GAUTENG PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

JUNE EXAMINATION
GRADE 12

2025

ENGLISH
HOME LANGUAGE

(PAPER 1)

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE P1

C2041E

TIME: 2 hours

MARKS: 70

15 pages

X05

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of THREE sections:

SECTION A: Comprehension	(30)
SECTION B: Summary	(10)
SECTION C: Language structures and conventions	(30)

2. Read ALL the instructions carefully.

3. Answer ALL the questions.

4. Start EACH section on a NEW page.

5. Rule off after each section.

6. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.

7. Leave a line after each answer.

8. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction.

9. Suggested time allocation:

   SECTION A: 50 minutes
   SECTION B: 30 minutes
   SECTION C: 40 minutes

10. Write neatly and legibly.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

QUESTION 1: READING FOR MEANING AND UNDERSTANDING

Read TEXTS A and B below and answer the set questions.

TEXT A

Unemployment in South Africa: The Youth's Dilemma

South Africa grapples with the challenge of youth unemployment.

1 South Africa currently stands at an alarming 45,5% unemployment rate among young individuals (aged 15 – 34 years), in contrast to the national average of 32,9% recorded in the first quarter of 2024. However, when looking at the Labour Market Dynamics in South Africa report, which tracks the participation of individuals using annual panel data released by Statistics South Africa, youth with some form of experience far surpass adults in transitioning from unemployment or inactivity into employment between quarters, with rates of 12,3% and 7,4% respectively. This is largely due to the fact that adults spend a huge amount of time trying to source out the job that suits their profile as opposed to the youth who are easily adaptable to any scenario that may present itself.

2 Even more evident is the difference in transition rates between youth without experience and those with experience. The experience "dividend" reveals that youth with experience outperform youth without experience by a margin of 4 to 1. Clearly, initiatives such as experiential learning[1], apprenticeships, or other forms of exposure to the workplace have far-reaching implications in addressing the scourge of youth unemployment.

3 A person's chances of landing and keeping a job are also greatly influenced by their achievement of a tertiary level of education.

4 Education plays a crucial role in equipping young people with the skills and competencies necessary to succeed in the workforce. However, according to the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) for the 1st Quarter of 2024, only 9,8% of the employed youth were graduates. Limited educational attainment, as well as social and economic disadvantages, are the primary factors driving the elevated rates of unemployment, and the significant proportion of youth not in employment, education, or training in South Africa.

5 Young females often encounter challenges securing decent employment compared to their male counterparts. Education emerges as a key determinant in enhancing access to better job prospects.

6 According to the Labour Market Dynamics in South Africa (LMDSA), 2022 report, individuals with tertiary qualifications exhibit a higher likelihood of transitioning into employment from periods of unemployment or inactivity compared to those without matriculation. Notably, men demonstrate a greater tendency to transitioning into employment relative to women, recording rates of 6,5% and 4,6% respectively.

7 According to the data, young women display heightened vulnerability in the labour market when compared to young men. In 2024, the absorption rate of young men outpaced young women. The unemployment rate among young females was estimated at 49,4% in 2024, marking a notable increase of 3,3 percentage points from 46,1% in 2004.

8 Generally, females exhibit exorbitant levels of unemployment alongside lower absorption and labour force participation rates compared to males. The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or unemployed while the Absorption Rate (AR) is the proportion of the working-age population that is employed. Additionally, women are often burdened with family responsibilities. This can impede their educational attainment and, subsequently, their advancement within the South African labour market.

9 The nine provinces in the country display diversity in labour market dynamics, with variations in employment trends. Access to opportunities is also dependent upon geographical location, with urban areas generally offering better employment prospects than rural. For instance, the Western Cape exhibits higher absorption rates and lower levels of unemployment as compared to KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape.

10 Discouraged job seekers, who were available for work but did not actively seek employment during the reference period, constituted a noteworthy demographic[2]. In 2024, young individuals aged between 15 and 34 years were categorised as discouraged in the Western Cape and Limpopo. Over the span of 2004 to 2024, seven out of the nine provinces experienced declines in the proportion of discouraged youth, with the Northern Cape experiencing the most significant reduction. These stats showcased the current trends of reducing the socio-economic inequalities and a lack of resources that previously stifled the transition of the youth into the workforce. Over and above this, previously the financial implications of employing inexperienced youth and an unskilled labour force had deterred[3] huge corporations from venturing into this setup. This had further increased the cases of mental instability among youth in the current society.

11	Efforts to address youth unemployment require a comprehensive approach encompassing education reform, skills development initiatives, and targeted employment programmes. Collaboration between the government, private sector, and civil society is essential to create an enabling environment for youth employment. Moreover, policies promoting entrepreneurship and small business development can empower young people to create their own opportunities.	75
12	Addressing youth unemployment not only contributes to economic growth but also fosters social cohesion and reduces inequality, laying the foundation for a more inclusive and prosperous society.	80

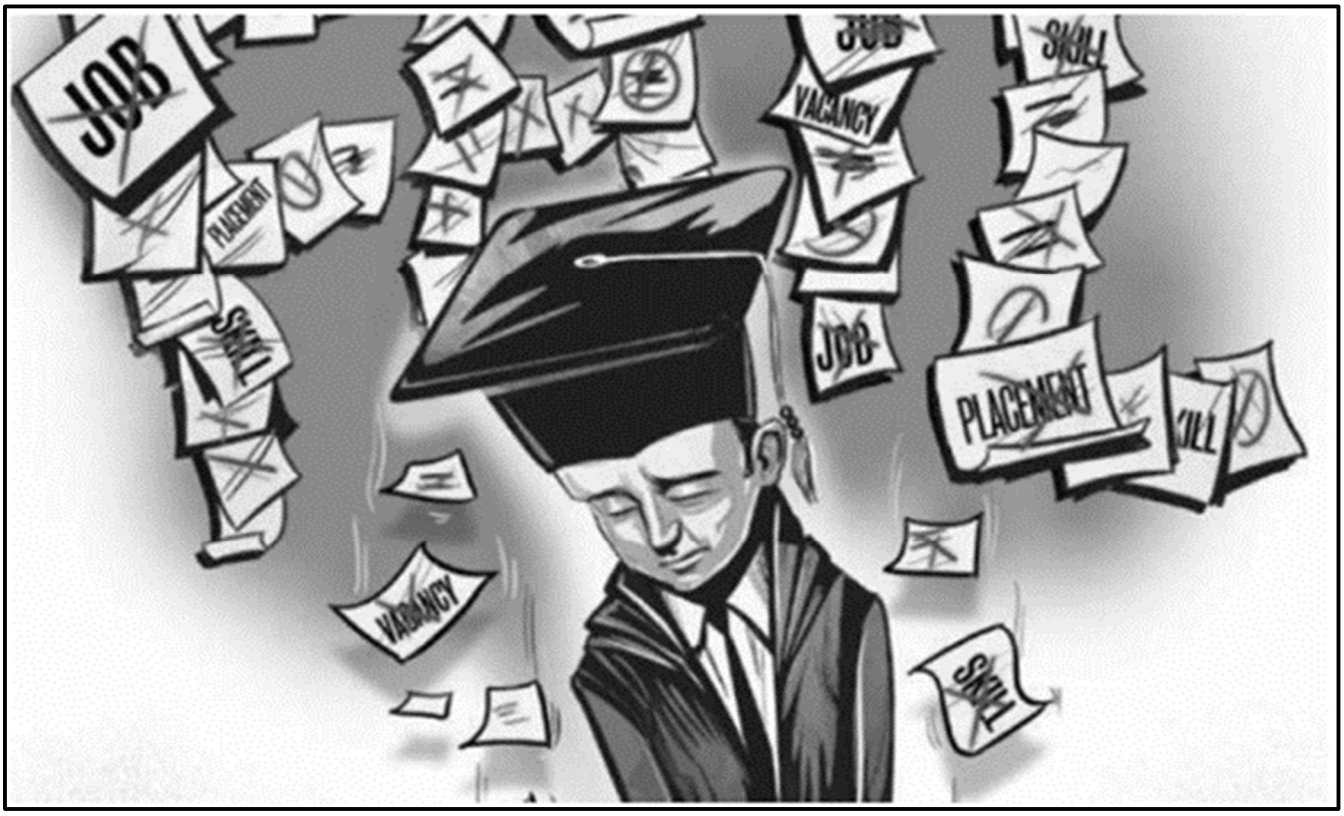
[Adapted from: *https//www.statssa.gov.za/]*

Glossary:

[1] experiential learning: learning after doing the activity/job
[2] demographic: statistics describing populations and their characteristics
[3] deterred: postponed, put off

AND

TEXT B



[Source: *https//business.thedailyguardian.com*]

The text in small font reads as follows:
Job, Skill, Placement, Vacancy

QUESTIONS: TEXT A

1.1 Provide a definition for the word 'unemployment' in the title. (1)

1.2 Refer to the opening sentence of paragraph 1:

'South Africa currently … young individuals …'

What is the writer's opinion about the unemployment rate among young individuals? (1)

1.3 Refer to paragraph 2.

Identify TWO ways in which youth unemployment is being successfully redressed. (2)

1.4 Refer to paragraph 3.

Comment on the use of the single sentence paragraph. (2)

1.5 Refer to paragraph 4.

Explain why graduates are more successful as opposed to non-graduates in the workforce. (2)

1.6 1.6.1 Choose the most appropriate response from the list of options provided.

The writer's attitude in paragraph 5 could be described as …

A insecure.
B matter-of-fact.
C ridiculing.
D sarcastic. (1)

1.6.2 Critically discuss how the statistical data in paragraphs 6 and 7 support the assertion made in paragraph 5. (3)

1.7 Refer to paragraph 8.

Explain how the diction highlights the challenges that females experience when joining the labour force. (2)

1.8 Refer to paragraph 9.

Contrast the employment trends in rural and urban areas. (3)

1.9 To what extent does paragraph 10 support the sub-heading, 'South Africa, grapples with the challenge of youth unemployment'? Motivate your response. (3)

1.10 In your opinion, is the final paragraph an effective conclusion to the writer's argument? Justify your response. (3)

QUESTIONS: TEXT B

1.11 Comment on the irony in the portrayal of the graduate with reference to the character's facial expression and body language. (2)

1.12 How does the text convey the message of the cartoonist? (2)

QUESTIONS: TEXTS A and B

1.13 Refer to both TEXT A and TEXT B.

Critically discuss the extent to which TEXT B illustrates the writer's view on mental health (paragraph 10) of the youth as stipulated in the title. (3)

TOTAL SECTION A: 30

SECTION B: SUMMARY

QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS

TEXT C discusses the current economic growth trend for South African youth. Summarise in your own words, **how young adults can be assisted to overcome the high rate of unemployment to become independent adults.**

NOTE:
1. Your summary should include SEVEN points and NOT exceed **90 words**.
2. You must write ONE fluent paragraph.
3. You are NOT required to include a title for the summary.
4. Indicate your word count at the end of your summary.

TEXT C

Economic growth prospects in South Africa

South Africa's youthful population presents a significant opportunity to promote the growth and advancement of the economy. Factors such as disparity in educational quality and poverty, among others, can be addressed which continue to pose a huge risk in South Africa's economy.

South Africa has had some glorious years in the past, for example, employment peaked in 2008 when the economy was better. However, during the recession of 2009 and 2010, approximately 806 000 people lost their jobs.

With a growing number of unemployed young people, policymakers have urged African countries to channel resources toward their young populations. This has been prescribed as one of the solutions to reduce the poverty trap among the youth, which potentially could breed insecurity and instability.

Currently, the slow-growing economy in South Africa is struggling to create viable opportunities for young people, especially for those without educational qualifications and advanced skills.

The youth, aged 15 – 24 years continue to be the most vulnerable in the South African labour market. The burden of unemployment is concentrated among the youth as they account for 63,4% of the total number of unemployed persons. Almost 4 in every 10 young people in the labour force does not have a job. This could have been avoided as most unemployed youth are often targeted by unscrupulous persons who claim to be able to secure employment for them for some form of payment.

Many desperate jobseekers are swindled out of their hard-earned money. Meanwhile, the graduate unemployment rate is still lower than the rate among those with other educational levels. This could mean that education is still the key to these young people's career prospects improving in the South African labour market.

There is therefore a strong case for the government and private sector to channel more efforts into having many young people educated and acquiring technical skills. Addressing education will indirectly address the challenges of unemployment.

Across much of the rest of Africa, the youth are poor and are stuck in "waithood". Most young people cannot afford to form families and households and are unable to become fully independent and partake in the responsibilities of adult life.

[Adapted from: *https://business.thedailyguardian.com/*]

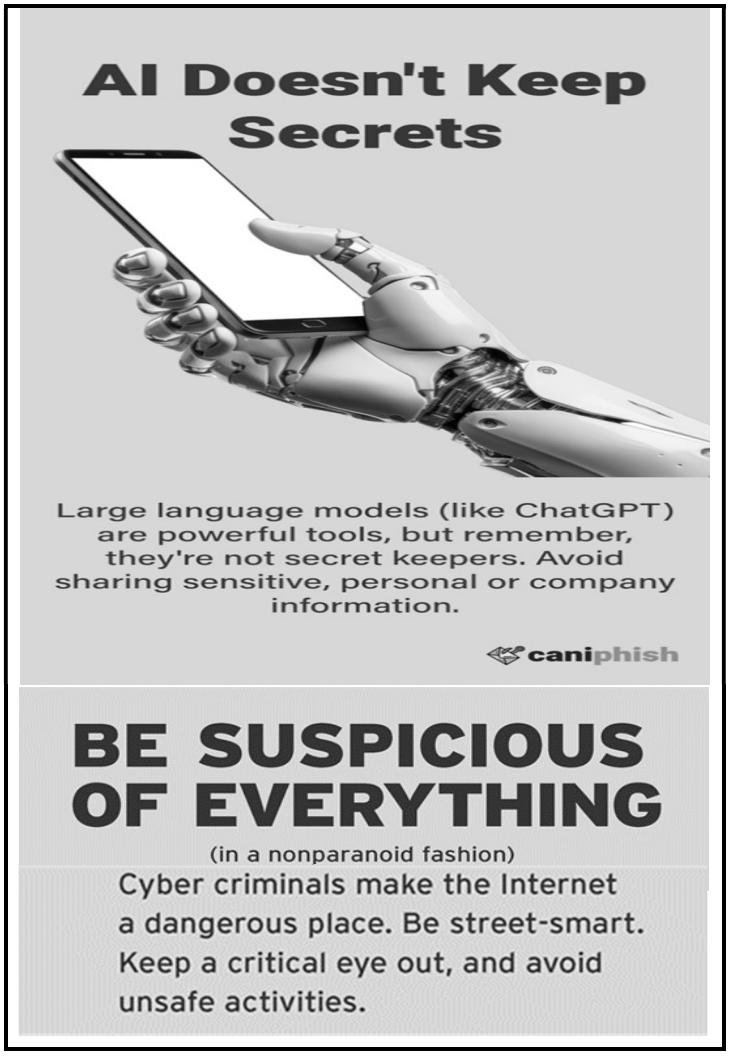
TOTAL SECTION B: 10

SECTION C: LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS

QUESTION 3: ANALYSING ADVERTISING

Study the advertisement (TEXT D) below and answer the set questions.

TEXT D



[Adapted from: *www.caniphish.com*]

The text in small font reads as follows:

AI Doesn't Keep Secrets

Large language models (like ChatGPT) are powerful tools, but remember, they're not secret keepers. Avoid sharing sensitive, personal or company information.

Caniphish

BE SUSPICIOUS OF EVERYTHING
(in a nonparanoid fashion)

Cyber criminals make the Internet a dangerous place. Be street-smart. Keep a critical eye out, and avoid unsafe activities.

QUESTIONS: TEXT D

3.1 Account for the use of the slogan, "Be suspicious of everything (in a nonparanoid fashion)". (2)

3.2 Refer to the written text, "AI doesn't keep … avoid unsafe activities."

With reference to ONE technique and ONE example, comment on how the advertiser promotes cyber security. (3)

3.3 Critically discuss how the image reinforces the message of the advertisement. (3)

3.4 Refer to the sentence, "Cyber criminals make the Internet a dangerous place."

What part of speech is 'Cyber' in the above sentence? (1)

3.5 Choose the most appropriate response from the list of options provided. Write down ONLY the question number (3.5) and the letter (A – D) of the correct answer.

"Large language models (like ChatGPT) are powerful tools, but remember, they're not secret keepers."

The above is an example of a/an …

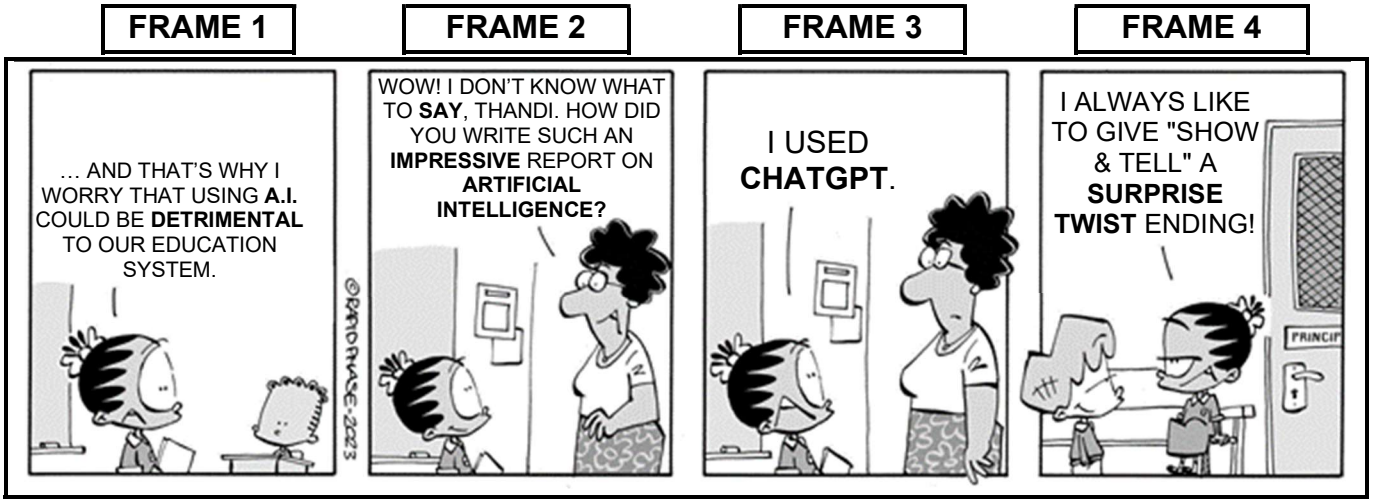
A complex sentence.
B simple sentence.
C compound sentence.
D adverbial phrase. (1)

[10]

QUESTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MEDIA

Study the cartoons (TEXTS E and F) and answer the set questions.

TEXT E



[Source: *www. witness.co.za/madamandeve/]*

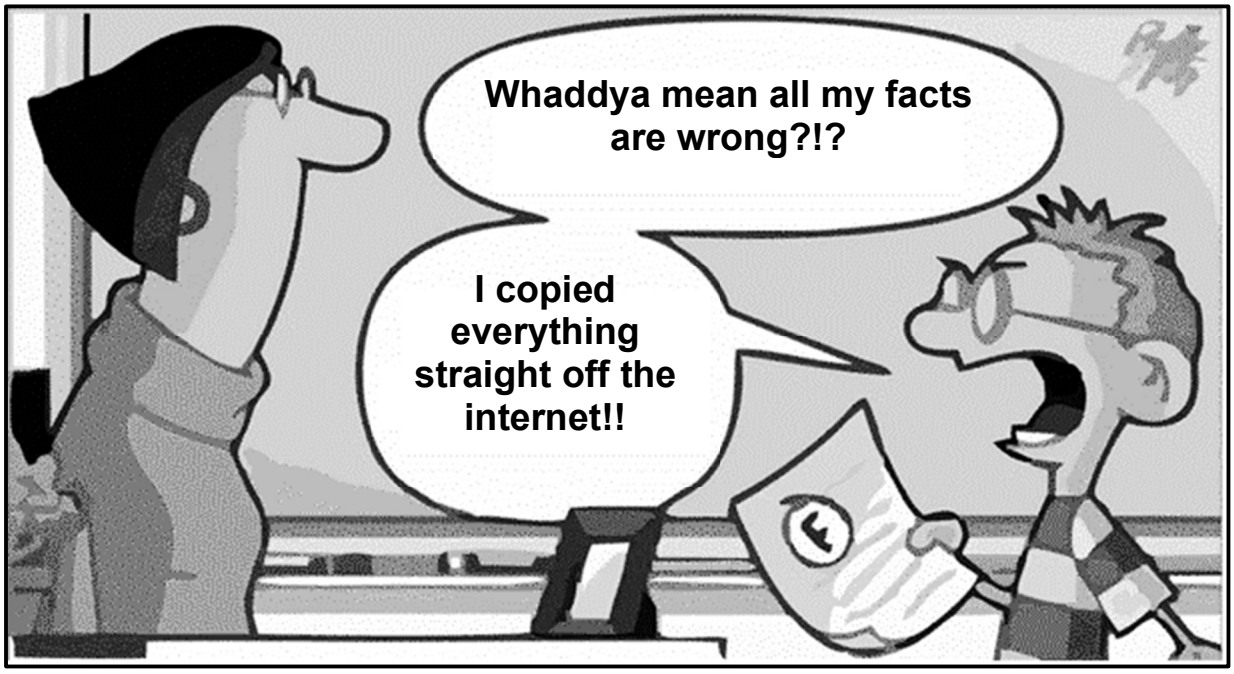
Characters:
Girl: Thandi
Teacher: Mrs Walker

TEXT E

4.1 How do the visual clues in FRAMES 2 and 3 depict the change in the teacher's attitude towards Thandi? (3)

4.2 With reference to the cartoon as a whole, critically discuss how humour is created. (2)

TEXT F



[Source: *mrbartlett.wordpress.com*]

Characters:
Boy: Fred
Woman: Teacher

TEXT F

4.3 With close reference to the visual and verbal clues, discuss Fred's emotional outburst with regards to his grade. (3)

4.4 Rewrite Fred's reaction "Whaddya mean all my facts are wrong?!?" in standard formal English. (1)

4.5 How is humour created in the cartoon? Refer to the educator's facial expression. (1)
[10]

QUESTION 5: USING LANGUAGE CORRECTLY

Read TEXT G below, which contains some deliberate errors, and answer the set questions that follow on the next page.

Write down ONLY the correct word(s) unless an explanation is required.

TEXT G

Young South Africans want to work, not wait

1 Young people in South Africa are playing a never-ending waiting game. Waiting for the economy to grow, for their luck to turn. The situation is dire.

2 Nearly nine million young people are not in education, employment or training, that's a lot of young people waiting for the economy to turn the corner.

3 The prize of a formal sector job, with stable, well-paying work, is unfortunately revered for fewer than 20% of those entering the labour market. Even with good matric results, those from disadvantaged backgrounds often struggle to find employment.

4 To address this imbalance, the youth employment organisation Harambee has developed alternative assessment proxies to identify young people with high potential but poor matric results. Harambee partner Nando's South Africa has committed to using Harambee's 'SA Youth' to hire entry-level talent for all their corporate stores. Between March 2023 and May 2024, 77% of Nando's total entry-level placements came from the SA Youth network. "With a high internal promotion rate, the company aims not only to employ young South Africans but also to nurture them into future managers," Harambee's manager, Sue MaCee said.

5 In the abcence of an economy that grows and develops, we can create an economy that moves, and importantly, an economy that moves young people forward, so that they can themselves be the gears with which our rebounding economy can grow.

[Adapted from: *www.dailymaverick.co.za*]

5.1 'Young people in South Africa are playing a never-ending waiting game' (line 1).

Rewrite the above sentence in the passive voice. (1)

5.2 'Waiting for the economy to grow, for their luck to turn.' (lines 1 – 2).

Rewrite the above sentence so that it is grammatically correct. (1)

5.3 Correct the punctuation error in paragraph 2. (1)

5.4 Identify and correct the malapropism in paragraph 3. (1)

5.5 Provide the noun form for 'committed' (line 12). (1)

5.6 Remove the redundancy in paragraph 5. (1)

5.7 "With a high internal promotion rate, the company aims not only to employ young South Africans but also to nurture them into future managers," Harambee's manager, Sue MaCee said (lines 14 – 17).

Rewrite the above sentence in indirect speech. (2)

5.8 Refer to paragraph 5.

Correct the spelling error. (1)

5.9 Provide a suitable synonym for 'rebounding' (line 20). (1)

[10]

TOTAL SECTION C: 30

TOTAL: 70