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English 1 (Home Language) – Grade 6

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, scratch out the letter in the matching square on your answer sheet. Example:- If the answer to question 4 is c, then scratch out the letter c in the square containing c next to the number 4 (see example 1 below). If you've made a mistake and b should have been the answer, neatly cross out the mistake and then scratch out b (see example 2 below).

Example 1:- 4. a b ~~c~~ d

Example 2:- 4. a ~~b~~ ~~c~~ d

Earthquakes!

Read the extract on the right to answer questions 1 – 7.

- An earthquake is caused when .....**  
 (a) buildings shake and fall.  
 (b) the tectonic plates move up and down, or sideways.  
 (c) flooding occurs.  
 (d) cracks appear on the surface.
- A scientist can measure the strength of an earthquake with a .....**  
 (a) stethoscope. (b) seismograph.  
 (c) telescope. (d) bar graph.
- During a major earthquake in a city, there may be .....**  
 (a) powerful winds. (b) tsunamis.  
 (c) volcanic debris. (d) landslides, fires and flooding.
- Earthquakes happen .....**  
 (a) only in the United States. (b) only in Asia.

Suddenly the ground shook! Was it an earthquake? Another tremor? Again the scientist wondered – “Was it an earthquake?” He went to his seismograph and it showed that the tremor was created by a small earthquake. The shaking of the surface of the Earth is caused by the movements of the Earth’s tectonic plates. The sudden release of energy causes waves that make the ground shake. Earthquakes can happen all over the world! Earthquakes can happen out at sea, as well as on land. These cause giant waves called tsunamis. A tsunami can do great damage to the coastline when it hits the coast.

- only in Europe. (d) all over the world.
- ‘Tsunami’ refers to .....**  
 (a) small waves.  
 (b) high tide.  
 (c) giant waves.  
 (d) spring tide.
- The plural of the word ‘tsunami’ is .....**  
 (a) tsunamis.  
 (b) tsunamies.  
 (c) both (a) and (d) are acceptable.  
 (d) tsunami.
- Which language is ‘tsunami’ derived from?**  
 (a) Japanese. (b) Chinese.  
 (c) French. (d) Latin.



Landslides and Avalanches

A landslide refers to ground movements such as rockfalls and mudflows. An avalanche occurs when a large amount of ice, snow and/or rock particles fall quickly down the side of a mountain.

- A synonym for ‘an avalanche’ is .....**  
 (a) rockfall only.  
 (b) snowslide.  
 (c) floods.  
 (d) ice, snow and rock particles falling rapidly.

Landslides and avalanches can be so dangerous.

- The word ‘dangerous’ is a/an .....**  
 (a) adjective.  
 (b) noun.  
 (c) adverb.  
 (d) pronoun.



Read the story on the right about being buried alive in an avalanche to answer questions 10 – 15.

10. How did the friends search for their friend?

- (a) They used their feet.
- (b) They used their hands.
- (c) They used their skis.
- (d) They used their snowboards.



11. The avalanche had carried her about .....

- (a) 100 metres.
- (b) 50 metres.
- (c) 125 metres.
- (d) 150 metres.



12. CPR was administered to get her .....

- (a) to speak.
- (b) body to reheat and stop hypothermia.
- (c) to breathe again.
- (d) walking.

13. She was taken to hospital by .....

- (a) ambulance.
- (b) aeroplane.
- (c) helicopter.
- (d) taxi.



14. Select the synonym for 'probe'.

- (a) feel
- (b) enquire
- (c) collide
- (d) rescue

15. Which is the best collective noun for 'a group of rescuers'?

- (a) A party.
- (b) A horde.
- (c) A gang.
- (d) A crowd.

It had been snowing heavily for days and no one could ski, then the weather changed. Blue sky and half a metre of fresh powder. So a group of friends, some on skis and others with their snowboards, set off for some fun.

"We were skiing and snowboarding down. I wanted to be in front to get fresh tracks but one of the snowboarders overtook me. We collided and my skis came off. I tumbled, then I felt a whoosh of snow. I felt myself falling. I couldn't breathe. Our collision had caused an avalanche that had carried me along for about 150 metres.

I finally came to a stop, face-down, about 1 metre under the snow. In our training, we were told that in case of an avalanche, one has about 10 minutes to be rescued alive!

My friends had no rescue equipment with them! They were just using their hands to probe under the snow. By pure chance, one of the boys felt the back of my leg. By the time I was pulled out, I was not breathing and they had to start giving me CPR. I had suffered severe hypothermia – but this actually slowed my metabolism, and reduced my brain's need for oxygen. I was taken to hospital by helicopter where I was put on a drip to reoxygenate my organs!"

A close call indeed!

### Krakatoa – 1883

16. A person who studies the subject underlined in the passage on the right, is a .....

- (a) Geologist.
- (b) Volcanologist.
- (c) Meteorologist.
- (d) Neurologist.



17. 'The Ring of Fire' is a volcanic chain surrounding the .....

- (a) Atlantic Ocean.
- (b) Indian Ocean.
- (c) Pacific Ocean.
- (d) Southern Ocean.

18. The plural form of 'volcano' is .....

- (a) volcanoes.
- (b) volcanos.
- (c) volcanos.
- (d) both (a) and (c).

A volcanic eruption occurs when hot materials from the Earth's interior are thrown out of a **volcano** (16.) Lava, rock, volcanic ash and gas compounds are some of these ejecta. Some eruptions are quiet outflows of hot lava. In August 1883, Krakatoa, a volcanic island in Indonesia, hurled volcanic ash over 30 kms into the air. This fine dust in the atmosphere caused brilliant red sunsets on the other side of the world in Britain and North America. The mountain top and ¾ of the island disappeared into the seawater, but not a single life was lost because the island was uninhabited! However, the ash and resulting tsunamis killed thousands of people on other islands in the surrounding vicinity.

When a volcano erupts, hot fiery lava can flow downhill.

19. The word 'fiery' in the sentence above is a/an .....

- (a) adverb.
- (b) noun.
- (c) verb.
- (d) adjective.

20. How many syllables are there in the word 'fiery'?

- (a) 1.
- (b) 2.
- (c) 3.
- (d) Not sure.

21. From what word is 'volcano' derived?

- (a) Vulcano.
- (b) Vulgate.
- (c) Vulgan.
- (d) Volcan.

22. Most volcanoes are found in the .....

- (a) 'Mid-Atlantic Ridge'.
- (b) 'Ring of Fire'.
- (c) 'East African Rift'.
- (d) 'Wells Gray-Clearwater volcanic field'.

