



English 1 (*Home Language*) – Grade 7

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

Marine Life

Read the passage below to answer questions 1 – 8.

Marine life, or sea life, refers to plants, animals and other organisms that live in the oceans.

70% of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans. The largest ocean is the Pacific, and it alone covers more than 30% of the Earth's surface. It extends from the Arctic Ocean in the north, to the Southern Ocean in the south, and is bounded by Asia and Australia in the west, and the Americas in the east. Ferdinand Magellan called it '*mar pacific*', meaning peaceful sea.

About 70% of the oxygen we breathe is produced not by trees, but by the oceans. Tiny ocean plants, called phytoplankton, live near the water's surface and drift with the currents. They use sunlight to synthesize nutrients from carbon dioxide, and the water to make food, and oxygen is the by-product.

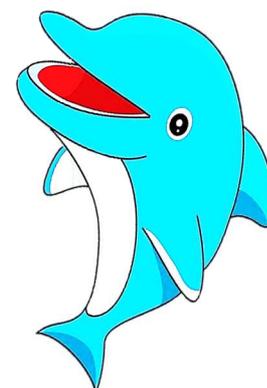
- Marine life is
(a) sea plants. (b) animal life. (c) micro-organisms. (d) All of the options.
- The 70% of the oxygen we breathe is produced by
(a) trees. (b) plants. (c) phytoplankton. (d) zooplankton.
- The largest ocean is the
(a) Atlantic Ocean. (b) Pacific Ocean. (c) Arctic Ocean. (d) Indian Ocean.
- Who named the largest ocean?
(a) Leonardo da Vinci. (b) Marco Polo. (c) Captain James Cook. (d) Ferdinand Magellan.
- What do we call a person who travels to unknown places?
(a) A scientist. (b) A biologist. (c) An explorer. (d) A geologist.
- Plants make their own food. For the process of photosynthesis, they need
(a) carbon dioxide. (b) water. (c) the energy from sunlight. (d) a combination of all of the options.
- The phytoplankton live near the water's surface. The apostrophe ('s) means
(a) many waters. (b) the surface of the water. (c) surfaces of the water. (d) waves of the water.
- What is the synonym for *small in size*? (a) tiny (b) huge (c) gigantic (d) large



Read the passage below to answer questions 9 – 12.

Bottlenose dolphins live in temperate and tropical waters worldwide. They have a well-developed sense of hearing, and their eyes have been adapted to be able to see under water. They rely heavily on sound production and reception to navigate, communicate, hunt and avoid predators in dark or limited vision waters. They live in social groups called pods.

- What is the collective noun for dolphins?
(a) A group. (b) A shoal. (c) A pod. (d) A colony.
- 'They rely heavily on sound production and reception to navigate'. This is a/an
(a) question. (b) phrase. (c) exclamation. (d) statement.
- The word 'heavily' is an
(a) article. (b) adjective. (c) adverb. (d) abstract noun.
- The verb 'rely', written in the past tense, is (a) relied. (b) relying. (c) will rely. (d) relied.

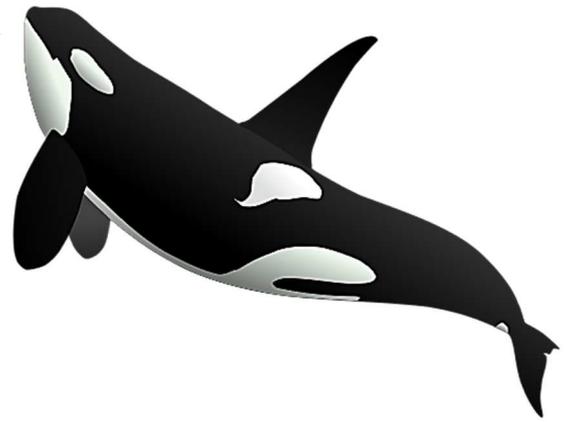


Read the passage below to answer questions 13 – 19.

Orcas are often called killer whales, and are the largest species of the dolphin family. They are found in coastal seas and can adapt well to any climate. They are easily spotted because of their distinctive black and white colouring, and their long dorsal fin.

Orcas are apex predators and feed on sea birds, squid, octopuses, sea turtles, sharks, rays and fish. To catch seals, they beach themselves. This means they jump from the water onto land.

They are social creatures, and work together to take care of the young in the pod. A baby orca is called a calf.



13. The **plural** of 'octopus' is
- (a) octopi. (b) octopuses. (c) octopus. (d) octopies.
14. A baby orca is referred to as a
- (a) colt. (b) foal. (c) kid. (d) calf.
15. What is the definition of 'predator'?
- (a) An animal that kills and eats other animals. (b) An animal that only kills certain animals.
 (c) An animal that feeds off the remains of kills. (d) An animal that feeds off microscopic organisms in water.
16. The alternative name for the 'orca' is the
- (a) friendly whale. (b) painted whale. (c) intelligent whale. (d) killer whale.
17. Referring to the passage, what word means 'along the back'?
- (a) Apex. (b) Dorsal. (c) Species. (d) Beach.
18. 'To catch seals, they beach themselves.' The word 'beach' is a
- (a) noun. (b) pronoun. (c) conjunction. (d) verb.
19. The orca's colouring is
- (a) white and black. (b) grey. (c) just black. (d) a mottled colouring.



Read about seahorses to answer questions 20 – 31.

Their habitat is in the shallow tropical and temperate waters. They are found in sheltered areas where there is lots of sea weed, grasses and coral reefs.

They need to feed constantly on plankton and tiny fish. The reason for this is that they do not have a stomach, and food passes through their digestive system very quickly. They eat a staggering 3000 pieces of food a day!

They blend in with the colours around them and are not easily seen. They **anchor** themselves, with **their prehensile** tails, to sea grasses and corals, then use their long mouth like a vacuum cleaner, to suck up plankton and small crustaceans that drift by.

They have excellent eyesight and their eyes can work independently on either side of their head. This means they can look forward and backward at the same time.

The seahorses are **inept** swimmers. They propel themselves by using a small fin on their back, that flutters up to 35 times per second. Smaller pectoral fins, near the back of the head, are used for steering.

The males become pregnant. The female transfers her eggs to the male, which he self-fertilises in his pouch. The babies are called fry.

Except for crabs, few marine predators eat the seahorse, because it is far too bony and indigestible. Although they are classified as fish, they do not have scales. They have an **exoskeleton**.

Their other threat for survival is the Chinese traditional medicine trade!

20. The correct **synonym** for 'inept' is
- (a) excellent. (b) competent. (c) poor. (d) good.
21. Their young are called
- (a) newts. (b) tadpoles. (c) parr. (d) fry.
22. What is an 'exoskeleton'?
- (a) Bony plates. (b) A scaly covering. (c) A hard bony covering. (d) Bony-skeleton.
23. Which marine predator is a threat to them?
- (a) Sharks. (b) Killer whales. (c) Crabs. (d) Stingrays.
24. What is their other threat to survival?
- (a) The Chinese traditional trade. (b) Tsunami waves. (c) Side currents. (d) Cyclones.

