

Number _____
Surname _____
Name _____
Father's name _____



THE G C SCHOOL OF CAREERS

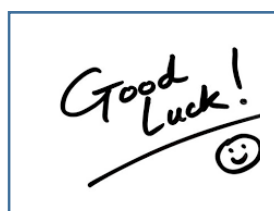
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

ENGLISH

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

- Answer **ALL** the questions in the spaces provided.
- Your answers must be clearly and neatly presented.
- This paper consists of **13 pages including the cover page.**



Section 1: Use of English

Tick the most appropriate way to complete each sentence:

1. I wondered why ____.
 he was shouting
 was he shouting

2. "Does he have any neighbours?" "Yes, he ____."
 has
 does

3. ____ population has increased in recent decades.
 Cypru's
 Cyprus's

4. The judge said that they ____ Big George from prison by 2030.
 would release
 would have released

5. "Why is the garden in such a terrible mess?" "Because the children ____ football."
 were playing
 have been playing

6. The news about your success _____ wonderful.
 is
 are

7. Jake and Sue ____ dating for 2 years before they got married.

had been

had being

8. I wish I ____ to the wedding last weekend.

had gone

went

9. Dad is at the theatre. He ____ off his phone.

already turned

will have already turned

10. Our parents ____ their cars washed three times this week.

have had

had had

20 marks

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one, using the word given. Do not change the word given.

1. All the candidates for the position were less qualified than Jane. **(the)**

Jane _____

of all.

2. They had never been to such an overcrowded event. **(ever)**

That was _____

_____.

3. She expects to move to her new house sometime next month, but she doesn't know the exact date yet. **(is)**

She _____ next month.

4. He is one of the richest men in the country. **(as)**

Very few men _____ him.

5. He had no idea that I had missed my flight, so he's at the airport, waiting to pick me up. **(not)**

If he _____
to pick me up.

6. Mrs Purple will have finished the painting before my birthday. **(finished)**

The painting _____
before my birthday.

7. I would like to meet Jojo Siwa one day. **(meet)**

I wish I _____ Jojo Siwa one day.

8. We'll miss the flight if we don't leave now. **(unless)**

We _____.

9. The three countries signed an agreement in 1998. **(between)**

An agreement _____ the
three countries in 1998.

10. Mary asked me for directions, because she lost the map. **(asked)**

If Mary _____
_____ directions.

30 marks

Section 2: Reading Comprehension

Read the article carefully, and answer all the questions that follow.

Extracts adapted from:

- CNN
- The BBC
- The Washington Post
- Science Alert
- The Guardian
- Wikipedia

Secret mission saves rare "dinosaur" trees from Australia fires



Wollemi Pines

Wollemi trees had been known only through fossil records until the Australian species *Wollemia nobilis* was discovered in 1994 in a temperate rainforest wilderness area of the Wollemi National Park in New South Wales, in a remote series of narrow, steep-sided sandstone gorges 150 km northwest of Sydney. The tree has been almost universally referred to as the Wollemi Pine, although it is not a true pine; it is actually related to the Araucariaceae family. The Wollemi Pine, which grows up to 40-metres high, is believed to have existed since the Jurassic period 200 million years ago, pre-dating many dinosaurs. With spindly branches that shoot straight out of its trunk and bubbly brown bark that looks as if it's been covered in Rice Krispies, it resembles little else in the Southern Hemisphere.

Mission Possible

Their mission was secret, and its location even more so.

As blazing wildfires scorched Australia, helicopters dived inside a gorge in the sandstone plateau. Deeper below, hundreds of feet past the looming cliffs, a team of specialists jumped out of the choppers to a site known only to a handful of people. Their objective was simple: to save the Wollemi trees.

In what Australian officials called “an **unprecedented** environmental protection mission” that looked like a military operation, firefighters were deployed into a remote sliver of rainforest, northwest of Sydney, to **preserve** wild Wollemi Pines, the prehistoric species.

In the air, water-bomber planes and air tankers encircled the area, spreading flame **retardant**. On the ground, firefighters used water from a river to moisten the soil and delay the approach of a potential fire. Getting into the gorge, a mere crack between two cliffs, was a challenge, said Cris Brack, an associate professor at Australian National University. The operation posed a physical danger, too. As they raged across flammable eucalyptus forest, Australia’s wildfires picked off bark and lit it aflame, meaning that in the worst of cases, fire could have fallen directly on top of the firefighters.

“With less than 200 [Wollemi trees] left, we knew we needed to do everything we could to save them,” Matt Kean said in a statement.



Swathes of the Wollemi National Park have been affected by the devastating bushfires and some of the treasured dinosaur trees have been **charred**. "The fire did go through there, we had a few days of thick smoke, so we couldn't tell if they'd been damaged. We all waited with bated breath," Matt Kean said. "It's just been a phenomenal success story," he added.

"They've survived the dinosaurs, and they're surviving this season's bushfires," NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service announced on Facebook

LEXICAL ANALYSIS

The cells on the left contain words from the passage, while the cells on the right contain their definitions. **Draw lines to connect** the words to their meaning.

Note: The words on the left appear in bold and are underlined in the passage.

contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• highly esteemed individuals
dignitaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• burnt
extinction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the absolute end of a species
unprecedented	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pollution
preserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an agent that delays or hinders
retardant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain
charred	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• unparalleled

21 marks

READING COMPREHENSION

1. **Why** are the Wollemi trees so unique?

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____
- (iv) _____
- (v) _____

15 marks

2. **What** is bizarre about the name of the Wollemi Pines?

3 marks

3. **Why** has the location of these prehistoric trees remained confidential?

4 marks

4. Once the reproduction of the Wollemi trees was achieved, **how** were they used?

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____

9 marks

5. **Quote 3** phrases from the text that state the operation to save the trees was confidential.

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____

6 marks

6. What measures were taken to prevent the fire from spreading to the Wollemi trees?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

(iv) _____

12 marks

7. According to Cris Brack, what physical danger were the firefighters exposed to? Explain.

4 marks

8. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service posted a statement on Facebook:

“They've survived the dinosaurs, and they're surviving this season's bushfires.”

What is implied by this statement?

6 marks

80 MARKS

