

NAME : _____

CLASS : _____

SECTION A - COMPREHENSION

PSR 2018

Read the passage carefully.

FLORA AND RAINBOW



Long time ago, on an island in the sea, lived a family of seven sisters. The eldest girl ruled the household, and ¹her sisters obeyed her orders. Flora, the youngest sister, was sent to the forest each day to **gather** wood for the kitchen fire.

Near the edge of the forest was a cave under some rocks. A stream of water fell over the rocks into a pond in the cave. This was a delightfully cool spot, and Flora often rested here on her way home after the gathering wood in the forest. ²**She** would lie on the mossy bank of the stream for hours and dream.

One morning as Flora ran along the grassy path that led to the cave, she saw a little fish in the stream. Its scales flashed out all the colours of the rainbow.

"I am going to keep the fish for a pet." Said the girl to herself. "I will call him Rainbow." So she caught the pretty fish and put ³**him** into the pond in the cave.

Every morning, Flora saved some breadcrumbs from her breakfast. On her way home from the forest, she would stop by the pond to feed Rainbow. The fish would **leap** to catch ⁴**it**.

"Here are some crumbs, Rainbow," she would say. "This is all for today, but I will come again tomorrow." Then she would sing a little song.

Flora began to grow thin and her sisters **wondered** what could be the matter.

One day the eldest sister followed Flora to the cave. She saw her sister feed the crumbs of bread to the fish. Once Flora left the cave to gather some wood in the forest, the eldest sister caught the fish and cooked him for dinner. The bones were buried under the kitchen fire.

The next morning, Flora went to the cave but Rainbow was not spotted. She sang her little song repeatedly but she still did not **appear**. Then, Flora went home sadly. She threw herself upon her bed and soon fell asleep. She dreamt of Rainbow and told her what had happened to him.

Flora woke up at once and ran downstairs. She looked for Rainbow's bones under the kitchen fire. She **wept** as she gathered the bones and placed **5them** in a box. She went to the forest and buried the box near the cave.

She visited the place every day and sang her little song. After a few months, a tree grew with flowers and leaves that shone bright colours of a rainbow. Flora was very happy.

Questions 1-5

Look at the words that are numbered in the passage. What does each word refer to? Write the answers in the spaces provided.

Eg : Flora often rested here on **her** way home.....

her - Flora

1. **1her** -

2. **2She** -

3. **3him** -

4. **4it** -

5. **5them** -

(5 marks)

Questions 6 -10

Underline the correct meaning of the word as it is used in the passage.

6. **'gather'** means a. collect
b. distribute
c. hide
d. put away

7. **'leap'** means a. jump
b. dive
c. swim slowly
d. swim gracefully

8. **'wondered'** means a. felt comfortable
b. felt curious
c. felt grateful
d. felt supportive

9. **'appear'** means a. disappear
b. hide
c. show up
d. vanish

10. **'wept'** means a. acted
b. boasted
c. cried
d. sang

(5 marks)

Questions 11-15

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

11. Where did Flora and her sisters live?

12. Why did Flora call her pet "Rainbow"?

13. What did Flora feed the fish?

14. Who caught and cooked the fish for dinner?

15. How did Flora know that her pet was dead?

(5 marks)

TOTAL MARKS	
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