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PAPER 1

Practice test · Term 1–2
Version 1.6 · 21 October 2026

Natural Sciences and Technology · Grade 5

Life and Living, Matter and Materials

Term 1–2 | 8 questions | CAPS-aligned

TOTAL 73 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.
6. This paper covers Term 1 and Term 2 work. Paper 2 covers the Term 3 and Term 4 work of the November exam.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Multiple choice questions	5	
2	Short questions	10	
3	Plants and their life cycle	9	
4	Animals and adaptations	9	
5	Food chains	8	
6	Metals, non-metals and processing	9	
7	Animal skeletons	8	
8	Life cycles and processing materials	15	
	Total	73	
	Percentage		%

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Section A — Multiple choice and short questions

1 Multiple choice questions — 5 marks

Choose the correct answer and circle its letter.

1.1 Which part of a plant transports water from the roots to the leaves? **(1)**

(a) The flower (b) The seed (c) The stem

1.2 An animal that eats both plants and meat is called: **(1)**

(a) Omnivore (b) Herbivore (c) Carnivore

1.3 What do we call the process by which plants make food using sunlight? **(1)**

(a) Evaporation (b) Photosynthesis (c) Condensation

1.4 Which one of the following is a metal? **(1)**

(a) Plastic (b) Glass (c) Copper

1.5 Which metal rusts when it is left in the rain? **(1)**

(a) Iron (b) Gold (c) Copper

2 Short questions — 10 marks

2.1 Write next to each statement whether it is TRUE or FALSE. **(4)**

Statement	True / False
Green plants make their own food.	
A food chain always begins with a predator.	
Water boils at 100 °C.	
Metals are good conductors of heat.	

2.2 Match the word in Column A to the description in Column B. Write down only the letter. **(3)**

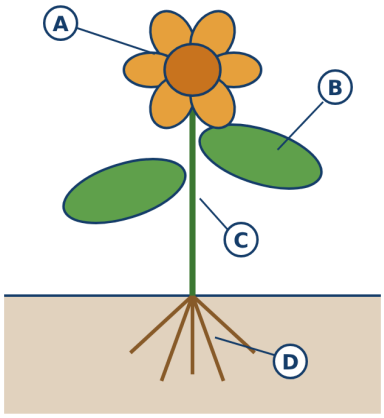
Column A	Column B
1. Habitat	A. The change from liquid to gas
2. Evaporation	B. The place where an animal naturally lives
3. Conductor	C. A material through which heat or electricity moves easily

2.3 Name THREE things a plant needs in order to grow healthily. **(3)**

Section B Longer questions

3 Plants and their life cycle — 9 marks

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



A: _____ B: _____

C: _____ D: _____

3.2 Name THREE stages in the life cycle of a flowering plant, in the correct order. **(3)**

3.3 A plant is kept in a dark cupboard for two weeks. Describe what will happen to the plant and explain why. **(2)**

4 Animals and adaptations

9 marks

4.1 Write next to each animal whether it is a HERBIVORE, a CARNIVORE or an OMNIVORE. **(3)**

Animal	Type of eater
Kudu	
Leopard	
Baboon	

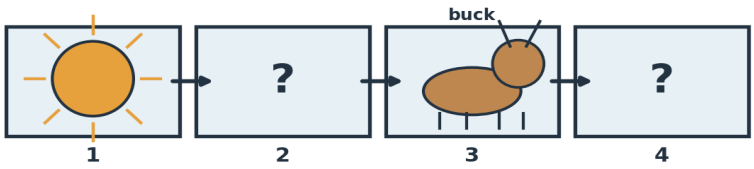
4.2 Name FOUR adaptations that help an animal survive in its habitat, and say each time how it helps. **(4)**

4.3 Explain why an animal's colour is sometimes the same as the place where it lives. **(2)**

5 Food chains

8 marks

5.1 Study the food chain below. Write a suitable example in each empty block. **(2)**



Block 2: _____ Block 4: _____

5.2 Write the correct word next to each role in the food chain. **(2)**

Role	Word
The organism that makes its own food	
The animal that eats other animals	

5.3 What will happen to the rest of the food chain if all the plants die? Explain. **(2)**

5.4 What do the ARROWS in a food chain show? **(2)**

6 Metals, non-metals and processing

9 marks

6.1 Write next to each object whether it is made of a METAL or a NON-METAL. **(3)**

Object	Metal / Non-metal
A R5 coin	
A plastic cup	
An iron nail	

6.2 Name TWO properties of metals. **(2)**

6.3 Soft clay is shaped into a pot and then heated in a very hot oven (kiln). Describe how the heating changes the clay. **(2)**

6.4 A farmer wants to make a gate that stands outside in the rain. Which material would you recommend, and why? **(2)**

7 Animal skeletons

8 marks

7.1 Write VERTEBRATE or INVERTEBRATE next to each animal. **(3)**

Animal	Vertebrate / Invertebrate
A snake	
A snail	
A frog	

7.2 Name TWO jobs of a skeleton. **(2)**

7.3 Is the skeleton of a vertebrate a FRAME structure or a SHELL structure? Explain. **(2)**

7.4 Name ONE animal that has a shell structure on the outside of its body. **(1)**

8 Life cycles and processing materials

15 marks

8.1 Number the stages in the life cycle of a frog from 1 to 4: adult frog · egg · froglet · tadpole **(4)**

8.2 Many animals look after their young until they can look after themselves. Give TWO ways in which a mother bird looks after her chicks. **(2)**

8.3 What do we call it when a bee carries pollen from one flower to another? **(1)**

8.4 Write next to each material whether it is RAW or PROCESSED. **(3)**

Material	Raw / Processed
Cotton picked from the plant	
A cotton T-shirt	
Iron ore from a mine	

8.5 Name THREE ways in which people process (change) materials. **(3)**

8.6 Give TWO reasons why we process materials. **(2)**

Total **73 marks**



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