

EXAMINATION		NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE	
GRADE		12	
DATE		MAY/JUNE 2024	
SUBJECT		ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE	
PAPER		1	
MARK TOTAL		70	
DURATION (HOURS)		2	
NUMBER OF PAGES		13	
QUESTION PAPER			



SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE
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INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of **THREE** sections.

SECTION A: Comprehension (30 marks)

SECTION B: Summary (10 marks)

SECTION C: Language structures and conventions (30 marks)

2. Read **ALL** the instructions carefully.
3. Answer **ALL** the questions.
4. Start **EACH** section on a **NEW** page.
5. Rule off after each section.
6. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
7. Leave a line after each answer.
8. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction.
9. Use the following time frames as a guideline:

SECTION A: 50 minutes

SECTION B: 30 minutes

SECTION C: 40 minutes

10. Write neatly and legibly, in **BLUE** pen only.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1: READING FOR MEANING AND UNDERSTANDING

Read both **TEXT A** and **TEXT B** below and answer the set questions.

TEXT A

COLOUR IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

- 1 We might think the sky is blue and trees are green, but the truth is rather strange.
- 2 In February 2015, a Scottish woman uploaded a photograph of a dress on the internet. Within 48 hours, the blurry snapshot had gone viral, provoking a spirited debate worldwide. The disagreement centered on the colour of the dress: some people were convinced it was blue and black, while others were adamant it was white and gold. 5
- 3 Everyone, it seemed, was incredulous. People couldn't understand how, faced with the same photograph of exactly the same dress, they could reach such different and firmly-held conclusions about its appearance. The confusion was grounded in a fundamental misunderstanding about colour – one that shows little sign of disappearing despite mounting evidence to the contrary. 10
- 4 For a long time, people believed that colours were objective, physical properties of objects or of the light that bounced off them. Even today, science teachers regale their students with stories about Isaac Newton and his prism experiment, telling them how different wavelengths of light produce the rainbow of hues around us.
- 5 But this theory isn't really true. Different wavelengths of light exist independently of us, but they only become colours inside our bodies. Colour is ultimately a neurological process where photons are detected by light-sensitive cells in our eyes, transformed into electrical signals and sent to our brain, where, in a series of complex calculations, our visual cortex converts them into 'colour'. 15
- 6 Most experts now agree that colour, as commonly understood, doesn't inhabit the physical world at all but exists in the eyes or minds of its beholders. They argue that if a tree fell in a forest and no one was there to see it, its leaves would be colourless – and so would everything else. Put another way, there is no such thing as colour, only how people perceive it. 20
- 7 That is why no two people will ever see exactly the same colours. Every person's visual system is unique, and so are their perceptions. About 8% of men are colour-blind and see fewer colours than everyone else; a small number of lucky women might, thanks to a genetic duplication on the 'X' chromosome, be able to distinguish many more than the rest of us. 25



- 8 Animals inhabit very different chromatic¹ worlds, too. Most mammals are red-green colour-blind; bulls might be famous for their hatred of red capes, but the colour is invisible to them – they are enraged by the fabric’s movements. By contrast, most reptiles, amphibians, insects and birds perceive more colours than humans. Bees see ultraviolet light, discerning elaborate patterns in flowers that we cannot smell, while snakes see infrared radiation, detecting the warm bodies of prey from a distance. 30
35
- 9 People generally name only the colours they consider socially or culturally important. Colour is elusive. One cause of the problem – or perhaps its symptom – is language. In English, we divide colour space into 11 basic terms – black, white, red, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, grey, orange and pink – but other languages do things differently. Many don’t have words for pink, brown and yellow, and some use one word for both green and blue. The Tiv people in West Africa use only three basic colour terms – black, white and red – and at least one indigenous community has no specific words for any colours, only ‘light’ and ‘dark’. The Aztecs, who were enthusiastic farmers, used more than a dozen words for green; the Mursi cattle herders of Ethiopia have 11 colour terms for cows and none for anything else. The vocabulary of these different languages isn’t dictated by the prismatic² spectrum but by what is happening inside the person’s head. 40
45
- 10 The meanings of colour are also socially constructed, which is why a single colour can mean completely different things in different places and at different times. In the West, white is the colour of light, life and purity, but in Asia, it is the colour of death. In America, red is conservative and blue progressive, while in Europe, it is the other way around. Many people today think of blue as masculine and pink as feminine, but only a hundred years ago, baby boys were dressed in pink and baby girls, in blue. 50
- 11 When all of this is taken together – the subjective nature of visual perception, the complicating influence of language, and the role that social life and cultural traditions play in filtering our understandings of colour – it becomes really rather difficult to reach a conclusion that, in the end, colour is ‘merely a phantasm of the senses’. Colour is, if you’ll pardon the pun – a pigment of our imaginations. 55

[Source: Adapted from <https://www.theguardian.com>]

Glossary

¹chromatic

Characterised or caused by, or relating to, colour or type.

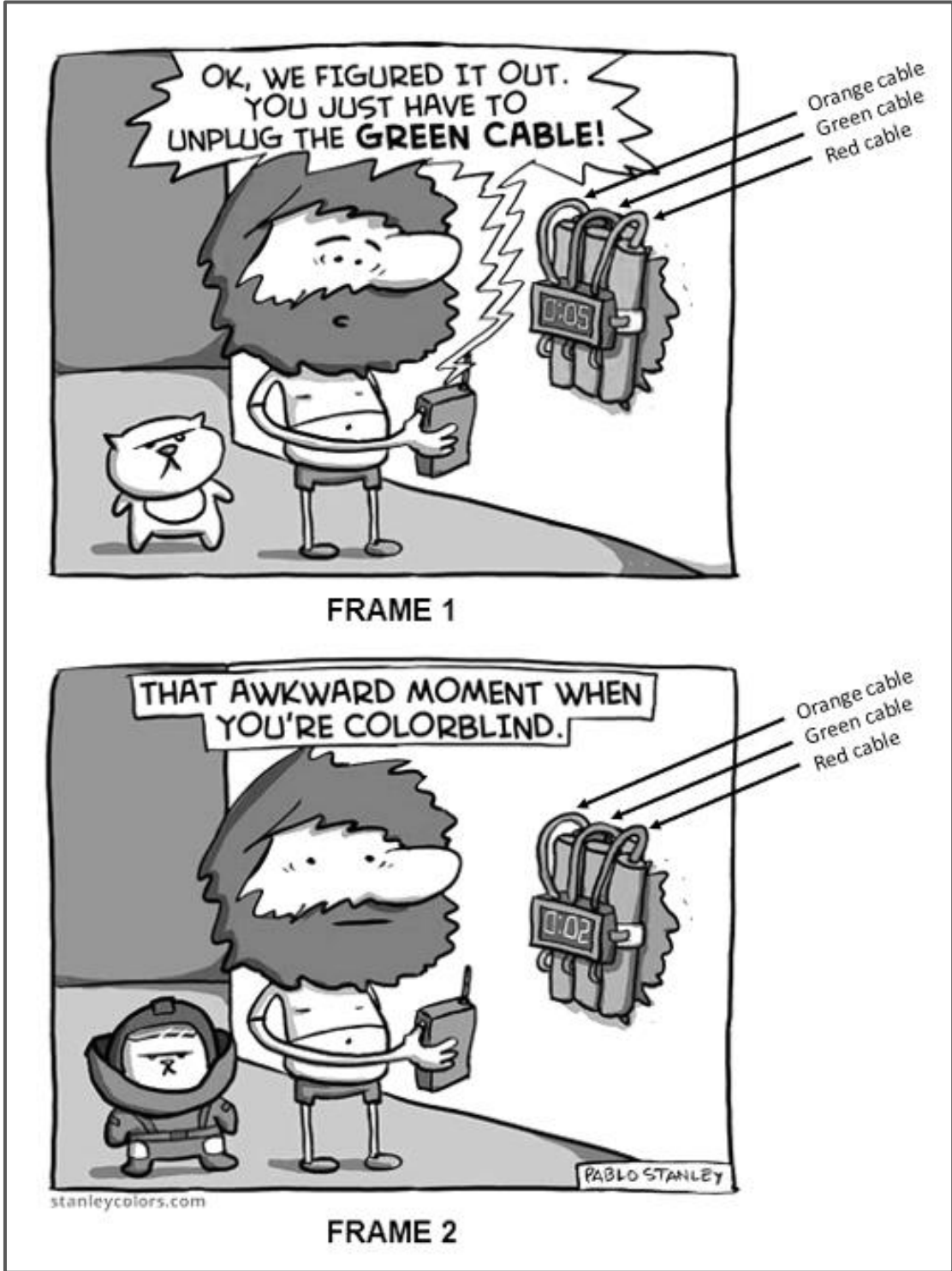
²prismatic

Relating to or having the form of a prism which is a transparent solid body used for reflecting rays of light.

AND



TEXT B



[Source: <https://www.colorblindguide.com>]

QUESTIONS: TEXT A

- 1.1 Refer to paragraph 1.
What is your understanding of the phrase, 'but the truth is rather strange'? (2)
- 1.2 Refer to paragraph 3.
Provide a reason for the 'confusion' (line 8) being experienced. (2)
- 1.3 Refer to paragraph 4.
What does the writer mean by, 'people believed that colours were objective' (line 11)? (2)
- 1.4 Refer to paragraph 5.
Discuss the extent to which paragraph 5 supports the title of the passage. (3)
- 1.5 Refer to paragraph 7.
Comment on the significance of the writer's inclusion of facts in this paragraph. (3)
- 1.6 Refer to paragraph 9.
Discuss how the writer defends her argument that language is instrumental in colour perception. (3)
- 1.7 Refer to paragraph 11.
Critically discuss how this paragraph validates the writer's view on the perception of colour. (3)
- 1.8 'Colour is, if you'll pardon the pun – a pigment of our imaginations' (lines 57-58).
In your view, is this sentence an appropriate concluding sentence to the article?
Justify your response. (3)

QUESTIONS: TEXT B

- 1.9 Refer to FRAME 1. Explain how the visual elements add suspense to this frame. (2)
- 1.10 Comment on the use of black humour in the cartoon. (3)

QUESTION: TEXTS A AND B

- 1.11 Comment critically on the extent to which paragraph 6 (TEXT A) supports TEXT B. You must refer to both paragraph 6 and TEXT B in your response. (4)

[30]

TOTAL SECTION A: [30]

SECTION B: SUMMARY

QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Text C provides insight into using coffee as a stimulant when studying. Summarise, in your own words, **the effects of coffee on a person's mind and body**.

- NOTE:**
1. Your summary should include SEVEN points and NOT exceed **90 words**.
 2. You must write one fluent paragraph.
 3. You are NOT required to include a title for the summary.
 4. Indicate your word count at the end of your summary.

TEXT C

COFFEE FOR STUDYING

Drinking coffee for studying is incredibly popular for many students, fuelling many late-night study sessions in the library. Most people don't understand how coffee affects your alertness and sleepiness. And that's because they don't understand how sleep works. How sleepy you feel at any given moment is basically a combination of where you are in your circadian cycle plus how much 'sleep signal' chemical is in your brain.

Caffeine works by temporarily knocking all of the sleep signal (adenosine) off its receptor sites in the brain. That tricks the brain into thinking you've just awoken, giving you that feeling of alertness.

Happily, there are several short-term and long-term benefits to drinking coffee that are perfect for work and studying. It's even been suggested that caffeine helps consolidate memory, which means drinking coffee while studying could help form long-term memories. Sadly, once the caffeine boost wears off, all that adenosine you had displaced suddenly rushes back into the brain. The result? An energy crash.

When we drink coffee, especially later in the day, it interferes with our actual sleep. Even if you manage to fall asleep, the quality of your sleep will be adversely affected when there's still caffeine in your system. Caffeine can take up to 9 hours to clear from your body. That means that any coffee you drink in the afternoon will likely still be in your bloodstream by bedtime.

The more coffee you habitually drink, the more you *need* to drink to feel the same kind of buzz as before. If you usually drink little or no caffeine, it may only take a single cup to give you a powerful kick, whereas it might take a heavy coffee drinker an entire pot. It's not always convenient to have to consume vast quantities of coffee to get a boost. If nothing else, it's expensive!

Coffee will give you a boost of energy and focus, which will undoubtedly help you study with more intensity. However, a combination of the energy swings and disrupted sleep could, overall, make your life increasingly difficult, especially if you're overdoing the caffeine intake.

As with all good things in life, enjoy in moderation.

[Source: Adapted from <https://examstudyexpert.com>]

TOTAL SECTION B: [10]



SECTION C: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS

QUESTION 3: ANALYSING ADVERTISING

Study **TEXT D** below and answer the set questions.

TEXT D



**WHAT GOES
IN THE OCEAN
GOES IN YOU.**

RECENT STUDIES ESTIMATE THAT FISH OFF THE WEST COAST INGEST
OVER 12,000 TONS OF PLASTIC A YEAR. FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP
TURN THE TIDE ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AT WWW.SURFRIDER.ORG/RAP

The SURFRIDER Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to
the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves and
beaches through a powerful activist network.



[Source: Adapted from <http://blogs.cofc.edu>]

**THE TEXT IN THE SMALL PRINT READS AS FOLLOWS:**

The SURFRIDER Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network.

QUESTIONS: TEXT D

- 3.1 Explain what the advertiser means by the claim, 'WHAT GOES IN THE OCEAN GOES IN YOU'. (2)
- 3.2 'RECENT STUDIES ESTIMATE THAT FISH OFF THE WEST COAST INGEST OVER 12,000 TONS OF PLASTIC A YEAR.'
- Discuss how the language used in this sentence is intended to influence the reader. (3)
- 3.3 Critically discuss the effectiveness of the design of the advertisement in conveying its message. (3)
- 3.4 Refer to the textbox above, and answer the following questions:
- 3.4.1 Account for the use of the hyphen in 'non-profit'. (1)
- 3.4.2 Identify the function of the apostrophe in 'world's'. (1)

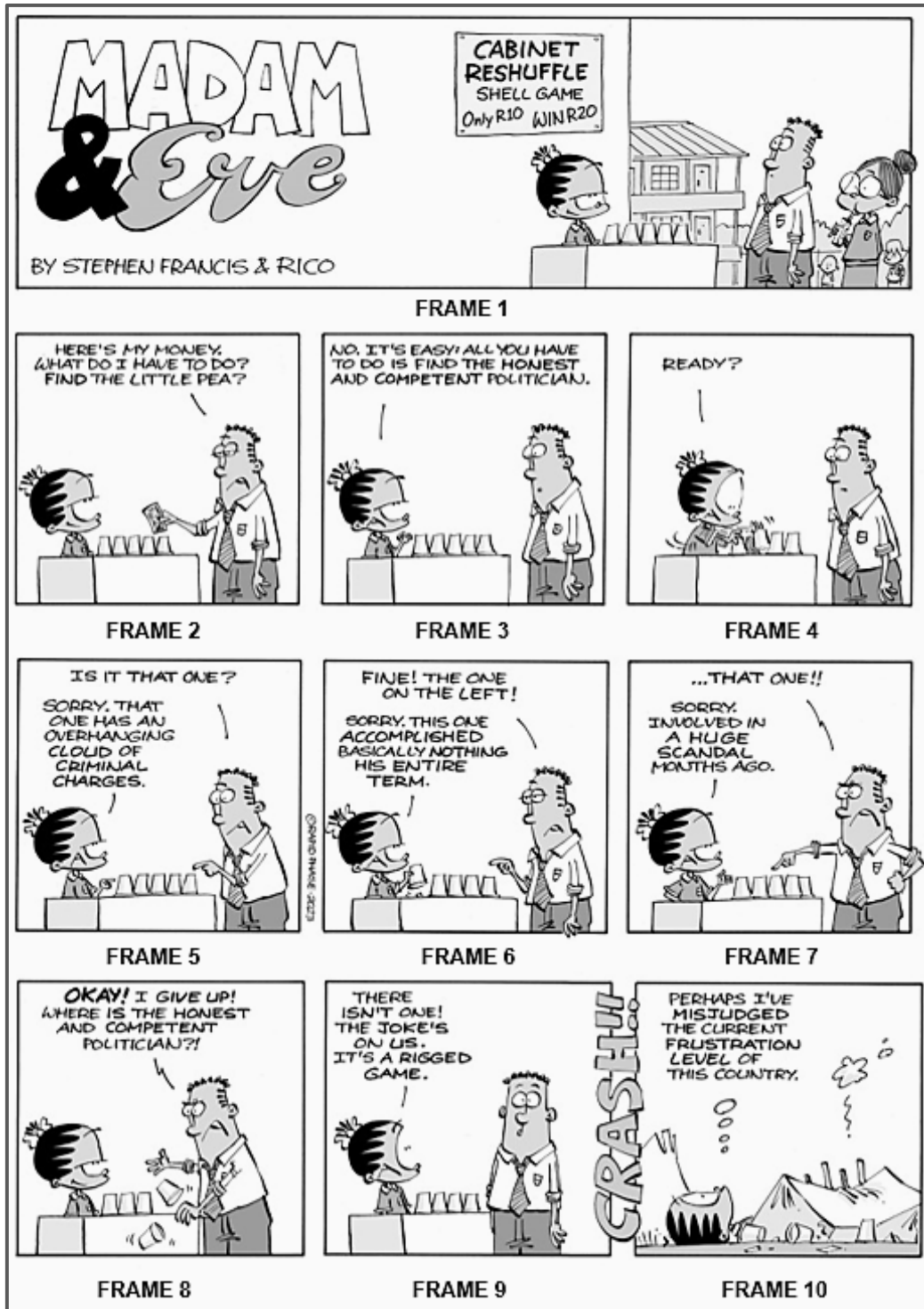
[10]



QUESTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MEDIA

Study **TEXT E** below and answer the set questions.

TEXT E



[Source: <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/>]

**QUESTIONS: TEXT E**

- 4.1 Refer to FRAME 2.
What does the man's facial expression reveal about his attitude to the game? (2)
- 4.2 Refer to FRAMES 6-7.
Comment on Thandi's tone in her responses to the man, in these frames. (3)
- 4.3 Discuss how satirical humour is created in FRAMES 9 and 10. (3)
- 4.4 Provide the verb form of 'FRUSTRATION' (FRAME 10). (1)
- 4.5 Identify the figure of speech for 'CRASH!!' (between FRAMES 9 and 10). (1)

[10]



QUESTION 5: USING LANGUAGE CORRECTLY

Read **TEXT F**, which contains some deliberate errors, and answer the set questions.

TEXT F

FITBIT IS LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA

- | | | |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | Google is pulling Fitbit out of South Africa, TechCentral reported. Its decision comes less than three years after Google completed its acquisition of the fitness tracker company. | |
| 2 | Aside from having a reputation as a more affordable fitness tracker, Fitbit has a storied history and technological heritage. It was founded and created as Healthy Metrics Research, Inc. in March 2007 and changed its name to Fitbit, Inc. that October. | 5 |
| 3 | In May 2016, Fitbit enquired Coin, keeping its wearable payment platform and binning its smart credit card product. This would eventually become Fitbit Pay, who reached South Africa in 2018. FNB was the first bank to support the platform on its Visa credit cards. Five other local banks now support Fitbit Pay on their Visa-based payment cards: Absa, Discovery Bank, Investec, Nedbank and RMB Private Bank. | 10 |
| 4 | On 1 November 2019, Google announced it would buy Fitbit for \$2.1 billion cash — R31.7 billion at the time. South Africa's Competition Commission approved the deal on 22 December 2020 with a lengthy set of conditions attached. | |
| 5 | South Africa joins a host of countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America where Google stopped selling Fitbit. The company has said it is aligning its hardware portfolio to map closer to its Pixel smartphone's regional availability. Google has never sold its Pixel smartphones in South Africa nor has it expressed any firm plans to launch them locally. | 15 |

[Source: Adapted from <https://neuroflash.com>]

QUESTIONS: TEXT F

- 5.1 'Google is pulling Fitbit out of South Africa' (line 1).
Re-write this sentence in formal English. (1)
- 5.2 Replace the words 'more affordable' (line 4) with a single-word synonym. (1)
- 5.3 Refer to paragraph 2.
Remove the redundancy in this paragraph. (1)



5.4 Choose the correct answer to complete the following sentence. Write only the letter corresponding with the correct answer, in the ANSWER BOOK.

'Inc.' (line 6) is an abbreviation for ...

- A. Incomparable
- B. Incorporation
- C. Incorporative
- D. Incorporated

(1)

5.5 Refer to paragraph 3.

5.5.1 Correct the malapropism in this paragraph.

(1)

5.5.2 Correct the pronoun error in this paragraph.

(1)

5.6 Account for the use of the colon in line 11.

(1)

5.7 Provide the adverbial form of 'lengthy' (line 14), correctly spelt.

(1)

5.8 The company has said it is aligning its hardware portfolio to map closer to its Pixel smartphone's regional availability (lines 16-17).

Re-write the above sentence in direct speech.

(2)

[10]

TOTAL SECTION C: [30]

GRAND TOTAL: [70]