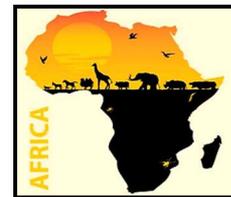


Conquesta 2019

(International Multiple Choice Primary School Olympiads – Est. 1998)
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English 1 (Home Language) – Grade 8

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, scratch out the letter in the matching square on your answer sheet. Example:- If the answer to question 4 is c, then scratch out the letter c in the square containing c next to the number 4 (see example 1 below). If you've made a mistake and b should have been the answer, neatly cross out the mistake and then scratch out b (see example 2 below).

Example 1:-

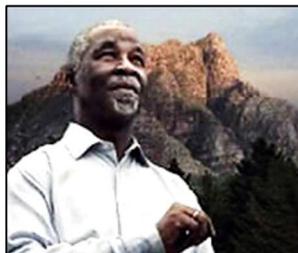
4.	a	b	c	d
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Example 2:-

4.	a	b	c	d
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Read the passage on the right to answer questions 1 – 18.

- What kind of pronoun is 'I' in the title?**
 (a) A reflexive pronoun. (b) A personal pronoun.
 (c) A relative pronoun. (d) A possessive pronoun.
- Which word best describes the tone of the speaker towards South Africa in the opening line?**
 (a) Descriptive. (b) Grateful.
 (c) Boastful. (d) Joyful.
- How does Mbeki represent his 'native land' in the first two paragraphs? As a country**
 (a) with many different landscapes. 
 (b) of great beauty.
 (c) with unique rock formations.
 (d) that can sustain the lives of all its peoples.
- What is the function of commas in paragraph 1?**
 (a) To separate two main clauses in a sentence.
 (b) To separate the elements of a list.
 (c) To separate an introductory word from the sentence.
 (d) To separate two adjectives that follow each other.
- Identify the figure of speech (underlined) in paragraph 2.**
 (a) Personification (*non-living thing becomes 'human'*).
 (b) Simile (*comparison using 'like' or 'as'*).
 (c) Metaphor (*comparison in which an object represents something else*).
 (d) Onomatopoeia (*the forming of a word from a sound*).
- In expressing his desire to 'grant equal citizenship' to South Africa's wildlife (paragraph 3), what is Mbeki suggesting?**
 (a) That human beings control the destiny of South Africa's wildlife.
 (b) Conserving South Africa's wildlife for future generations is important. 
 (c) That South Africa's wildlife is a vital resource for the country.
 (d) That humans and wildlife are equally important.
- What is the meaning of 'pestilential' (in bold)?**
 (a) Blood-sucking. (b) Disease-carrying.
 (c) Itch causing. (d) Fatal (*causing death*).
- What part of speech is 'pestilential'?**
 (a) A noun. (b) An adverb.
 (c) A preposition. (d) An adjective.
- Which group is Mbeki not descended from (paragraphs 4 – 9)?**
 (a) The Khoisan. (b) The Malay. 
 (c) The Xhosa. (d) The British.



The following is excerpts from a speech Thabo Mbeki gave in Cape Town on 8 May 1996, when the government passed the new Constitution of South Africa. At the time, Mbeki was the vice president of South Africa under the presidency of Nelson Mandela.

I AM AN AFRICAN

- I owe my being (existence) to the hills and the valleys, the mountains and the glades (open spaces), the rivers, the deserts, the trees, the flowers, the seas and the ever-changing seasons that define the face of our native land.
- The dramatic shapes of the Drakensberg, the soil-coloured waters of the Thukela (*Tugela River*), and the sands of the Kgalagadi, (*Kalahari Desert*) are the natural stage on which we act out the foolish deeds of our day.
- At times, I have wondered whether I should concede (grant) equal citizenship of our country to the leopard and the lion, the elephant and the springbok, the hyena, the black mamba and the pestilential mosquito. A human presence among all these, I know that none dare challenge me when I say - I am an African!
- I owe my being to the Khoi and the San whose desolate (*abandoned*) souls haunt the great expanses of the beautiful Cape. In my veins courses (*flows*) the blood of the Malay slaves who came from the East. The stripes they bore on their bodies from the lash of the slave master are a reminder embossed (*imprinted*) on my consciousness (*conscious mind*) of what should not be done.
- I am the grandchild of the warrior men and women that Hintsa and Sekhukhune led, the patriots (*nationalists*) that Cetshwayo and Mphephu took to battle, the soldiers Moshoeshe and Ngungunyane taught never to dishonour the cause of freedom.
- My mind is formed by the victories that are the jewels in our African crown, the victories we earned from Isandhlwana to Khartoum (*a city in Sudan*), as Ethiopians and as the Ashanti of Ghana.
- I am the child of Nongqawuse (*a Xhosa prophetess*). I am he who made it possible to trade in the world markets in diamonds and in gold.
- I come from those who were transported from India and China, who were able to provide physical labour, who taught me that freedom was a necessary condition for human existence.
- I am the grandchild who lays fresh flowers on the Boer graves, who sees in the mind's eye the suffering of a simple peasant folk, death, concentration camps, destroyed homesteads, a dream in ruins.

Continued over the page.

