



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS/ NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

Stanmorephysics.com

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE P1

MAY/JUNE 2025

Stanmorephysics.com

**MARKS: 70**

**TIME: 2 hours**

This question paper consists of 12 pages.



**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 questions set.

**TEXT A**

**HITCHHIKING: THE ALTERNATIVE FORM OF TRANSPORT  
THAT NOBODY USES**

– Adam Weymouth

- 1 Petrol prices and youth unemployment are on the rise. So, why are people not thumbing it?
- 2 A recent survey published by the Automobile Association (AA) found that only 9 per cent of drivers would be likely to pick up a hitchhiker, compared to 25 per cent two years ago. The media took this as clear-cut confirmation of the death of hitchhiking. Yet, while it is true that there are fewer of us thumbing on the roads than there used to be, in my many years of hitching, I have never once been left stranded. 5
- 3 Last week I hitched a lift for a two-hour drive and chatted with a technician about economic woes, encouraged someone to take to the road themselves, and had a lecture on how to make my own diesel from potato fat. There are not many forms of transport where one can find such conversation, but regardless of this pleasure, hitchhiking should be thriving. With increasing petrol prices, people struggling to make ends meet, record-high youth unemployment and an urgent need to cut carbon emissions, a revival of hitchhiking seems to be long overdue. It has happened in other countries – part of Cuba's solution to its oil crisis was a boom in hitching. 10 15
- 4 In the eighties, a rash of horror movies is partly credited with the demise of hitchhiking. The best known is *The Hitcher*, starring Rutger Hauer as a psychotic and motiveless hitchhiker, pursuing a suitably tight-jeaned and wind-swept young man. It is his very lack of motive that makes him terrifying. The idea is that strangers are unknowable. You cannot risk trusting them because you cannot understand them. 20
- 5 But are we more scared of strangers than we used to be? It seems more complex than that because hitchhiking is not dead, just woefully under-practised. Perhaps the hitchhikers are more fearful of strangers than the drivers are. What if young adults – the supposedly tough and fearless twenty-somethings – are too scared to relinquish their control? According to the AA, 93 per cent of 18- to 24-year-olds surveyed have never hitched a ride. This is understandable from a generation that has grown up in a more controlled and ordered environment than any other generation. Perhaps, we cannot bear uncertainty and see strangers less like bringers of joy and more like Rutger Hauer. Certainly, I am picked up less by young drivers than by anyone else, and not because young people are less likely to own cars. 25 30





- 6 Undoubtedly, there is a risk in hitchhiking; pretending otherwise is facile<sup>1</sup>. 35  
However, hospitality can only be rendered risk-free by assessing one's guests carefully. We live in a world in which we attempt to control as much as possible. We do this, perversely<sup>2</sup>, by destroying the things – like a sense of community and openness to strangers – that truly keep us safe. One should take precautions, as one would with any travel, for example hitching with a friend, or only in the daytime, 40  
or only in countries where one speaks the language. But we should avoid living in a world where there is no trust in strangers and be mindful of the implications of creating such a world.
- 7 During the Second World War there was a boom of goodwill towards the servicemen and women hitching home on leave. The baton was taken up by the culture of the sixties, and those who had hitched through the wars now had cars and a debt to repay. Many of those who pick up hitchhikers were themselves hitchers in the sixties and seventies, and are looking to reciprocate the hospitality shown to them. They were strangers once, and they now open their doors to the strangers of today. So, the cycle continues, for the moment. Yet I wonder who will 50  
pick up the next generation of hitchhikers as they stand by the road for weeks on end with their signs dissolving in the rain. If this generation does not hitch, this cycle of hospitality slows to a halt, and fear of the stranger will know no bounds. Hitchhiking is not a dead art, but it may well be one generation away from extinction. 55
- 8 This is not an intellectual argument, but a practical one. Stick out your thumb and see what happens. Take a car off the roads, save yourself some money, and give drivers the opportunity to show their hospitality. Hitch to work one day or accompany someone who has hitchhiked before. And, if you are a driver, find a hitchhiker, stop and pick up a hitchhiker. Without beginning to cultivate a deep 60  
empathy for the stranger, and without learning to trust the unpredictable nature of the world, it would be hard to see what else humanity can achieve.

[Adapted from theecologist.org]

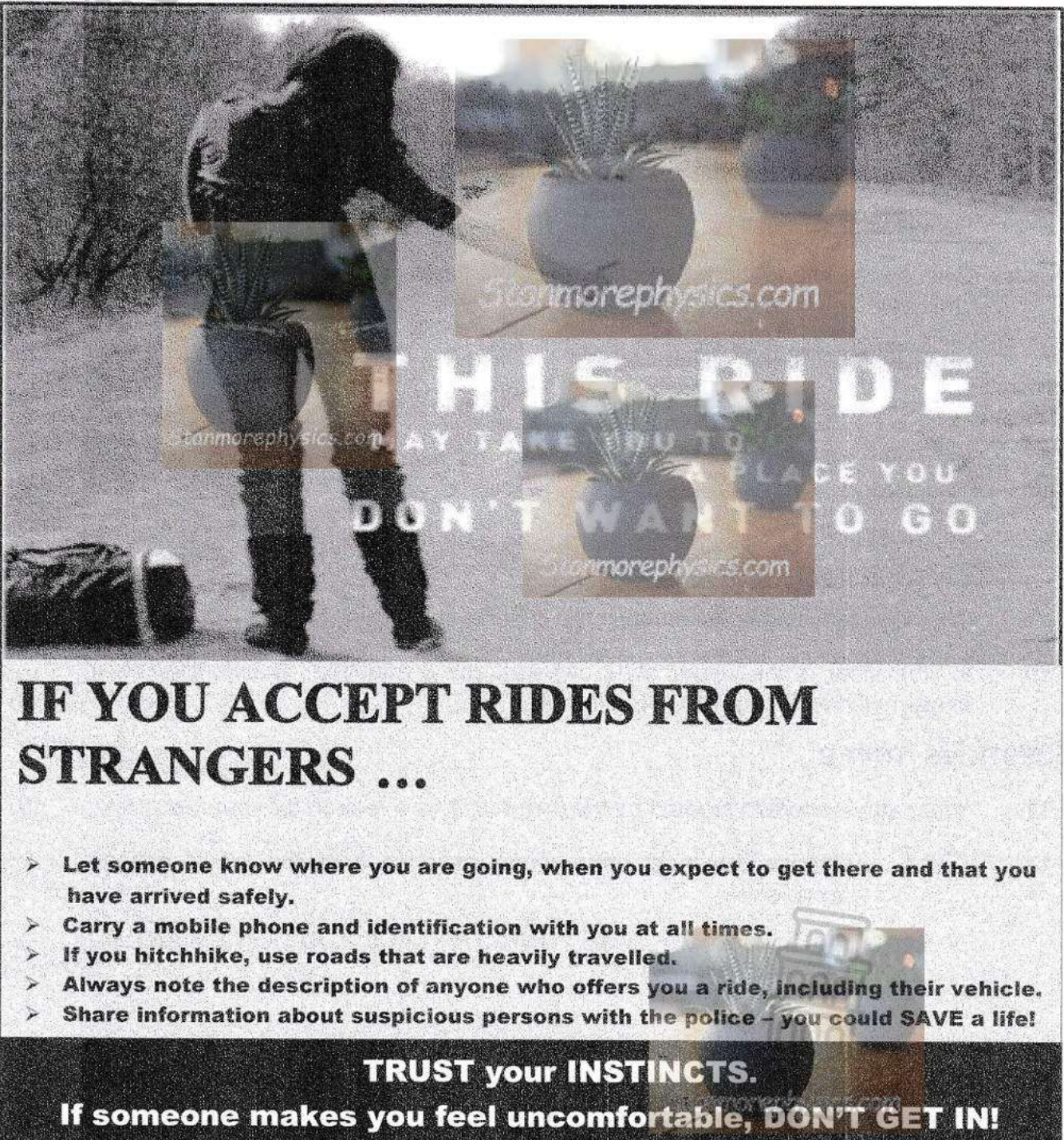
**GLOSSARY:**

- <sup>1</sup>facile: superficial/ignoring the complexities of an issue  
<sup>2</sup>perversely: rebelliously or irrationally

**AND**



## TEXT B



**THIS RIDE MAY TAKE YOU TO A PLACE YOU DON'T WANT TO GO**

**IF YOU ACCEPT RIDES FROM STRANGERS ...**

- Let someone know where you are going, when you expect to get there and that you have arrived safely.
- Carry a mobile phone and identification with you at all times.
- If you hitchhike, use roads that are heavily travelled.
- Always note the description of anyone who offers you a ride, including their vehicle.
- Share information about suspicious persons with the police – you could **SAVE** a life!

**TRUST your INSTINCTS.**

**If someone makes you feel uncomfortable, DON'T GET IN!**

[Adapted from [thenorthernview.com](http://thenorthernview.com)]

## QUESTIONS: TEXT A

- 1.1 Provide the meaning of the expression, 'thumbing it' in paragraph 1. (1)
- 1.2 What is indicated by the statistics in lines 4–5? (1)





- 1.3 Refer to lines 5–6: 'The media took this as clear-cut confirmation of the death of hitchhiking.'  
What comment is the writer making about the media? (2)
- 1.4 Explain why the writer has made reference to his experience of hitchhiking in paragraph 2. (2)
- 1.5 Refer to paragraph 3.  
In your own words, explain how hitchhiking can benefit society. (2)
- 1.6 Refer to paragraph 4.  
Discuss the impact of the emotive adjectives, like 'psychotic', 'motiveless' and 'unknowable', on the reader. (2)
- 1.7 Refer to lines 26–28: 'What if young ... relinquish their control?'  
Suggest why the writer poses this rhetorical question. (2)
- 1.8 Comment on whether the writer's views, as presented in paragraph 5, are objective. (3)
- 1.9 'Hitchhiking is not a dead art, but it may well be one generation away from extinction' (lines 54–55).  
Critically discuss this assertion in the context of paragraph 7. (3)
- 1.10 In your view, is the writing style of paragraph 8 effective? Substantiate your answer with reference to ONE example. (3)

**QUESTIONS: TEXT B**

- 1.11 What atmosphere is created by the picture? Give a reason for your response. (2)
- 1.12 1.12.1 Choose the most appropriate response from the list of options provided.  
'THIS RIDE MAY TAKE YOU TO A PLACE YOU DON'T WANT TO GO' is an example of ...  
A litotes.  
B metaphor.  
C hyperbole.  
D irony. (1)
- 1.12.2 Critically discuss the above expression in the context of this poster. (3)

**QUESTION: TEXTS A AND B**

- 1.13 Refer to paragraph 6 of TEXT A, and TEXT B.  
Does TEXT B reinforce the writer's view expressed in paragraph 6 of TEXT A? Justify your answer. (3)

**TOTAL SECTION A: 30**

**SECTION B: SUMMARY****QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS**

TEXT C discusses the value of living frugally. Summarise, in your own words, **how people can adopt a frugal lifestyle**.

- NOTE:**
1. Your summary should include SEVEN points and NOT exceed **90 words**.
  2. You must write a 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****THE UNIQUE WORLD OF FRUGAL LIVING**

Being frugal means using less and performing many tiny tasks in a very inexpensive way to save more money, resources, and live a lower wastage lifestyle. It's also about choosing quality over quantity.

For years, frugal ideas have been popular, and some people enjoy discovering how to save money and resources. It has sometimes been associated with the assumption that the frugal lifestyle is usually achieved cheaply; however, this is not the case! It is about taking the time to care for your products and assets properly so that they last long past their expiration date.

In our new reality of recycling and up-cycling, it is a better alternative to choose to keep valuable items for charity, or to recycle. There is a wealth of information on the internet about repurposing, recycling and repairing things yourself, particularly in the do-it-yourself business.

Frugal living does not only focus on saving on material goods. Health is also an area to be explored. Going out every day to consume fast food and junk food is neither frugal nor healthy. Home-cooked meals are certainly more nourishing and less expensive than eating out, and planning meals and grocery budgets can help you save a significant amount of money monthly. Whenever you can, try to freeze items that freeze well, so that you have less wastage.

Keeping an eye out for discounts or promotions is another popular money-saving strategy and buying in bulk can save you money in the long run. Being frugal with your money means only buying what you need and sticking to that single rule. Unwanted goods can be sold online to make a few rands while also giving those items a second chance to be in their life cycle for a longer period.

Car-pooling means that more people become invested in saving. If your commute is not too far, walking or cycling to work might save you a lot of money, especially given the current fuel prices.

Frugal living does not imply being stingy; rather, it entails being extremely prudent and observant about where and how you spend your money.

[Adapted from [wonga.co.za](http://wonga.co.za)]

**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



[Source: [twitter.com](https://twitter.com)]

The text in small font reads as follows:

You see an abandoned chair on the street and you think 'It has the potential to be something beautiful.'

You see a homeless youth on the street and you think 'Don't make eye contact.'

RAISING THE ROOF HOMELESS YOUTH HAVE NOTHING, BUT POTENTIAL.





**QUESTIONS: TEXT D**

3.1. Refer to 'RAISING THE ROOF'.

3.1.1 What is the meaning of the above expression? (1)

3.1.2 Explain how the expression is both literally and figuratively suitable, in the context of the advertisement. (2)

3.2 Refer to: 'You see an ... make eye contact.'

How does the font on the right-hand side reinforce the advertiser's message? (2)

3.3 Is the visual image effective in conveying the message of the advertisement? Justify your response. (3)

3.4 Provide a contextually correct synonym for the word 'abandoned'. (1)

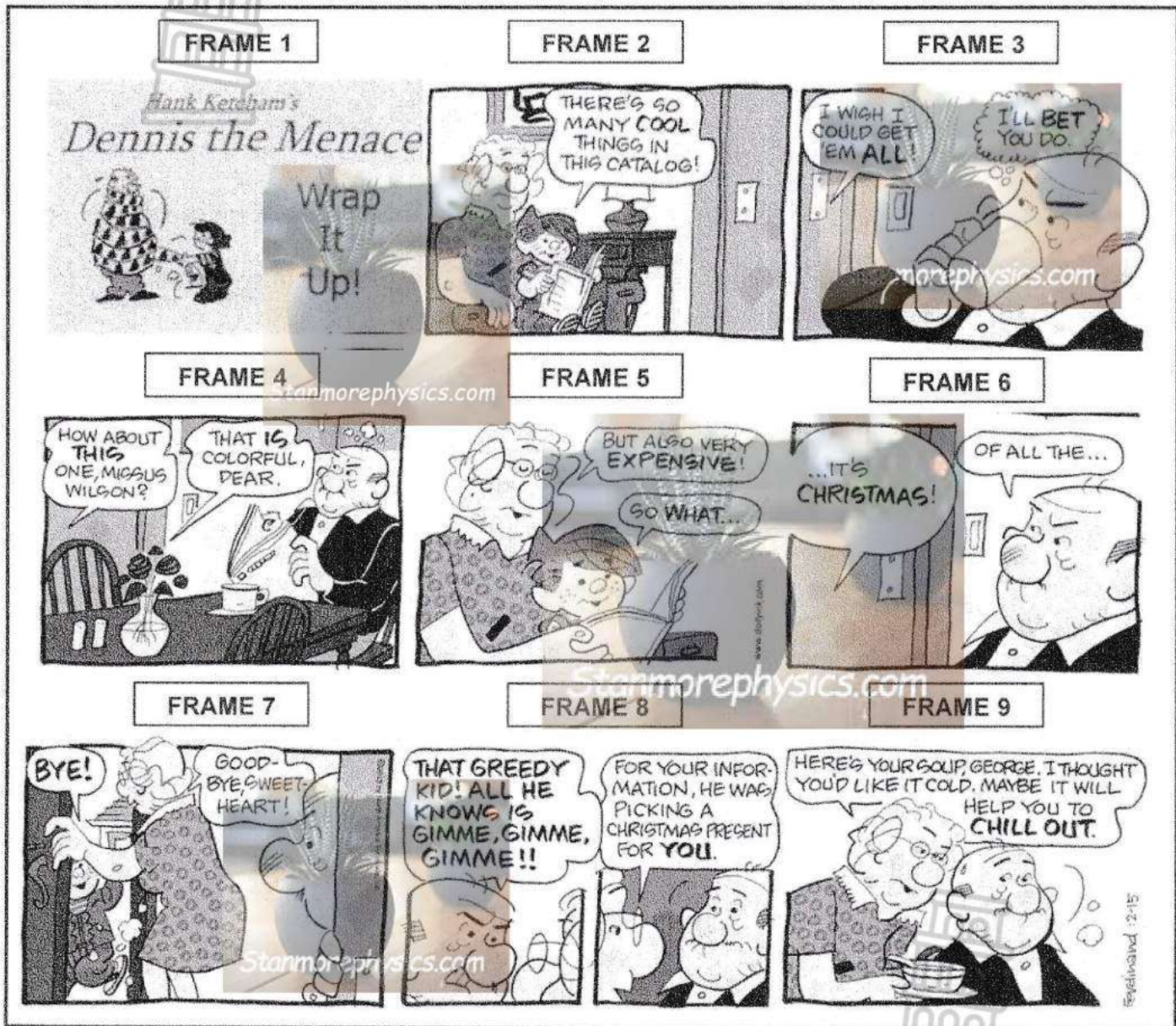
3.5 What is the root word of 'potential'? (1)

**[10]**



**QUESTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MEDIA**

Study the cartoon (TEXT E) below and answer the set questions.

**TEXT E: CARTOON**

[Source: comicskingdom.com]

**CHARACTERS:**

Woman: Mrs Wilson  
Boy: Dennis  
Man: Mr Wilson

**QUESTIONS: TEXT E**

4.1 Why is Mr Wilson angry in FRAME 3? (1)

4.2 Refer to FRAMES 2, 5 and 7.

Explain what is revealed about Mrs Wilson's attitude towards Dennis. (2)





- 4.3 Discuss Dennis's tone in FRAMES 5 and 6. (2)
- 4.4 With close reference to FRAME 9 and the cartoon as a whole, critically discuss how humour is conveyed. (3)
- 4.5 Rewrite Dennis's words in FRAME 2 so that the sentence is grammatically CORRECT. (1)
- 4.6 Various options are provided as possible answers to the question below. Choose the correct answer and write only the letter (A–D) next to the question number (4.6).

Mrs Wilson's statement in FRAME 8, written in indirect speech, is:

- A Mrs Wilson said (to Mr Wilson) that Dennis had been picking a Christmas present for himself.
- B Mrs Wilson said (to Mr Wilson) that Dennis was picking a Christmas present for him.
- C Mrs Wilson said (to Mr Wilson) that Dennis had been picking a Christmas present for him.
- D Mrs Wilson said (to Mr Wilson) that Dennis had picked a Christmas present for you.

(1)  
[10]





**QUESTION 5: USING LANGUAGE CORRECTLY**

Read TEXT F, which contains some deliberate errors, and answer the set questions.

**TEXT F****HOW HAS TIPPING CULTURE IN THE CITY CHANGED?**

- 1 A few Decembers ago, a heart-warming trend emerged where patrons challenged each other to tip double their bill to give waitrons a Christmas bonus. Since then, Covid-19 along with rising inflation has seen a change in tipping culture.
- 2 While waitrons say their regulars religiously and faithfully tip the regulated 10% – or more if in a generous mood – others simply don't tip at all. A number of establishments have now introduced the practice of waitrons sharing their tips with the kitchen and cleaning staff. 5
- 3 While waitrons now earn a basic wage supplemented by tips they receive, many waitrons said they keep their basic wage for 'rainy days' when tips run dry. Snethemba Gwala, a waitron, said, 'The more experienced you are the better: you are able to serve many tables at once and correctly, which helps you to get good tips and you will find your customers come back and ask for you.' 10
- 4 Wendy Alberts, the CEO of Restaurants Association of South Africa (RASA) said the restaurant industry is well-supported, and good tips are dependent on good service. 15

[Adapted from [citizen.co.za](http://citizen.co.za)]

- 5.1 Refer to lines 1– 2.

'A few Decembers ago, a heart-warming trend emerged where patrons challenged each other to tip double their bill to give waitrons a Christmas bonus.'

5.1.1 Identify the part of speech of 'heart-warming'. (1)

5.1.2 Provide the verb form of 'patron'. (1)

5.1.3 Why can the above sentence be classified as a complex sentence? (1)

5.2 Provide the function of the dashes in lines 4–5. (1)

5.3 Remove the redundancy in paragraph 2. (1)

5.4 What does the idiomatic expression 'rainy days' (line 9) mean, in context? (1)

5.5 Supply the prefix required to form the antonym of 'experienced' (line 10). (1)

5.6 '... which helps you to get good tips ...' (lines 11–12)  
Explain how the above clause creates ambiguity. (2)

5.7 Write out CEO (line 13) in full. (1)

**[10]**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 30**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 70**

