



**PSLE Stimulated
Mock Test**

The Write Tribe



Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Chinese and Canadian scientists working in the Gobi Desert have stumbled across a series of 80-million-year-old dinosaur colonies including one with a dozen babies. These perfectly preserved, uncrushed skeletons enable experts to study the range of facial and other physical differences displayed by dinosaurs within a single species. As all the babies are of the same colony, they are certain to be the same species and must therefore have a common gene pool. Detailed examination is revealing marked differences between individual colony members, with some of them having broader or larger faces than others.

In the past, differences in head size and shape had often led palaeontologists to conclude that they had discovered new species. With this new data, experts fear that many of the five hundred listed dinosaur species on the fossil record may not be separate species after all.

The Sino-Canadian team excavating several Gobi sites has unearthed eggs belonging to numerous dinosaur species and made some interesting discoveries. For instance, the eggs of the ankylosaur were arranged in the nest in a multi-layer spiral, resembling a pyramid. It seems that the female dug the nest with her hind legs and then laid pairs of eggs as she proceeded around it.

The team has also unearthed the skull and vertebrae of what seem to be the world's largest dinosaur. From the remains unearthed, palaeontologists have calculated and found it to be ten percent longer than any other dinosaur found so far. Related to a dinosaur called mamenchisaurus but as yet unnamed in its own right, it lived around 140 million years ago and was vegetarian.

China's dinosaur discoveries cover the prevalence of dinosaurs from around 225 million to 6 million years ago. Detailed study from fossil material found in China and in North America is helping to prove that many of the later dinosaurs had large brains, mammal-style binocular vision and more complex behaviour than previously thought. They were not, it seems, always the dumb giants they are normally portrayed as being.

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). (5 marks)

26. The dinosaur finds are yielding new information because _____.

- (1) they contain baby dinosaurs
- (2) the skeletons are undamaged
- (3) they are 80 million years old
- (4) the dinosaurs are exceptionally large

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27. What implications does this new data have for dinosaur research?

- (1) For the first time, head size and shape can be studied.
- (2) A new species has been discovered.
- (3) The estimated number of dinosaur species will be modified.
- (4) The idea of how dinosaurs looked is being changed.

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28. What did the ankylosaur do when producing its young?

- (1) It improved on a nest already made by other dinosaur species.
- (2) It used its hind legs to produce a hole in the ground.
- (3) It positioned its eggs carefully with the use of its front legs.
- (4) It laid each egg on top of another.

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29. The scientists have discovered a large dinosaur which is _____.

- (1) about to be given a new name
- (2) the biggest ever found in the world
- (3) complete except for the head and tail
- (4) related to another Chinese dinosaur

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30. What do the recent Chinese discoveries of dinosaurs show?

- (1) They lived for longer than had previously been thought.
- (2) Their eyesight was different from what had been believed.
- (3) Their large brains allowed them to move quickly.
- (4) They declined gradually over a period of several centuries.

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There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking.

(10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| (A) in | (D) that | (G) as | (K) at | (N) with |
| (B) its | (E) of | (H) or | (L) towards | (P) up |
| (C) and | (F) such | (J) their | (M) from | (Q) over |

The sea-lion pups are soon departing into the sea. At the moment, they seem safe (31) they lounge on a Patagonian beach, building (32) their strength. The pups have no apparent awareness (33) they are facing a possible violent death. For every now and then, one of the tall waves thundering (34) from the open ocean carries (35) it a dark, sinister presence.

As the wave crest curves (36) the tumbling water reveals the huge black (37) white flank of a killer whale travelling fast (38) the shore. It then surges up the beach, and with one powerful beat of its tail, it lunges into a group (39) unsuspecting seal pups.

As they scatter squealing in alarm, the whale seizes a struggling pup in (40) jaw. With a flip of its massive tail, the whale disappears into the water with its prey.

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word(s) in the relevant box. (10 marks)

41.

In 1929, a boy who was **bearli** twelve years old, together with his mother and

42. 43.

two siblings left his hometown in Jinmen, China. Sailing in boat, they arrived at Indonesia

44. 45.

six weeks later to be reunited for the boy's father. The **ahduros** journey and stormy seas

46.

left a deep **inplesxion** on the boy.

47.

This boy who would becomes a business mogul is Mr Ng Bok Eng. Mr Ng was

48.

born to a humble family on 28 September 1917 in Jinmen. His dire living **kondision**

49.

forced his family to move to Indonesia in hope of a bright future. Through his struggles to

50.

make a living, he began to develop at an early age, an **antrepricing** spirit and a sharp

business acumen.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

The Game Scouts are nervous as they patrol the African wildlife reserve. Even though they carry automatic rifles, they know face-to-face meetings (51) [] poachers could be deadly. The job of the Game Scouts is dangerous but vital. Once there (52) [] hundreds of thousands of rhinoceros worldwide. Today there (53) [] fewer than ten thousand and people are worried about their future on Earth. (54) [] is running out if we are to stop these magnificent animals from becoming (55) []. Why are rhinos being hunted (56) []? The reason is simple: their horns are more than twice the (57) [] of gold.

Poachers will travel many miles and risk everything to hunt and kill rhinos. (58) [] cutting off their horns, the poachers sell them to traders, (59) [] ship them illegally round the world. Buyers of illegal horns are (60) [] to pay high prices for them.

The African government has resorted to stopgap measures to (61) [] the rhinos from illegal hunters. Chain saws are used to 'dehorn' the rhinos. Poachers will have no (62) [] then to kill the animals. However, since the horns will continue to grow, (63) [] method must be repeated every few years. Dehorning (64) [] not always stop poachers, so conservationists in Africa and Asia believe that the (65) [] solution to protect the rhinos from poachers is to provide a fenced, well-guarded and patrolled sanctuary or reserve.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. All the pupils in the school were given a souvenir for Children's Day.

Every

67. Tammy does not return until she has bought all she needs for the week.

Not until

68. It is necessary to plan your travel in advance. Only then would you be able to go on a trip during the school holidays.

Unless

69. Father asked Lily if she wanted him to wait for her at the bus stop the following night.

Father asked Lily,

70. Farhan returned home. He was called back to the office again.

No sooner