



Subject: Home Language P/	Examiner: Gororo, E
Type: End of Year Exam	Moderator: Böhmer, MA
Date: 27 November 2019	Grade: 7
Marks: 30 Marks	Time: 2 hours

Section A: Unprepared Reading Text /

CHARLES DARWIN AND THE MYSTERY OF LIFE!

In 1831, a young naturalist called Charles Darwin boarded a ship called the HMS Beagle and set out on a fantastic five-year voyage around the world to study and collect animal, plant and rock samples.

Darwin was amazed at the variety of species he saw on his adventure. The Beagle visited the Galápagos Islands (a group of 19 islands and more than 100 islets and rocks in the Pacific Ocean, about 1,000km off the coast of Ecuador in South America) and while he was there Darwin collected specimens and made notes that would eventually change the way people thought about the world...

Darwin noticed that although the different islands had similar creatures and plants, many seemed to have adapted to suit their local environments. Finches (a type of bird), for example, had different beaks on each island, suited to eating the particular seeds or insects found there! He also noted remarkable differences between the mockingbirds found on San Cristobal, Floreana and two other islands. When he returned to England, he devoted his time trying to figure out why they varied from place to place.

In 1858, Darwin revealed his 'theory of evolution by natural selection', to explain how animals adapted to their environment to survive. And the following year, he published *On The Origin Of Species* – a book that would change the world forever! Darwin explained how species can 'evolve' (change or develop) over time through a process called 'Natural Selection'. This shocked everyone because, until then, it was widely believed that all the animals on the planet had been made at the same time by one creator. Some people still believe that today. But Darwin scientifically proved all the species on Earth had evolved from earlier species – and that includes us!

(Adapted) National Geographic Kids. (). *CHARLES DARWIN AND THE MYSTERY OF LIFE!* Available: <https://www.nat.geokids.com/za/discover/science/general-science/charles-darwin-and-the-mystery-of-life/>. Last accessed 23 June 2019.



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Section A: Unprepared Reading Text 2

What is Evolution? (Part 1)

Evolution is a theory, an idea with lots of evidence. It explains why animals and plants are so good at surviving in their environments, the places where they live. What it means is that a species changes over time and can even split in two new species.

The theory of evolution was developed by Charles Darwin back in 1859. He said that evolution worked through natural selection. Natural selection means that some individuals in a species are better at surviving than others and will have more children.

Rabbits live all over and have dark fur. But in a place where it snows a lot, white fur would be an advantage. A white furred rabbit would be harder to see and is more likely to survive and have children. These children will inherit its mum or dad's white fur. Eventually all the rabbits living in the cold place will have white fur.

This is called 'survival of the fittest' because animals which are best able to survive also fit better in their homes, like a white rabbit fits better in a cold country.

Evolution also explains how one species can become two, like with the rabbits. We call this Speciation. The white rabbits are better fits where it snows but dark brown rabbits fit better where it snows less. With time, the different rabbits will become different species, both living in their own, separate environment.

(Adapted) Faunch, A. (2013). *What is Evolution?* Available:

<https://scienceforthekids.wordpress.com/2013/03/12/what-is-evolution/>. Last accessed 23 June 2019.



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Section A: Unprepared Reading Text 3

What is Evolution? (Part 2)

Evolution says that all living things are related. This means that if we go back far enough in time, all animals, all plants and every other living thing, had one ancestor. Evolution led to that one species becoming many more until today when we have millions and millions.

Some animals are more closely related than others. The more closely related animals are, the more they look and act alike. Swans and geese look and act so similar because they are closely related. A sparrow looks very different to a swan, but both still have beaks, feathers and can fly so are related but less closely than the swan is to the goose.

We look very different to a swan or a sparrow, but we do have similarities. We both have two eyes, both have two legs, two arms (adapted to wings in a bird), one head, one heart, a nose and ears. We share all of these things and more with birds so, although we are very different, we are also related to birds.

Evolution is an important part of palaeontology. Many of the extinct animals found look like they have bits of different animals stuck to them. Many fossil birds are found with teeth. This is because birds evolved from Dinosaurs which do have teeth. Eventually birds lost their teeth and now no living species has them.

So, evolution means we share a history with all the animals around us but also all the animals that are extinct. It means we are a part of nature and not better than it or above it. And it means that we should treasure those connections with nature and better protect them from our own, sometimes destructive, ways.

(Adapted) Faunch, A. (2013). *What is Evolution?*. Available:

<https://scienceforthekids.wordpress.com/2013/03/12/what-is-evolution/>. Last accessed 23 June 2019.



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Section A: Unprepared Reading Text 4

Palaeontology

Palaeontology is a science subject. It is the study of ancient animals that have been long dead.

These animals may have died hundreds of millions of years ago. A specialist in palaeontology, called a palaeontologist, will find and dig up these bones for studying.

He or she will compare them to other bones from other animals and if they are different then the palaeontologist names it and a new species is discovered. Often these animals are extinct which means that nothing alive today looks like them.

Palaeontologists want to find out as much as possible about these animals. They want to find out what they looked like, what they ate, how they walked or flew and many other things too.

An important part of palaeontology is evolution. Palaeontologists want to find out what animals are most alike so they can tell how closely related they are.

A species is a group of animals that all look similar and can have babies with any other member of that species. Humans are a species called *Homo sapiens*. We are one species because we all look very similar and can have children with each other.

But the members of a species can look very different from each other. Dogs are all one species called *Canis lupus*. This species includes every dog breed, from great danes to poodles and even wolves.

Cats, on the other hand, are a different species to dogs because a cat cannot have a baby with a dog.

Science for the kids. (2013). *Palaeontology*. Available: <https://scienceforthekids.wordpress.com/dinosaurs/what-is-palaeontology/>. Last accessed 23 June 2019.

&

Faunch, A. (2013). *What is a species?*. Available: <https://scienceforthekids.wordpress.com/2013/03/11/what-is-a-species/>. Last accessed 23 June 2019.



Noah's Ark Independent Primary School

Subject: Home Language P1	Examiner: Gororo, E
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Date: 27 November 2019	Grade: 7
Marks: 30 Marks	Time: 2 hours

Name: _____

Instructions

Read the questions carefully before you start writing.

Make sure you answer ALL the questions.

Write neatly and legibly.

Section A: Unprepared Reading

Read the text given to you by your teacher out loud in front of your teacher and class.

Remember the following important points as you read.

- Make sure that you speak clearly and pronounce your words properly and pay attention to your body language.
- Project your voice so that everyone can hear you clearly. Read the text fluently and use expressions in your voice when reading.
- Read the text so that your teacher and classmates can see that you understand what you are reading.
- You need to ensure that your teacher and classmates understand what you are reading, so use gestures, body language and facial expressions.
- Maintain the appropriate eye-contact while you are reading.
- Keep in mind that you will be assessed against the rubric below.

Criteria	Possible Marks	Actual Marks
Fluency: Reads very confidently, coherently and cohesively. Pronunciation is excellent.	5	
Expression: Tone and expression are excellent and shows full understanding of the content.	5	
Audience contact: Makes eye-contact with all sectors of the audience. Expressive gestures. Open body language.	5	
Total Marks	15	

Section B: Listening and Speaking

Retell one of the four passages that you have heard by different learners in your class in Section A.

Criteria	Possible Marks	Actual Marks
Recalls the main ideas and tells the story in the correct sequence.	5	
Use of language (original word choice), correct use of tenses and language structure	5	
Presentation: Effective communication of passion by voice projection, tone, pace, eye contact and body language	5	
Total Marks	15	

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