



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MARKS

## ANNUAL NATIONAL ASSESSMENT 2012 GRADE 9 ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE TEST

MARKS: 60

TIME: 2 hours

PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_

REGION \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL EMIS NUMBER (9 digits)

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CLASS (e.g. 9A) \_\_\_\_\_

SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER (✓)

BOY

GIRL

DATE OF BIRTH

C	C	Y	Y	M	M	D	D
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\* 9 E N H L \*

This test consists of 16 pages, excluding the cover page.

**Instructions to learners**

1. Read and follow all the instructions carefully.
2. Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.
3. The duration of the test is two hours.
4. The teacher will lead you through the practice exercise before you start the test.
5. Write neatly and legibly.

**Practice exercise for multiple-choice questions.**

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

The sun rises from the ...

A west.

☒ B east.

C north.

D south.

You have answered the question correctly if you have circled B.

**The test starts on the next page.**

Read the extract below and answer questions 1 to 10.

In this extract from a story called *Lesane* by Ezekiel Mphahlele, Lesane's son is getting married.

- 1 The guests went to the back quadrangle where a tent had been pitched for the wedding dinner — the main item. 'What's a wedding without food?' as people always say. News had gone around that two oxen had been presented by an uncle of Diketso's — not the bald-headed one who was a lawyer's clerk; he had boycotted the wedding. It was the one who lived somewhere in the Eastern Transvaal. Many people said he was a rich man, and pointed him out as he walked with all the dignity becoming a feeder of multitudes. He knew that people don't wait to be invited to a wedding. They just attend.
- 2 Ma-Lesane's chubby face was radiant with pride and ecstasy. Yes, a beautiful and remarkable thing: to decide to marry, and to get married. Since Diketso's eldest brother had announced to his father that he wanted to get married, the news had shot up and down Nadia Street like an electric current along the rows of dilapidated houses that stood cheek-by-jowl, as if to support one another in the event of disaster. It had no fences to jump because there are no fences in Newclare. It took a turn up and then down the next cross-street, and then got out of hand so that it banged insistently on the eardrums of Lesane's enemies and drove them frantic with envy. Diketso's brother was going to get married.
- 3 Every day, Ma-Lesane had slung her shawl over her shoulders and gone to the rooms of those she knew, to invite them formally. As usual, invitation cards had been sent to the younger set and to far-away people. The grown-ups had to be told in person. If someone else had been sent or an invitation card received, the stock complaint would have been, 'She lives nearby and she sends someone as if she didn't know me'; or, 'I just hear from the air his son is marrying ...'. So both Lesane and his wife had to be careful ...

[A short while later]

- 4 In the front room, the bride and groom sat like statues, listening to long speeches by their next-of-kin, advising them on married life. Custom. Uncle after uncle, aunt after aunt, all the available ones, took his and her rightful position in the speechifying. 'You've now left your mother's house,' they kept hammering on and tugging at the heartstrings of the bride. She had to cry; and cry she did. Custom. The groom sat still, like a windswept tree that is determined to stay evergreen. 'Go forth, my children,' said one aunt, the one from Pretoria. 'Remember, a man is a man because of other men. See this woman (pointing at Ma-Lesane). She wants a grandchild to hold on her lap. That's your first duty.' The groom took it in solemnly, looking steadfastly at the opposite wall. His seated posture suggested that he might jump up suddenly and cry, 'A child! My wedding suit for a child!' like a warrior.

[Adapted from *Lesane* by Ezekiel Mphahlele in the *Drum Decade*]

Circle the letter of the correct answer for questions 1 to 5.

1. In the first paragraph, what do the guests value most?

- A The wedding ceremony.
- B The wedding dinner.
- C The bridal couple.
- D The bride's uncles.

(1)

2. 2.1 Why does Diketso's uncle provide the oxen for the wedding?

- A He is forced to do so.
- B He is afraid of being criticised.
- C He is a generous man.
- D It is his duty to do so.

(1)

2.2 Which of the following best describes the grown-ups of this community?

- A They offended others easily.
- B They were easily offended.
- C They were quick to offend.
- D They were not easily offended. (1)

3. Which one of the following is FALSE?

- A The wedding dinner was held in a tent.
- B The wedding guests dined at the back of the house.
- C The wedding dinner was held in the front room.
- D The guests dined on meat from the oxen. (1)

4. 4.1 What is the theme of the fourth paragraph?

- A The importance of obeying one's parents.
- B The importance of having a big wedding.
- C The personal freedom of the bridal couple.
- D The importance of custom and tradition. (1)

4.2 Which of the following does the writer NOT mention in the second and third paragraphs?

- A The love between Ma-Lesane and her husband.
- B The Lesanes' respect for their neighbours.
- C Their neighbours' readiness to complain.
- D The Lesanes' respect for customs and tradition. (1)

5. 5.1 Whose point of view does the writer convey in the first paragraph?

- A The guests' view.
- B Diketso's view.
- C Lesane's view.
- D The lawyer's clerk's view.

(1)

5.2 According to one of the aunts, what is the purpose of marriage?

- A To live happily ever after.
- B To produce children.
- C To get a rich husband.
- D To have a big feast.

(1)

Use the lines provided to answer questions 6 to 9.

6. Why did Ma-Lesane take extra care with the wedding invitations?

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(2)

7. If Diketso's uncle had not supplied the meat, what do you think would have happened? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

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(2)

8. 8.1 Identify the figure of speech quoted below and say which TWO things are being compared.

'... the news had shot up and down Nadia Street like an electric current ...'  
(paragraph 2).

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(2)

- 8.2 What does the figure of speech in 8.1 tell you about how the news spread?

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(1)

9. 'It took a turn up ... and then got out of hand...' (paragraph 2).

Replace the underlined phrase with a phrase of the same meaning.

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(1)

10. Write an informal/personal letter.

Imagine you are the younger brother or sister of the bride (Diketso). Write a letter to a friend who moved away a few months before the wedding. Tell him/her about a memorable incident at the wedding feast.

- Your letter must have the format of an informal letter.
- It must have an address, introduction, body and conclusion.
- The length of your letter should be 100 to 120 words.





This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(12)

Read the newspaper article below and answer questions 11 to 18.

### **Why books are the best gifts for kids**

- 1 Reading is such a privilege. Ever thought of what your life would be like if you could not read? Yet, most adults today do not read in spite of having the privilege of knowing how to read. For some people, the last time they read a book was in school, because the books were prescribed.
- 2 Reading has transformed my life and continues to influence my life. I have always loved reading from a very young age. My father, who has three years of schooling, used to read newspapers all the time. He was the most up-to-date man I knew. I used to be amazed that my father could name the presidents of almost all the countries in the world.
- 3 We must teach our children to love reading because
  - reading gives you knowledge and broadens your horizon.
  - reading expands the mind.
  - the more you read, the smarter you will be and the more doors of opportunity will open for you.
- 4 Children who love to read gain many benefits: for example, they excel at school and later in the workplace. They also tend to be more well-rounded, have better writing skills and are more independent. Children who read have the characteristics of highly successful people.
- 5 Reading gives you access to the world of the most accomplished people. Through books you can walk into their lives and be a guest in their homes, offices and even their minds. You can learn from their lives. It gives you an opportunity to observe successful people. It's like having the entire world of successful people as your mentors and coaches. It can give an advantage as you learn from their mistakes. You can avoid unnecessary pain and suffering caused by lack of knowledge.

11 Circle the letter of the correct answer.

11.1 Which of the following best describes the main idea in the above article?

- A Reading is a valuable and beneficial habit.
- B The author loved reading from a young age.
- C Reading can transform your life.
- D People who are successful are often readers. (1)

11.2 Which ONE of the following best supports the main idea of this article?

- A Reading gives you access to the world.
- B Most adults today do not read.
- C Many learners in South Africa find reading difficult.
- D Those who can read, often do not. (1)

Use the lines provided to answer questions 12 to 15.

12. The author says:

'I used to be amazed that my father could name the presidents of almost all the countries in the world.' (Paragraph 2)

Are you surprised at the writer's amazement at his father's knowledge, as expressed in the above sentence? Substantiate your answer from the text.

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(2)

13. What is the writer's view about adults who can read, but do not? Support your answer with information from the text.

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(2)

14. 'The more you read, . . . the more doors of opportunity will open for you.'

In the above metaphor, what TWO things does the writer compare and why does he make this comparison?

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(2)

15. This article appeared in a newspaper. Would the readers of the newspaper believe the writer's views on reading? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

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(2)

16. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

16.1 'Children who love to read gain many benefits: for example, they excel at school and later in the workplace.'

Which of the following is the correct abbreviation for the underlined words above?

- A Eg.
- B for ex.
- C e.g.
- D eg

(1)

16.2 Many children prefer watching television to reading.

Which of the following is the correct abbreviation for television?

- A Tv
- B TV
- C tv.
- D T.V.

(1)

17. Answer each of the following questions in the space provided:

17.1 Replace 'well-rounded' (paragraph 4) with a similar, more formal word from paragraph 5.

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(1)

17.2 Give a more generally used word for 'transformed', as used in paragraph 2.

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(1)

18. Rewrite the following using correct punctuation:

Try the following give children pocket money for reading books newspapers and magazines.

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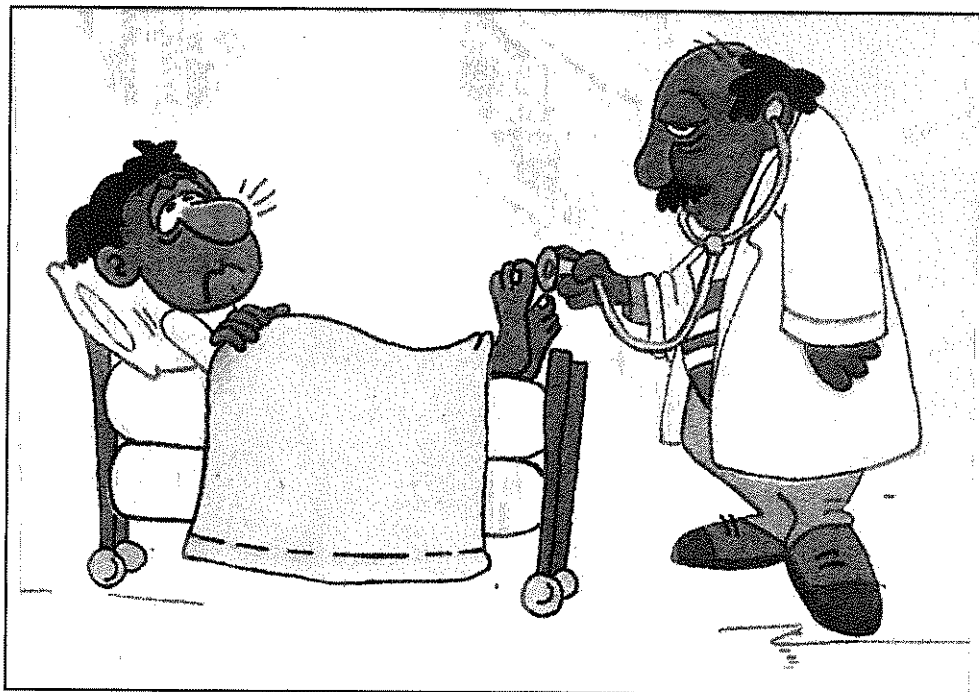
(2)

19. Write a paragraph.

Look at the picture below. Use this picture to write a creative paragraph. The contents of your paragraph must be about the picture.

Your paragraph should have the following:

- a topic sentence, supporting sentences and a concluding sentence.
- a suitable title.
- 60 to 80 words.



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(6)

20. Write a newspaper report.

Write a factual report for your school newspaper on any event or incident which recently occurred in your school or community.

- Include a relevant headline or title.
- Your report should have three paragraphs: an introduction (background, purpose and scope), body (Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?) and conclusion.
- You will also be assessed on language usage, spelling and punctuation.
- Do not use subjective and or emotive language unless quoting the words of a witness.
- Your report should be 100 to 120 words long.

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[illegible]

(10)

**TOTAL: 60**