

Part 2**Multiple-Choice Cloze**

SPM Paper 1: Part 2 (Q9-Q18)

Questions 9 to 18

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

Well-Preserved Woolly Rhino Found in Siberia

The melting permafrost in the (0)region of Yakutia has revealed the well-preserved ice age woolly rhino with most of its internal organs still (9)_____. To date, it is the best-preserved animals ever found in the region. It still has parts of the intestines, thick hair, and a lump of fat. Its horn was also found next to it.

Scientists had to wait (10)_____ January 2021 to study the carcass. The delay was (11)_____ the ice road to form in the Arctic region to make it passable for experts to deliver it to a laboratory. The scientists will take samples from the carcass and (12)_____ radiocarbon analyses for precise dating. They believed the rhino had lived in the late Pleistocene era which was about 20,000 to 50,000 years (13)_____.

Valery Plotnikov (14)_____ is a palaeontologist with the regional branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences had examined the remains. She said that the woolly rhino was probably three to four years old when it died. She added it had likely drowned. She pointed the (15)_____ of the finding where a small nasal horn had also been preserved. This is very rare because it usually decomposes rather quickly. She suggested that the rhino might have used the horn for food as there were traces of wear and tear on it.

The carcass of the young woolly rhino was found on the bank of the Tirekhtyakh river. It was (16)_____ to the area where another young woolly rhino was found in 2014. Scientists called the specimen, Sasha, which they (17)_____ to be 34,000 years old.

In (18)_____ years, there have been major discoveries of the remains of mammoths, woolly rhinos, Ice Age foal, and cave lion cubs. This is probably caused by the melting of the permafrost which has been increasing in Siberia. Discoveries like this are becoming more frequent due to global warming.

(Adapted from -<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55490037>)

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|----------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 0 (A) region | B location | C section | D zone |
| 9 A intact | B entire | C unbroken | D flawless |
| 10 A before | B since | C until | D as far as |
| 11 A because | B for the sake of | C as | D for |
| 12 A pull off | B carry out | C bring off | D carry through |
| 13 A back | B ago | C past | D over |
| 14 A who | B that | C whom | D which |
| 15 A weirdness | B freshness | C uniqueness | D specificity |
| 16 A close | B almost | C about | D nearly |
| 17 A aged | B timed | C stamped | D dated |
| 18 A last | B latter | C newer | D recent |