MeerkatSkool

PAPER 2

Practice test · Term 3–4
Version 1.6 · 21 October 2026

Social Sciences: History · Grade 5

Egypt in ancient times and a heritage trail

TOTAL 45 MARKS

Term 3–4 | 5 questions | CAPS-aligned

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. Use the SOURCES to answer the questions where the question asks you to.
4. Write neatly and legibly. Work that cannot be read cannot be marked.
5. Think carefully and write full answers.
6. This paper covers Term 3 and Term 4 work. Paper 1 covers Term 1 and Term 2 work.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Ancient Egypt	10	
2	A heritage trail through South Africa	12	
3	Preserving heritage	8	
4	Ancient Egypt: writing, science and medicine	8	
5	The tomb of Tutankhamun	7	
	Total	45	
	Percentage		%

Free sample · feel free to print and share

This test is a free sample from MeerkatSkool. Print it for your child and feel free to share it with other parents and teachers. Ask us about the full booklet with all the tests and memos: meerkatskool.co.za or WhatsApp 066 462 7629. This sample may not be sold.

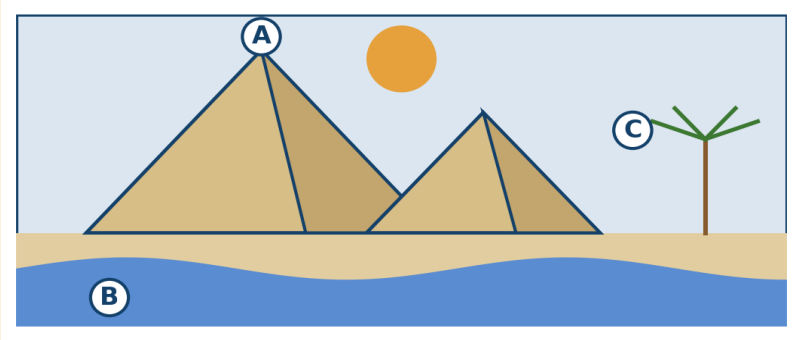
Section A

1 Ancient Egypt

10 marks

Study Source A and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE A · A SCENE FROM ANCIENT EGYPT



An artist's drawing.

1.1 Write next to each letter in Source A what it shows. **(3)**

A: _____ B: _____ C: _____

1.2 Why was the feature at B in Source A so important to the people of Egypt? **(2)**

_____

_____

_____

1.3 In Egypt there is a huge statue carved out of rock, called the Great SPHINX. Describe what it looks like. **(1)**

_____

_____

1.4 Egyptian society had different levels, from the pharaoh at the top down to the ordinary people at the bottom. Which group made up MOST of the people at the bottom, and what work did they do? **(2)**

_____

_____

_____

1.5 Egypt's knowledge spread to other places, such as Europe and the Middle East. Name TWO things people there (and we today) learned from the Egyptians. **(2)**

Section B

2 A heritage trail through South Africa

12 marks

Study Source B and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE B · FOUR HERITAGE SITES

Mapungubwe — More than eight hundred years ago a wealthy kingdom stood here, trading in gold and ivory. Archaeologists found a small golden rhinoceros in a grave on the hill.

The Cradle of Humankind — A set of caves where some of the oldest human fossils in the world have been dug up.

The Castle of Good Hope — A stone fort in Cape Town, built by the Dutch more than 350 years ago. Over the years it was a fort, a prison and the army's headquarters. Today it is a museum.

The Drakensberg rock art — Thousands of San paintings on rock faces, some more than a thousand years old.

Four places on a heritage trail through South Africa.

2.1 Write down the province next to each example of heritage. Choose from: Eastern Cape · Mpumalanga · North West · Northern Cape. **(4)**

Example of heritage	Province
Frances Baard, who fought for the rights of workers and women	
The aloe, a plant used as medicine to heal wounds and burns	
Kaditshwene, a large town built with stone walls	
The Makhonjwa Mountains, the oldest mountains in the world	

2.2 What object was found at Mapungubwe, and what does it tell us about that kingdom? **(2)**

2.3 Why do we call the caves in Source B "The Cradle of Humankind"? **(2)**

2.4 The Castle of Good Hope was built to protect the Dutch settlers' trading post. Today it is a museum for ALL South Africans. Explain how the meaning of the Castle has CHANGED over time. **(2)**

2.5 Write down the capital city of Limpopo and of the Free State. **(2)**

Limpopo: _____ Free State: _____

3 Preserving heritage

8 marks

SOURCE C · DAMAGE AT A ROCK ART SITE

At a rock art site in the Drakensberg the caretakers noticed three problems over the past year.

Visitors touch the paintings. The oil on people's fingers makes the paint fade over the years.

Some people have scratched their own names next to the old paintings.

Where rainwater runs down the rock face, parts of the paint are slowly washing away.

A report by the caretakers at a heritage site.

3.1 Name the THREE problems the caretakers noticed. **(3)**

3.2 Rock art is TANGIBLE heritage. Explain what tangible heritage is, and give ONE example of INTANGIBLE heritage. **(2)**

3.3 Name THREE things that can be done to preserve the rock art for the future. **(3)**

4 Ancient Egypt: writing, science and medicine

8 marks

4.1 The Egyptians wrote with pictures. What do we call this writing, and what did they write it on? **(2)**

4.2 Only a small number of people could read and write. Name TWO reasons why a scribe had such an important job. **(2)**

4.3 The Egyptians were good at MATHEMATICS and ASTRONOMY (the study of the stars). Give ONE example of how they used each. **(2)**

4.4 Egyptian doctors were famous in the ancient world. Name TWO things they knew or did. **(2)**

5 The tomb of Tutankhamun

7 marks

SOURCE D · A FAMOUS DISCOVERY

In November 1922 the archaeologist Howard Carter found steps in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. They led to the tomb of the young pharaoh Tutankhamun.

Robbers had broken into almost all the other royal tombs, but this one was nearly untouched.

Inside lay more than 5 000 objects: gold jewellery, chariots, furniture, food, clothing and games. The pharaoh's mummy lay in a coffin of solid gold, with a gold mask over its face.

A report about the tomb.

5.1 According to Source D, who found the tomb, and when? **(2)**

5.2 Why did the Egyptians put food, furniture and other treasures in the tomb with the pharaoh? **(2)**

5.3 Name ONE god that the ancient Egyptians worshipped. **(1)**

5.4 Why was the discovery of this tomb so important for historians? **(2)**

Total **45 marks**



Free quizzes

Finished this test? Keep practising online!

More than 12 000 free questions for Grades 4 to 7, in every subject and aligned to CAPS. After every answer your child gets a short explanation. No registration needed, and it works on a phone.

meerkatskool.co.za

Scan with your phone to start right away

A small request from us

Thank you for supporting MeerkatSkool! We are a small South African business, and every paper is put together with great care.

This test and memo are a free sample: feel free to share them with other parents and teachers. Ask us about the full booklet: meerkatskool.co.za or WhatsApp 066 462 7629.

Thank you!
The MeerkatSkool team

Free quizzes
meerkatskool.co.za

Email
info@meerkatskool.co.za

WhatsApp and calls
066 462 7629

Help us improve

Found a mistake in this test? WhatsApp us straight away. We fix it within 24 hours and send you the new version.

Scan to WhatsApp us · 066 462 7629