

Paper 1 Part 2 Question 9-18

Read the text below and choose the best word for each space. For each question, choose the correct letter A, B, C or D

A Mystery Circling the Desert

When I first visited (0) Sossusvlei all those years ago, the hauntingly beautiful and usually bone dry Deadvlei pan was miraculously filled with water. I'm _____ (9) this rare and remarkable occurrence happens only once every decade or _____ (10), making that first visit even more special than it already was. This wasn't my first time seeing the Namib Desert, nor will it be my last. I actually had a fleeting glimpse of the Sossusvlei dunes way back _____ (11) I was 21 and, with a heart full of wanderlust, was backpacking solo around the world. I met up _____ (12) with a childhood friend and, on a whim, we _____ (13) his mum's VW for a whirlwind 6-day, 5 200 km road trip around Southern Africa.

We had a very short-lived 12 hours in the desert, but nonetheless, I was captivated on arrival. As young, carefree twenty-somethings, we _____ (14) broke all the rules and got lost, alone, in the desert after dark _____ (15) ended up locked out of our campsite and forced to sleep under the stars. It was as reckless and irresponsible as it was adventurous and unforgettable and needless to say, I always vowed to return one day.

Fast forward many years, and this time my arrival was by plane and my long awaited return to this _____ (16) desert playground was far less impulsive and _____ (17) more luxurious. With a bird's eye view of the endless sea of undulating dunes beneath us, I wondered just how much, if anything, had actually changed in the 55-million-year-old desert that _____ (18) largely untouched by time.

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|----|---|--------------|---|-----------------|---|------------|---|------------|
| 0 | A | visiting | B | visited | C | visit | D | visits |
| 9 | A | told | B | tell | C | tells | D | telling |
| 10 | A | but | B | so | C | then | D | and |
| 11 | A | who | B | where | C | when | D | whom |
| 12 | A | accidentally | B | unintentionally | C | easily | D | briefly |
| 13 | A | borrow | B | borrowed | C | borrowing | D | borrow |
| 14 | A | prudently | B | hardly | C | cautiously | D | recklessly |
| 15 | A | and | B | but | C | or | D | yet |
| 16 | A | enchant | B | enchanted | C | enchancing | D | enchants |
| 17 | A | clearly | B | correctly | C | unclearly | D | undeniably |
| 18 | A | remained | B | remains | C | remain | D | remaining |

Paper 1 Part 3 Question 19-26

Read the text and answer the questions below.

Suddenly every sound stops. The stillness becomes eerie as though birds, beasts, insects, even the forest trees were stricken dumb by some awful sight. Our field-glasses, scanning the forest exits, see nothing. The hunter leans over the balcony and points.

Five elephants are standing underneath us in shadows, utterly motionless. Our hearts skip a beat as we stare down at the incredible silhouette of the largest of all land animals. We can just make out the heads, trunks, ears, and the arm-thick tusks. How long they have been standing there is anybody's guess. But even more mystifying is the fact that five elephants, weighing about six tons each, could have sneaked up on us without making a sound. Those big feet, 45 centimetres across, hold the secret; they are built-in shock absorbers of flesh and muscle.

Contrary to popular belief, elephants are not clumsy. Almost as sure-footed as mountain goats, they can climb the steepest path, stand almost indefinitely on three legs, and outswim all other land animals.

Minutes pass while the five elephants study the breeze. The slightest sound from the balcony and they will signal "Danger!" to the herd waiting close by in the forest. For elephants, they communicate with one another by means of different throats, trunks and stomach sounds, some of which can be heard more than a kilometre away. At last, an echoing rumble indicates that all is well.

The all-clear sounds with shattering suddenness. Now the whole glade is in tumult as the elephants crash into the open, trumpeting, squealing, snorting and bellowing with happiness at the prospect of a bath. Our little 'hotel' in the branches shudders as the elephants brush against the pole. The whole herd flows under us and out into the brilliant glade like waves in a rough sea. There are too many to count.

Drinking is first on their programme. Down into the lake go the trunks. The water disappears with a sound like that of rusty plumbing into an internal reservoir. An elephant's thirst is equaled only by the great beast's appetite. A strict vegetarian, it consumes up to 300 kilos of fresh vegetable matter daily.

Finally, bathing starts. Young and old dip, spray and roll over in the water. An elephant's skin is 2.5 centimetres thick, but it is extremely sensitive and needs frequent washing. Mothers hose down excited babies making sure that they are clean all over, ears included. There is no mistaking the community spirit of these beasts, the emphasis on discipline and family solidarity.

As the party progresses, we recognise other qualities; affection, good humour, the responsibility of the strong for the weak. Infants are never more than a trunk's length from mothers; herd leaders patrol constantly, taking no chances. The swimming party breaks up soon after 3 a.m. and we retire to our beds to rest.

19. In paragraph 2, what is so 'mystifying' about the elephants?

- A. They are so huge and yet so agile.
- B. They can move around the jungle so freely.
- C. They can carry their huge weight so easily.
- D. They have the ability to keep still for some time.

20. What is the reason for this mystifying act?

- A. It was out of curiosity.
- B. It was to avoid being detected.
- C. It was to defy the odds.
- D. It was to get ready for attack

21. In paragraph 3, what evidence is there to show that the elephants are not clumsy?

- A. They are very steady in their movement on slopes.
- B. They move very fast on land and in water.
- C. They can stand for hours without moving
- D. They do not fall easily.

22. In paragraph 4, how do elephants communicate with one another?

- A. by means of echoes from their trunks.
- B. by means of sounds from their throats and trunks.
- C. through their trumpeting in varying volumes.
- D. by nudging each other constantly

23. In paragraph 5, what does the expression "the whole glade is in tumult" mean?

- A. the whole jungle is noisy with elephants trumpeting
- B. the whole jungle is trembling with great destruction
- C. the whole grassland is invaded by noisy elephants
- D. the lake is full of noisy elephants enjoying themselves

24. In paragraph 6, what evidence is there to show that the elephants have a big appetite?

- A. They eat 300 kg of vegetables daily.
- B. They drink as much as they eat.
- C. They eat non-stop from dawn to dusk.
- D. They gobble down a wide range of food

25. What is the main idea in paragraph 7?

- A. Elephants fighting in the lake
- B. Elephants eating and drinking in the lake
- C. Elephants frolicking in the lake
- D. Elephants drinking to their heart's content

26. In paragraph 8, how do elephants protect the weak and young?

- A. They always call out for the young so that they will not get lost.
- B. They always practise close proximity with the young.
- C. They always bathe the young in the lake.
- D. The head of the herd always patrols the jungle.

Paper 1 Part 4 Question 27-32

Choose from the sentences A to H the one which fits each gap (27 to 32). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Road Accidents

There are many reasons why road accidents happen. The main culprits are the arrogant and inconsiderate drivers and motorcyclists. Being reckless and impatient, they cannot wait and always seem to be in a hurry. 27..... One slight mistake or bad judgment and bang!

Traffic lights are nothing to them. With no traffic police in sight, they just scoot off as they like with impunity. Some motorists do that too when the light is amber or just turning red. Worse still, some drivers who are drunk still take to driving. 28..... They are actually endangering their own lives as well as other road users.

There are also some careless or absent-minded drivers who make a sudden turn to the left or right without giving any signal. 29..... Some motorists park their cars by the roadside without providing sufficient warning, thus, posing a great danger to other road users.

30..... They drive over the limit, even so when it rains and visibility is low. The speed limit is 110km/h on expressways and 90km/h on federal roads. Some motorists, especially lorry and bus drivers who have accumulated unpaid summons are still driving recklessly. Speeding not only kills, but it also affects families on both parties.

Using the phone while driving is one of two things. The first is that it distracts the driver from paying full attention on the road, and secondly is that it takes one hand off the wheel. Using the phone while driving comes out worse than driving under the influence of alcohol. 31.....

It all boils down to the apathy of the motorists. Perhaps it would be good to let the errant motorists learn how to take control of their emotions while driving. In other words, let them take a compulsory 'emotion quotient' test. 32..... Let the message be clear. We do not tolerate inconsiderate or dangerous drivers on our roads.

- A. The car owners have not been servicing their vehicles.
 - B. Worse still, they may give the wrong signal.
 - C. Some motorists regard the highway as a licensed race track.
 - D. They should not be at the wheel at all.
 - E. They overtake indiscriminately especially if the car in front of them is slow.
 - F. Change their mental attitude at all costs.
 - G. The road conditions need to be upgraded.
 - H. Your calls and texts can wait