MeerkatSkool

PRACTICE TEST

Practice test · Term 1
Version 1.5 · 20 October 2026

Natural Sciences and Technology · Grade 4

Life and Living

Term 1 | 8 questions | CAPS-aligned

TOTAL 54 MARKS

NAME AND SURNAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

Instructions

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections. Answer all the questions.
2. Answer all the questions on the question paper itself, in the spaces provided.
3. Read each question carefully before you begin writing.
4. Write neatly and legibly. Work that cannot be read cannot be marked.
5. You may use a pencil and a ruler for drawings and diagrams.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Multiple choice	5	
2	Matching	4	
3	Plants and their parts	10	
4	Animals and habitats	6	
5	Living things and their needs	6	
6	Investigation: what a plant needs	5	
7	Technology: design an animal shelter	7	
8	Life processes, shelters and graphs	11	
	Total	**54**	
	Percentage		%

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Section A — Short questions

1 Multiple choice — 5 marks

Choose the correct answer and circle the letter next to it.

PRACTICE EXAMPLE · DO THIS ONE TOGETHER FIRST

Which one is the biggest?

a An ant b A cat c An elephant

An elephant is the biggest, so the answer is c. Circle the c.

This example does not count for marks. It only shows you how to answer.

1.1 Which part of a plant takes up water from the soil? **(1)**

(a) The flower (b) The roots (c) The leaves

1.2 Which body part does a bird use to MOVE? **(1)**

(a) Its beak (b) Its eyes (c) Its wings

1.3 Which body part does a fish use to BREATHE under water? **(1)**

(a) Its fins (b) Its gills (c) Its tail

1.4 Which one of the following is NOT living? **(1)**

(a) A tree (b) A stone (c) A dog

1.5 The place where an animal lives and gets all its needs is called its: **(1)**

(a) shelter (b) food chain (c) habitat

2 Matching

4 marks

Match the description in COLUMN A with the correct word in COLUMN B. Write only the LETTER. One word is left over.

2.1 **(4)**

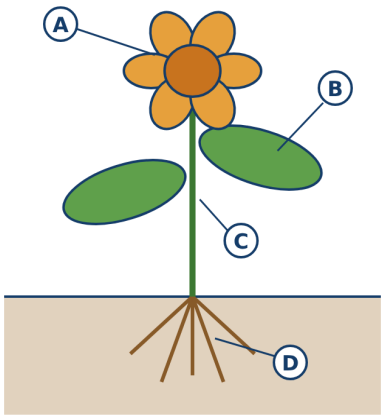
COLUMN A	COLUMN B	Answer
1. The part that holds the plant upright and carries water to the leaves	A. Fins	1 = _____
2. The part that makes food using sunlight	B. Stem	2 = _____
3. The body part a fish uses to move through water	C. Leaf	3 = _____
4. The place where a bird lays its eggs	D. Root	4 = _____
	E. Nest	

Section B Longer questions

3 Plants and their parts

10 marks

3.1 Study the plant below and name the parts A to D. **(4)**



A: _____ B: _____

C: _____ D: _____

3.2 What is the job of a plant's leaves? **(2)**

3.3 Why is the flower of a plant important? **(2)**

3.4 Name TWO things a plant needs in order to grow. **(2)**

4 Animals and habitats

6 marks

4.1 Write next to each animal the habitat in which it would survive best. **(3)**

Animal	Habitat
Fish	
Camel	
Monkey	

4.2 Name TWO ways an animal's body helps it to survive in its habitat. **(2)**

4.3 A crocodile's eyes and nostrils are on top of its head. How does this help it to survive in a river? **(1)**

5 Living things and their needs

6 marks

5.1 Write next to each thing whether it is LIVING, WAS ONCE ALIVE or was NEVER ALIVE. **(3)**

Thing	Living, once alive or never alive
A dry leaf on the ground	
Mould growing on old bread	
A river	

5.2 Mrs Dlamini cuts a piece of stem from a geranium plant and plants it in damp soil. After a few weeks it starts to grow and becomes a new plant. What do we call a piece of stem that is used to grow a new plant? **(1)**

_____

5.3 Animals need their habitat for food. Name TWO OTHER things an animal needs from its habitat. **(2)**

_____

_____

6 Investigation: what a plant needs

5 marks

6.1 Lindiwe plants four bean seedlings in four pots. She gives them all the same amount of water, but puts two in the sun and two in a dark cupboard. **(3)**

a. Which factor does she CHANGE? _____

b. Name ONE factor she keeps the SAME. _____

c. What will she measure to see which plants grow better? _____

6.2 Predict what will happen to the plants in the dark cupboard. Give a reason. **(2)**

_____

_____

7 Technology: design an animal shelter

7 marks

7.1 Design a shelter for a small bird that nests on the school grounds. Name TWO things the shelter must do. **(2)**

_____

_____

7.2 Draw a labelled sketch of your shelter. Label at least THREE parts. **(3)**

7.3 Which material will you use, and why? **(2)**

8 Life processes, shelters and graphs

11 marks

8.1 Name THREE of the seven life processes. **(3)**

8.2 A packet of dry seeds looks dead. Yet they grow when you plant and water them. Are the seeds LIVING or NON-LIVING? Explain. **(2)**

8.3 Write next to each shelter whether it is NATURAL or MADE BY PEOPLE. **(3)**

Shelter	Natural / Made by people
A hole in a tree	
A dog kennel	
A cave	

8.4 In another investigation, bean seedlings were grown in the sun, in the shade and in a dark cupboard. After two weeks they had this many healthy green leaves: in the sun 8 leaves, in the shade 5 leaves, in a dark cupboard 2 leaves. Draw a BAR GRAPH of the results and label both axes. **(3)**

Total **54 marks**



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