



Subject: Grade 8 English: Home Language

Topic: Comprehension 1: Fraser Island

Total: 31 Marks

Name: _____

Date: _____

This text refers to question: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

The fascinating Fraser Island!

1. Fraser Island is an island off the coast of Australia, its closest city is Queensland. This is indeed a place of breath-taking beauty, not known by many people.
2. Located off the coast of Eastern Australia, Fraser Island is the largest island in the world made from sand. Today a World Heritage-listed area, this super-special place is home to a whole host of wonderful wildlife, natural lakes and brilliant beaches. But what makes this island really unique? Well, from the island's dunes rises a majestic sub-tropical rainforest where some fascinating - and truly quirky - flora grows.
3. This rainforest is a fascinating and very unique place to explore. The strangler fig, scribbly gum and Banksia flower are three of the very interesting plants that grow in the rainforest on Fraser Island.
4. The strangler fig can be seen as the silent assassin of Fraser Island's rainforest. This peculiar plant begins its life as a sticky seed left on a high tree branch by an animal. As the young strangler lives on the tree's surface, it grows long tree roots that descend along the trunk of the host tree and enter into the soil. These roots entwine together and enclose the host trunk in a thick strangling lattice - hence its name, strangler fig. The host tree's leaves are shaded from sunlight (essential for a plant's survival) by the thick fig foliage, and its roots are forced to compete with those of the strangler fig for nutrients in the soil. The result? The host tree dies, leaving the strangler fig behind standing strong!
5. The scribbly gum got its name from the bark of the tree that looks as if someone has scribbled on it. These zig-zag patterns are actually tunnels made by larvae of a moth - the Scribbly Gum Moth. Eggs are laid between layers of old and new bark, and the hatched larvae then burrow into the new bark. The tracks reflect the life cycle of the insects, with increases in the tunnel diameter showing that the larvae is growing, and the end of the track indicating where it has stopped burrowing and started its transformation into a moth.
6. The Australian wildflower, the Banksia, has brightly coloured flower heads, formed from a spike or cone of hundreds of tiny individual flowers. Birds and other marsupials pollinate the plants - but in some banksia species, seeds are held in a thick woody capsule that will only open with the intense heat of fire. In the presence of bushfires (which occur naturally in Australia), the scorching flames cause the capsule to open, releasing the seeds. This ensures the seeds fall on rich soil fertilized by ash, allowing the Banksia to grow again.
7. The Butchulla people are the indigenous people of Fraser Island. They occupied the island thousands of years ago and called the island K'gari, which means 'paradise'.

Article adapted from kids.nationalgeographic.com



Question 1: Text Input

3 marks

Refer to paragraph 6:

Which animals, other than birds, are responsible for the pollination of the flowers in Australia?

Question 2: Multiple Choice

4 marks

Refer to paragraph 4.

An antonym for the word "descend" is

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| A | fall |
| B | ascend |
| C | dip |
| D | decline |

Question 3: True/False

2 marks

Refer to paragraph 5.

The tracks on the bark of the scribbly gum reflect the life cycle of the Scribbly Gum Moth.

 TRUE **FALSE****Question 4: Text Input**

3 marks

Refer to paragraph 2.

Fraser Island is the largest island in the world made from

Question 5: True/False

2 marks

Refer to paragraph 1.

The closest city to Fraser Island is Adelaide.

TRUE

FALSE

Question 6: Please Fill In The Blanks

4 marks

Refer to Paragraph 2:

If an island is a (1) site, it means that its wildlife is (2) by wildlife organisations.

Possible Answers: World-Heritage | World-Hermitage | World Wildlife Foundation | promoted | prohibited | protected

1

2

Question 7: Please Fill In The Blanks

4 marks

Refer to paragraph 2:

An antonym for "quirky" is (1) and a synonym for "quirky" is (2) .

Possible Answers: convenient | conventional | eccentric | electric | quiz

1

2

Question 8: True/False

2 marks

Fraser Island is not a very interesting place to visit.

TRUE

FALSE

Question 9: Text Input

3 marks

Which figure of speech appears in the title of the article? : "The fascinating Fraser Island! "

Question 10: Multiple Choice

4 marks

Refer to paragraph 2.

The word "sub-tropical" is an example of a

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| A | descriptive adjective |
| B | proper adjective |
| C | compound adjective |
| D | adjective of quantity |

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