

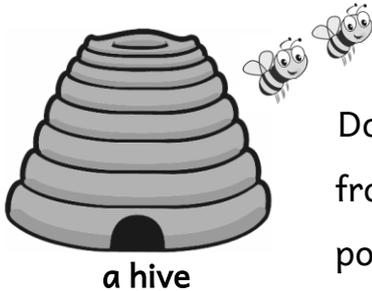
**End of Primary Benchmark
2017
Second Session**

English Reading Comprehension

**30 marks
50 minutes**

Read this process carefully and answer the questions on the opposite page.

How Honey is Made

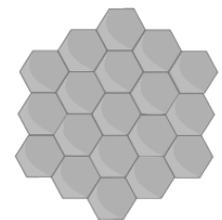


Do you know how honey is made? First, the honey bees fly from their hive, sometimes kilometres away. They collect pollen and nectar from flowering plants.

Next, the honey bees use their tongues to slurp out all the pollen and nectar from the flowers. They then digest all of this, allowing the pollen and nectar to mix with the proteins in their stomach.



The honey bees now return to their hive. There they chew up the pollen, nectar and protein mixture. They store it into honeycomb wax cells.



wax cells

After this, the bees flap their wings to dry up the unwanted liquid. This helps the mixture to thicken.

Once this happens, the honey is almost ready. The honey bees have to seal the honeycomb with beeswax. They do this to keep the honey clean.

In the final step, beekeepers take out these honeycombs. All they need to do is to clean out the honeycombs and store the honey in clean jars.



The combination of flower parts and bee proteins is now honey!

1. Look at these pictures. Then put them in order to show the steps of making honey as explained in the text. Number them 1 to 4.

2 marks



scraping the honey



drying the liquid



storing the mixture



eating the pollen and nectar

2. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

- (a) The honey bees live in (combs, wax, hives).
 (b) The honey bees eat (all, most, some) of the nectar and pollen from flowers.

3. True (T), False (F), or No Information Given (NIG)

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) Sometimes, the honey bees fly far away from their hive.			
(b) Honey is mostly made during the summer months.			
(c) The bees lick the pollen and nectar with their tongues.			
(d) The bees make the honey thick by flapping their wings.			
(e) The bees put wax on the combs to keep the honey cold.			
(f) Beekeepers need to store the honey jars in a dark room.			

Read the following text which is divided into two sections. Then answer the questions that follow each section.

Section 1

James and Emily are on holiday in Egypt with Ms Jones. You are going to read about their boat ride down the river Nile.



“Children, do you know how important rivers are?” Ms Jones asked James and Emily. “A river **provides** water, and all forms of life depend on it. In ancient times, rivers were the world’s first roads, used for trade and transport. Our boat is just leaving Cairo, the capital city of Egypt. The Nile is the longest river in the world. It begins in Sudan and is over 6,600 kilometres long!”

As the boat sailed down the river, Ms Jones explained, “We can see palm trees, reeds, cotton fields and cows **grazing**. That pale green area over there is a field of sugar cane. There are children splashing about and women washing clothes in the water. In the distance, there are farmers leading camels carrying loads of goods. The river Nile stops Egypt from being a desert.”



Ms Jones explained how in summer both the rain and the melting snow from the mountains made the Nile flood. From July to September, water covered the valley.

Ms Jones said that the Egyptians believed that a giant god who lived in a cave ruled the Nile. They thought he blocked the river with his huge foot. When he lifted it, the Nile flooded over the fields and provided water for the crops.



“It was thanks to the Nile that Egyptians created a civilization that lasted for thousands of years,” Ms Jones concluded.

Questions on Section 1

(9 marks)

1. From where was the boat leaving? 1 mark

2. Underline the correct answer. 1 mark

(a) 'A river **provides** water'

The word **provides** in this phrase means (gives, makes, sells).

(b) 'cotton fields and cows **grazing**'

The word **grazing** in this phrase means (looking, eating, resting).

3. Fill in the blanks. 1 mark

(a) In the past, rivers were important for _____.

(b) The river Nile is more than _____ kilometres long.

4. True (T), False (F), No Information Given (NIG).

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) The Nile is planet Earth's longest river.			
(b) The river Nile begins in Egypt.			
(c) The sugar cane field was light green.			
(d) The sugar cane is harvested in autumn.			
(e) There were women doing the washing in the Nile.			
(f) The farmers were close to the children.			

5. Underline the correct answer. 1 mark

(a) The giant god stopped the river from flowing by (using magic, putting down his enormous foot, placing a huge stone).

(b) When the river flowed again, it (poured over, drained away from, trickled over) the fields.

6. List TWO things that flooded the Nile in summer. 2 marks

(a) _____

(b) _____

Section 2

Ms Jones pointed at the river bank and said, “In ancient times the right bank was the ‘Shore of the Living’ where the capital cities of Memphis and Thebes once stood. The left bank of the river was the ‘Kingdom of the Dead’ used for tombs. You can see the pyramids here: the largest one is 137 metres high, and the most ancient is almost 5,000 years old”.



“Travelling down the Nile is like being in a **documentary film**. There are so many wonders all along! But the greatest wonder of all is the treasure of Tutankhamen, a pharaoh who lived around 1350 B.C. and died when he was 18,” Ms Jones said.

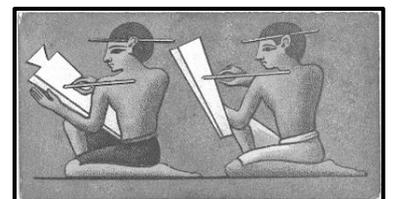
“An English archaeologist, Howard Carter, found Tutankhamen’s **tomb** in 1922 in the Valley of the Kings. The Egyptians preserved the body of their dead, thinking the soul could live after death,” she explained.



Ms Jones continued, “Tutankhamen’s preserved body, known as a mummy, was put into three coffins. The inner one was made of gold; while the two outer ones, which were less valuable, were made from wood decorated with gold. The rooms next to the tomb contained chests of food for the next world and precious objects such as a battle chariot, gold and ivory beds and chairs. The tomb was so rich it took three years to clear it out and list all the material found!”

James was very curious. He asked Ms Jones: “Did children go to school in ancient Egypt?”

“Of course they did!” she replied. “Priests gave lessons in the temples, but only the noblemen’s sons could go!”



Just then their boat came ashore. They got off and walked to the Valley of the Kings, passing by farmers riding camels and admiring the wonders of ancient Egypt.

(Adapted from *366 Wonders of the World* by A. Bertino and F. Valla)

Questions on Section 2

(11 marks)

7. Why was the right bank of the river called the ‘Shore of the Living’ in ancient times? 1 mark

8. Why was the left bank of the river called the ‘The Kingdom of the Dead’ in ancient times? 1 mark

9. Underline the correct answer. 1 mark

(a) ‘Travelling down the Nile is like being in a **documentary film** ...’

A **documentary film** is a movie which is (based on reality, a made-up story, meant to make people laugh).

(b) ‘... Howard Carter, found Tutankhamen’s **tomb** ...’

In a **tomb** one can find a (film, bank, mummy).

10. Why did the ancient Egyptians preserve the body of the dead? 1 mark

11. True (T), False (F), No Information Given (NIG).

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) The height of the largest pyramid is less than 150 metres.			
(b) The oldest pyramid is exactly 5,000 years old.			
(c) Howard Carter found Tutankhamen’s tomb in spring.			
(d) The inner coffin was more precious than the outer ones.			
(e) There were boxes of food in the rooms next to the tomb.			
(f) James was uninterested in what Ms Jones was saying.			

Questions on Section 2 (continued)

12. Underline the correct word. 1 mark

The **chariot** found in Tutankhamen's tomb was a two-wheeled carriage used for (weddings, funerals, fighting).

13. Write down **ONE** other precious object found in Tutankhamen's tomb. **1 mark**

14. School today is different from school in ancient Egypt.

Mention **TWO** differences from the text.

2 marks

(a) _____

(b) _____

Questions on the two sections

(4 marks)

15. Why was the river Nile so important in the past? Give **TWO** reasons. **2 marks**

(a) _____

(b) _____

16. List **TWO** wonders along the Nile and write an important feature about each from the text. **2 marks**

Wonder of Egypt	An important feature
(a)	
(b)	

END OF READING COMPREHENSION PAPER