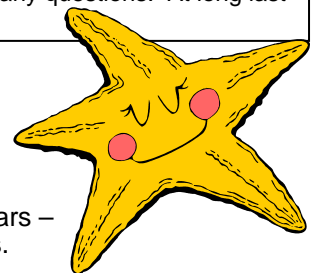
Read the poem on the right for questions 8-10:

8. **What does the poem say a starfish is?**
(a) It is a sun star. (b) It is a fish.
(c) It is a sea animal. (d) It is a mammal.
9. **How many 'eyes' does a normal starfish have?**
(a) three (b) four (c) five (d) six
10. **What makes the starfish so special?**
(a) It is a five-pointed star.
(b) It has many arms.
(c) It can crawl on the bottom of the sea.
(d) If it breaks an arm, it can grow a new one.

Poetry

The Starfish

This is a sea animal,
One of great wonder.
Most are five-pointed stars –
Others have many arms.
They are the sun stars.
All of them crawl along the bottom of the sea,
Seeing only with a tip on each arm.
If one arm breaks,
Never mind.
It grows a new one!



C. Martini

Punctuation

11. **Which of the following sentences is correctly punctuated?**
(a) "Dolphins look like fish but they are really mammals." Said the teacher.
(b) "Dolphin mothers give birth to live babies. The babies feed on milk from the mother," answered James.
(c) Dolphins, like all other mammals, are *warm-blooded*. "shouted Jinen."
(d) That means their bodies stay about the same temperature all the time said Nkosi.