FSP
Vibrant Youngsters Competitions

QUESTION BOOKLET 2026

INTERNATIONAL FSP

ENGLISH LINGUISTICS CONTEST

VOLUME - 24

ACADEMIC CONTESTS AUSTRALIA
ACA

GRADE 5 & 6

VIBRANT YOUNGSTERS

TIME ALLOWED	90 MINUTES
MAXIMUM MARKS	90

INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE EXAMINATION INVIGILATORS

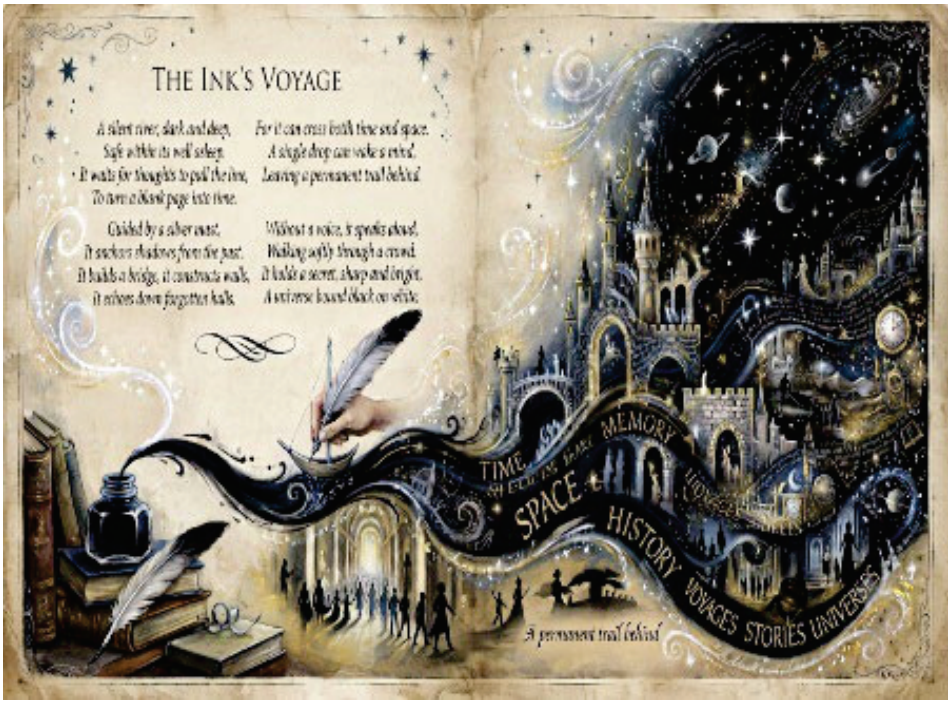
1. Invigilators must be carried out promptly.
2. Don't start attempting the paper until instructed by the invigilator.
3. Carefully recheck your name, father name, school name, address etc. at the bubble sheet / answer sheet.
4. Record all answers on the bubble sheet only. select best answer from the four given options and mark only one option in each question.
5. Use blue / black ink to fill up the circles for your answers on the bubble sheet use of lead pencil is not allowed.
6. Use of any helping material including cell phones and electronic devices is strictly prohibited.
7. Every correct answer earns three points. there would be negative marking. one point would be deducted for every incorrect answer.
8. Candidates may not leave the examination room unescorted for any reason, and this includes using the washroom.
9. No materials or electronic devices shall be brought in to the room.
10. There are five categories of the contest as under:

A	Vibrant youngsters Grade 1 & 2
B	Vibrant youngsters Grade 3 & 4
C	Vibrant youngsters Grade 5 & 6
D	Vibrant youngsters Grade 7 & 8
E	Vibrant youngsters Grade 9 & 10 / 0-levels

11. Only registered students can participate in the contest.
12. No candidate shall take out of the hall any answer book(s) or part of an answer book, whether used or unused, or other supplied material.
13. If a participant does not understand a word or phrase on the exam paper, neither examiner nor invigilator is permitted to answer.
14. for information about upcoming contests or providing valuable feedback, please visit **www.fspcompetitions.org**
15. Any academic misconduct or malpractice must be reported to FSP vibrant youngsters at **info@fspcompetitions.org**

Read the poem and answer questions 1 through 6.

The Ink's Voyage



A silent river, dark and deep,
Safe within its well asleep.

It waits for thoughts to pull the line,
To turn a blank page into time.

Guided by a silver mast,
It anchors shadows from the past.

It builds a bridge, it constructs walls,
It echoes down forgotten halls.

Do not mistake its quiet face,
For it can cross both time and space.

A single drop can wake a mind,
Leaving a permanent trail behind.

Without a voice, it speaks aloud,
Walking softly through a crowd.

It holds a secret, sharp and bright,
A universe bound black on white.

Q1. When the poet writes that the ink "waits for thoughts to pull the line," what is the most likely meaning?

A. The ink requires a writer's creative ideas to direct its movement across the page.

B. The well of ink is physically attached to a fishing line inside the desk.

C. The author is trying to measure the physical depth of the liquid bottle.

D. The wind must blow across the paper to help the fluid dry quickly.

Q2. Why is the pen described as a "silver mast" in the second stanza?

A. It indicates that the writing tools are constructed from salvaged shipwrecks.

B. It implies the pen acts like a sailing ship guiding the ink on a journey of expression.

C. It suggests that writing must only take place while traveling across the ocean.

D. It highlights the heavy weight of metal writing instruments compared to feathers.

Q3. The line "A universe bound black on white" is a metaphor. What does this metaphor help the reader understand?

A. The physical chemical components used to manufacture standard dark ink pigments.

B. That printing presses require immense physical energy to create books.

C. That a simple written text has the unlimited potential to contain whole worlds of imagination.

D. That human history can only be preserved during nighttime observations.

Q4. The speaker states, "Without a voice, it speaks aloud." This line reveals that written language:

A. Communicates powerful ideas across generations without needing spoken audio.

B. Can only be fully comprehended when read out loud in an auditorium.

C. Frequently confuses readers because it lacks a clear natural tone.

D. Causes silent spaces to become noisy and chaotic for the reader.

Q5. How can the ink's secret be both "sharp and bright" while being "black on white"?

A. The phrase points to the visual contrast of dark text that cuts sharply into the mind with brilliant clarity.

B. The words show that the liquid changes its physical color when exposed to direct sunlight.

C. The text implies that the author is using flawed vocabulary that contradicts itself.

D. The description indicates that writing can be physically dangerous if handled improperly.

Q6. Besides the physical act of writing, what larger abstract idea could this entire poem symbolize?

A. The industrial evolution of modern manufacturing tools.

B. The transition of seasons from a dark winter to a bright summer.

C. The enduring power of human ideas to take root, preserve history, and influence minds.

D. The physical migration patterns of oceanic explorers.

Read the story and answer questions 7 through 14.
The Archivist of Echoes



In the deepest basement of the Grand Library, where the air smelled of ancient parchment, Master Paul worked on a craft that did not use ink. The shelves surrounding him were not filled with books, but with thousands of tiny glass jars, each sealed tightly with wax.

People traveled from distant provinces to bring him their worn heirlooms—an old brass pocket watch, a weathered compass, or

a tarnished silver key. Paul would hold the object to his ear, his eyes closing as he listened to its invisible history. He didn't polish the metal to make it look brand new. Instead, he used a specialized copper funnel to capture the faint, structural sounds trapped inside the metal, releasing them safely into a fresh glass jar.

"This is the art of Resonance," Paul explained to his new assistant, Maya. "An object absorbs the spirit of its environment. We do not scrub away its age; we isolate its voice so its journey can be studied."

A young girl entered the shop, holding a cracked porcelain music box. It was a family treasure, but it no longer played any melody. Her expression was heavy with disappointment.

"The gears are frozen," she whispered. "Can it be saved?"

Paul took the music box and set it on his workbench. "It will share a deeper history now than it did when it was pristine."

Maya watched as Paul worked meticulously. He did not force the gears open. He gently applied a resonant tuning fork along the fractures, channeling the trapped frequencies until the box settled. Suddenly, a soft, golden hum vibrated into the room, and the air inside the jar next to it began to glow with a soft light.

He handed the music box back. "Now its identity is distinct. Its history of silence and recovery is what makes its presence remarkable."

The girl held the music box close. It felt different—alive with character. She no longer saw a broken mechanism; she saw a vessel carrying a story of endurance. Maya looked at her teacher and understood. Paul wasn't merely clearing out dust; he was a curator of time, demonstrating that history can break, adapt, and still retain its essential truth.

Q7. What is the central theme or underlying lesson of this story?

A. Modern automated tools are vastly superior to handcrafted restoration methods.

B. Valuing an object's history and struggles can reveal a unique form of strength and beauty.

C. Subterranean libraries should preserve written documents rather than mechanical relics.

D. Relics lose their financial value once their internal mechanisms stop functioning.

Q8. Based on the narrative, what does the practice of "Resonance" most accurately represent?

A. A chemical method used to clean rust off ancient metal surfaces.

B. A process that honors and preserves the invisible history and experiences of an object.

C. The formal administrative guidelines established by the Grand Library council.

D. The industrial manufacturing of musical instruments.

Q9. Why does the author emphasize that the archivist's workshop is located "in the deepest basement"?

A. To imply that the work is unauthorized by municipal authorities.

B. To suggest the craft requires a quiet, hidden environment away from the superficial noise of the world.

C. To explain why the shelves are prone to structural deterioration.

D. To show that the library ran out of storage space on the upper levels.

Q10. How does the girl's perception of the music box transform by the conclusion of the story?

A. She transitions from viewing it as a ruined, useless item to recognizing it as a unique piece of living history.

B. She becomes disappointed because it can no longer produce loud musical notes.

C. She grows anxious about the strange visual glow appearing inside the storage jar.

D. She assumes the item has been exchanged for a more expensive modern toy.

Q11. What does Paul imply when he states, "It will share a deeper history now than it did when it was pristine"?

A. Perfect objects lack the character and narrative that come from enduring challenges over time.

B. The music box will instantly begin to generate financial wealth for the family.

C. Mechanical items function with greater physical speed after they have been broken.

D. The assistant will need to record the details in a brand new catalog.

Q12. The author describes the trapped sounds inside the jar as a "golden hum." What is the primary effect of this word choice?

A. It implies the sound possesses a tangible, precious value and a new lease on life.

B. It indicates that the internal gears were constructed from solid gold.

C. It suggests the artifact is dangerous and emitting chemical radiation.

D. It emphasizes that the workshop requires better electrical lighting systems.

Q13. Which statement best analyzes Master Paul's role within the community?

A. He operates a standard commercial retail outlet for wealthy collectors.

B. He acts as an instructor who uses his unique skill to teach people how to appreciate resilience and history.

C. He alters mechanical objects to trick buyers into paying higher prices.

D. He works as a secretive clerk who prevents the public from accessing archival data.

Q14. What is the most significant way the music box changes after being preserved by Paul?

A. Its external structure is modified to look like a brand new product.

B. Its past experience of silence and survival is brought to light and honored.

C. Its physical weight increases due to the application of copper tuning resins.

D. It can now only function when placed inside a sealed glass container.

Q15. **Determine the main, or central, idea of the following passage:**

Nature's Hidden Architects

Restoring damaged wetlands helps coastal communities by reducing the structural impact of severe floods. Yet, many urban planners fill in these marshy areas to build expanding highways and parking zones. The challenge, therefore, is how to change public perspective on these environments. One method that delivers results is installing elevated public boardwalks directly through wetlands. Seeing the complex root systems helps citizens value their protective function. Another approach involves integrating ecological education into local community centers. If we make these natural defenses accessible and educate the public on their function, preservation support increases.

What is the central idea of the passage?

A. Coastal communities must stop building automotive infrastructure entirely to survive flooding.

B. Wetlands are the primary source of renewable energy generation for expanding modern cities.

C. We can improve wetland preservation by increasing public access and teaching communities about their protective value.

D. Urban planning departments are legally required to manage flood patterns using artificial dams.

Q16. Look at this dictionary entry:

pretext (noun)

Definition: A stated reason given to hide the real, underlying motive or truth of an action.

Synonyms: ruse, guise, cover story

Which of the following scenarios is an example of a pretext?

A. Claiming you need to borrow a classmate's notes just to find out if they completed the assignment.

B. Sitting quietly in the school library to read an assigned historical text.

C. Admitting to your teacher that you forgot to bring your science project to class.

D. Working overtime on a group project to ensure your team earns the highest mark.

Q17. Read the following passage:

The Missing Piece

"I heard he scaled the treacherous cliffs of Mount Everest without a single safety rope," Elena whispered to Arthur.

"I heard he discovered an ancient sunken palace off the coast of Greece," Arthur added. He wasn't certain it occurred, but it was entertaining to watch Elena's expressions of absolute wonder.

Anticipated whispers filled the corridor as Arthur and his peers waited outside the laboratory door. Their upcoming chemistry experiment was completely overshadowed by a more compelling occurrence. Today, a new instructor was joining their academy, and apparently, he was an elite researcher.

"Class," called Dr. Vance, stepping forward with a man following quietly behind him. "This is our new instructor, Dr. Julian."

Craning his neck, Arthur thought he'd never seen someone look so **diffident** during an introduction. Dr. Julian stood partially behind Dr. Vance, staring intently at his own notepad.

Look at the word in bold. Use context clues in the nearby text to figure out the meaning of the word ***diffident***:

A. Highly enthusiastic about demonstrating his scientific authority to the classroom.

B. Confused by the structural layout of the laboratory facility.

C. Shy, reserved, and hesitant to be the center of public attention.

D. Frustrated by the loud background noise generated by the waiting students.

Q18. Complete the conceptual analogy:

Foundation is to skyscraper as root is to _____

A. branch

B. tree

C. soil

D. growth

Q19. Read the passage and answer the question below:

Silas and the Mechanical Clock



Silas examined the clockwork bird, but when the crowd gathered to applaud its performance, he could discern their interest was fading. *"I have demonstrated the same robotic motions with the same standard gears for months. My exhibition requires a transformation,"* he realized.

The following morning, he unlocked the hatch leading to the forgotten clock tower and listened to the intricate ticking from the

chamber. Soon, a complex, irregular rhythm caused his attention to sharpen.

"How magnificent!" Silas thought. *"No ordinary watchmaker can design a cadence like this. I must isolate this mechanism for my exhibition."*

Suddenly, the ticking ceased, leaving the chamber in total silence. He wished he could venture further into the gears to inspect the failure, but if the internal springs were exposed to dust without proper ventilation, the entire delicate framework would lock permanently.

What is the primary reason why Silas is investigating the sounds inside the forgotten clock tower?

A. He is attempting to repair the city's primary emergency alarm system.

B. He hopes to find inspiration and distinct structural ideas to improve his own exhibition.

C. He has a professional obligation to dismantle the tower for construction crews.

D. He is searching for lost historical documents hidden by previous watchmakers.

Q20. Complete the text with the most appropriate conjunctive adverb:

Many marine organisms rely on bioluminescence to navigate dark oceanic trenches. Various studies demonstrate that this chemical light helps species attract prey, confuse predators, and communicate coordinates. _____, certain creatures utilize these flashes to camouflage against downwelling sunlight.

A. Consequently
B. Paradoxically
C. Furthermore
D. In other words

READ THE FOLLOWING POEM AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM 21-24

The Iron Gear

We've calibrated this for days,
Adjusting components in distinct ways.
And now our engine almost sways.

The singular detail we failed to mind,
Was gathering the scrap we had to find,
To leave the stalled machine behind.

Sorting through metals alone is cold,
Some tasks require a mutual hold.

Complex struggles are best controlled as a pair.

Q21. The bolded text requires an inference about the situation. Based on the poem, which sentence is most likely true?

A. The team completed the engine build ahead of schedule without using any scrap metal.

B. The workers need to cooperate with one another to gather the necessary materials for the machine.

C. The narrator prefers to operate the factory machinery entirely on his own.

D. The project was abandoned because the components were completely incompatible.

Q22. What is the primary message conveyed by the poem?

A. Working independently prevents unnecessary errors when building complex machines.

B. Overcoming difficult challenges is best achieved through cooperation and teamwork.

C. Machines require brand-new parts to operate smoothly without stalling.

D. Setting up engines quickly is more important than paying attention to details.

Q23. **In the first stanza, what does the word "calibrated" most likely mean?**

A. Destroyed completely

B. Carefully adjusted and fine-tuned

C. Left uncleaned for a long time

D. Painted in bright colors

Q24. **According to the second stanza, what critical detail did the team forget to do?**

A. Gather the necessary scrap metal needed to get the machine working.

B. Read the instruction manual before assembling the engine.

C. Turn off the power before adjusting the components.

D. Build a shelter to protect the machine from cold weather.

Q25. **Complete the sentence with the correct homophone required for formal context:**

The engineering firm will choose the optimal site to construct the new research _____.

A. cite

B. sight

C. site

D. side

Q26. What is the meaning of the idiom "to read between the lines" as used in the context of critical analysis?

A. To scan a text rapidly to locate specific numeric data points.

B. To discover a hidden, implied meaning that is not stated directly on the surface.

C. To correct typographical errors found within a published document.

D. To read a narrative out loud to improve vocal articulation.

Q27. Determine the central idea of this operational paragraph:

Executing a successful illusion requires directing the audience's focus. To make a coin vanish, first hold it visibly between your index finger and thumb. Tilt your hand slightly toward your torso, masking the movement with your remaining fingers. Next, allow the coin to slide quietly into your palm while keeping your fingers extended as if it is still there. Because the audience follows the continuous arc of your hand, it appears as though the coin has dissolved into the air.

What is the main idea of the passage?

A. Sleight of hand can make an object appear to disappear through strategic misdirection.

B. Magic illusions are too complex for casual observers to attempt without mechanical tools.

C. Coins are the most versatile objects to use when training new performers.

D. Audiences prefer illusions that involve large structural props over hand movements.

Q28. Select the paragraph option that maintains an entirely objective and academic tone:

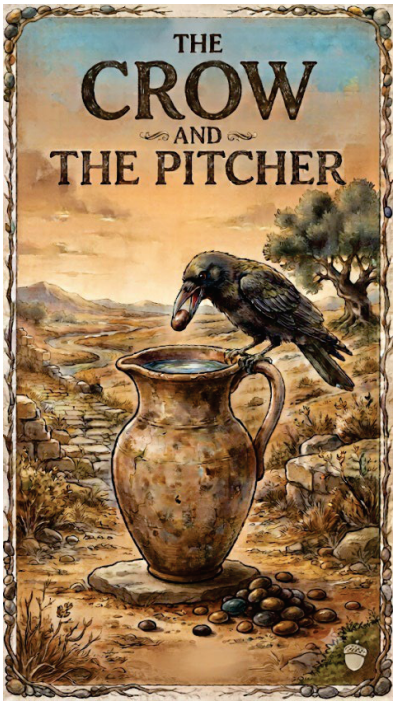
A. The results of the chemistry experiment were totally awesome because the compound turned bright blue in seconds.

B. I think the research team made a huge mistake because they didn't watch the temperature levels very well.

C. Analysis of the compound indicated a notable shift in coloration upon reaching the target thermal parameters.

D. Check out how fast the reaction occurs when you dump the liquid mixture into the container.

Q29. **Read the short fable below and answer the question:**



A thirsty crow found a pitcher with a small amount of water at the very bottom. She reached her beak inside, but she could not extend far enough to touch the liquid. Instead of panicking, the crow looked around and noticed a collection of small pebbles on the ground. She began dropping the pebbles into the pitcher one by one. With each stone, the water level rose slightly higher until it finally reached the brim, allowing her to drink.

What is the primary moral lesson taught by this fable?

A. Avoid taking risks when resources are limited.

B. Persistent, clever problem-solving can overcome seemingly impossible obstacles.

C. Always depend on external assistance when facing unexpected hardships.

D. Nature provides unlimited solutions if you wait long enough.

Q30. When the crow encounters the initial challenge of the deep pitcher, how does she solve the problem?

A. She tips the vessel over to spill the contents onto the soil.

B. She systematically alters the internal displacement by adding pebbles to raise the water.

C. She abandons the location to search for a larger body of water.

D. She waits for rainfall to replenish the container naturally.

NOTES

NOTES

ANSWER SHEET

GRADE 5 & 6

Q.NO	ANSWER	Q.NO	ANSWER
1	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	16	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ
2	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	17	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ
3	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ	18	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
4	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	19	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
5	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	20	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ
6	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ	21	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
7	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	22	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
8	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	23	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
9	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	24	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ
10	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	25	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
11	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	26	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
12	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ	27	● Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ
13	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	28	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ
14	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ	29	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ
15	Ⓐ Ⓑ ● Ⓓ	30	Ⓐ ● Ⓒ Ⓓ



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