

## OLYMPIADS SCHOOL/SSAT UPPER LEVEL/CLASS 16/HOMEWORK/ SUMMER 2016

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MARK: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: When handing in your homework DO NOT hand in the vocabulary list at the end.**

In the sixteenth century, an age of great marine and terrestrial exploration, Ferdinand Magellan led the first expedition to sail around the world. As a young Portuguese noble, he served the king of Portugal, but he became involved in the quagmire of political intrigue at court and lost the king's favor. After he was dismissed from service to the king of Portugal, he offered to serve the future Emperor Charles V of Spain.

A papal decree of 1493 had assigned all land in the New World west of 50 degrees W longitude to Spain and all the land east of that line to Portugal. Magellan offered to prove that the East Indies fell under Spanish authority. On September 20, 1519, Magellan set sail from Spain with five ships. More than a year later, one of these ships was exploring the topography of South America in search of a water route across the continent. This ship sank, but the remaining four ships searched along the southern peninsula of South America. Finally they found the passage they sought near a latitude of 50 degrees S. Magellan named this passage the Strait of All Saints, but today we know it as the Strait of Magellan.

One ship deserted while in this passage and returned to Spain, so fewer sailors were privileged to gaze at that first panorama of the Pacific Ocean. Those who remained crossed the meridian we now call the International Date Line in the early spring of 1521 after ninety-eight days on the Pacific Ocean. During those long days at sea, many of Magellan's men died of starvation and disease.

Later Magellan became involved in an insular conflict in the Philippines and was killed in a tribal battle. Only one ship and seventeen sailors under the command of the Basque navigator Elcano survived to complete the westward journey to Spain and thus prove once and for all that the world is round, with no precipice at the edge.

1. The sixteenth century was an age of great \_\_\_\_ exploration.

- A. cosmic
- B. land
- C. mental
- D. common man
- E. none of the above

2. Magellan lost the favor of the king of Portugal when he became involved in a political \_\_\_\_.

- A. entanglement
- B. discussion

- C. negotiation
- D. problems
- E. none of the above

3. The Pope divided New World lands between Spain and Portugal according to their location on one side or the other of an imaginary geographical line 50 degrees west of Greenwich that extends in a \_\_\_\_ direction.

- A. north and south
- B. crosswise
- C. easterly
- D. south east
- E. north and west

4. One of Magellan's ships explored the \_\_\_\_ of South America for a passage across the continent.

- A. coastline
- B. mountain range
- C. physical features
- D. islands
- E. none of the above

5. Four of the ships sought a passage along a southern \_\_\_\_.

- A. coast
- B. inland
- C. body of land with water on three sides
- D. border
- E. answer not available

6. The passage was found near 50 degrees S of \_\_\_\_.

- A. Greenwich
- B. The equator
- C. Spain
- D. Portugal
- E. Madrid

7. In the spring of 1521, the ships crossed the \_\_\_\_ now called the International Date Line.

- A. imaginary circle passing through the poles
- B. Imaginary line parallel to the equator
- C. area
- D. land mass
- E. answer not found in article

The hippopotamus is a large animal whose name means “river horse” in Greek. It is a mostly plant-eating animal that lives exclusively in Africa. There are two major subtypes: the regular hippopotamus and the pygmy hippopotamus. It lives primarily in rivers and lakes in the sub-Saharan portion of Africa in groups as large as forty hippos. A group of hippos is known as a pod, herd, school

or bloat. They cool themselves in the waters of the river or lake by day; both reproduction and childbirth occur in the water. At dusk, they emerge to graze on nearby grass. Their closest living relatives are the whales and the porpoises.

Only the elephant is a larger land animal than hippos by weight. The hippo is among the most dangerous and aggressive of all mammals. About 150,000 hippos live throughout the lower part of Africa. The male hippo is known as a bull, the female is known as the cow and the baby hippo is called a calf. The most common type of hippopotamus is known as the Common or Nile Hippopotamus. Hippopotamuses are classified along with other even-toed animals and belong to the order that also includes camels, cows, deer and pigs, even though they are actually, by DNA, related to whales and porpoises.

As many as three species of hippo have already become extinct; the most recent became extinct within the last 1000 years. These were known as the Malagasy hippos, smaller than the modern hippos and were believed to become extinct due to human hunting. The European Hippopotamus ranged throughout continental Europe and the British Isles, becoming extinct before the last glacier came through.

Hippos are believed to weigh about 2 tons and females are considered smaller than their male counterparts. Males continue to grow throughout their lives, while females quit growing around age 25. Hippos can run faster than humans on land at a rate of about 25-30 miles per hour. When not hunted or killed by something else, hippos have a lifespan of about 40-50 years. The oldest known hippo is more than 55 years old and is the oldest known hippo in captivity, living in Evansville, Indiana.

1. According to the passage, how much do hippos weigh on average?  
a. 500 pounds      b. one ton      c. 750 pounds      d. two tons      e. 2500 pounds
2. What is the lifespan of the average hippopotamus?  
a. 70-80 years      b. 40-50 years      c. 30-35 years      d. 20-25 years      e. 10-15 years
3. In paragraph two, what is a good synonym for “aggressive”?  
a. adamant      b. forceful      c. uncompromising      d. insistent      e. hostile
4. According to DNA analysis, the closest relative to the hippopotamus is what kind of animal?  
a. cow      b. whale      c. rhino      d. pig      e. elephant
5. Which is not a name for a group of hippos together?  
a. pride      b. herd      c. school      d. pod      e. bloat

## Homework: Vocabulary

### **1. paternity** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **2. maternal** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **3. sorority** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **4. progeny** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **5. fraternity** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **6. unison** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### **7. empathy** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**8. tangible** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**9. corporeal** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. tactile** \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Homework: Please review following vocabularies**

**Reading and understanding following vocabularies**

**PITCH** (pich) adj. extremely dark

The closet was *pitch* black without a flashlight.

**PITTANCE** (pit-ns) n. a small amount

Roger considered the raise he got at the end of the year a mere *pittance* because he had expected much more money.

**PLACATE** (pley-keyt) v. to appease or pacify

Joann hated *placating* to her roommate's mood swings.

**PLAGIARIST** (pley-juh-rist) n. someone who uses the thoughts and writings of another author and passes them off as their own work

No one wanted to sit next to John because he was a known plagiarist.

**PLEA** (plee) n. an appeal or request

The criminal's plea for mercy was denied by the judge.

**PLEDGE** (plej) v. to promise seriously

Suzanne pledged to be a volunteer hospital worker.

**PLIGHT** (plahyt) n. an unfavorable or unfortunate situation

Brandon was upset with his *plight* of washing dishes for a whole week.

**POMPOUS** (pom-puhs) adj. characterized by arrogance or a false display of dignity

The commander of the naval ship had a very *pompous* attitude.

**PONDER** (pon-der) v. to think deeply

Henry *pondered* a long time about who to ask to the Valentine's Day dance.

**POTENT** (poht-nt) adj. powerful or mighty

The stove had a rather *potent* odor coming from

**PRACTITIONER** (prak-tish-uh-ner) n. a person with practices something specified

In order to be a ninja, one must be a *practitioner* of martial arts.

As a doctor, Jerry is a medical *practitioner*.

**PRAGMATIC** (prag-ma-tik) adj. characterized by practical point of view

Karen has a very *pragmatic* view of politics.

**PRECARIOUS** (pri-kair-ee-uhs) adj. dependent on circumstances that are beyond one's control

Erica was nervous about her precarious living situation in the condemned house.

**PREDICAMENT** (pri-dik-uh-muhnt) n. a difficult or unpleasant situation

Gideon found himself in a very strange *predicament* when he woke up on a pirate ship.

**PREDOMINANT** (pri-dom-uh-nuhnt) adj. Main; prevalent; first-noticed

Daphne's moodiness was her *predominant* personality trait.

**PREMATURE** (pree-nnuh-choor) adj. happening too soon

The announcement that school would be closed for a week due to construction was *premature*.

**PREOCCUPIED** (pree-ok-yuh-pahyd) adj. previously occupied with thought

Terrance was too *preoccupied* with his favorite comic book to answer his cell phone.

**PRESTIGE** (pre-steej) n. a reputation of being successful by achieving a high rank

The general's *prestige* was noticeable the second he walked into the room.

**PREY** (prey) n. a person or thing that is the victim of a predator

William was determined not to be the prey of the school *bully*.

**PRIME** (prim) adj. best in quality or excellence

George's grandfather was constantly saying that he was in the *prime* of his life.

**PRIOR** (prahy-er) adj. happening before; preceding

Jacob's prior girlfriend had red hair.

**PRISTINE** (pris-teen) adj. fresh and clean

Tisha loved the *pristine* smell of a new pair of socks.

**PROCEEDS** (proh-seeds) n. pl. profits or returns from a sale or business transaction

All of the *proceeds* from the bake sale were donated to charity

**PROSCRASTINATE** (proh-kras-tuh-neyt) v. to delay

Gustave *procrastinated* doing his homework so that he could watch the tennis match.

**PRODIGAL** (prod-i-guhl) adj. extravagantly wasteful

Emily was often *prodigal* with her allowance.

**PROFUSE** (pruh-fyoos) adj. a great amount; abundant

It was obvious that Nikki had spent a *profuse* amount on her new school wardrobe.

**PROPAGANDA** (prop-uh-gan-duh) n. information deliberately spread to help or harm a person, group, or institution

Vikki didn't listen to the politician's negative *propaganda*.

**PROSAIC** (proh-zey-ik) adj. matter-of-fact and unoriginal

The book was written in a *prosaic* manner which made it very dull to read.

**PROSE** (prohz) n. the ordinary form of written and spoken language

Pete was praised for his journalistic *prose*.

**PROTRUDE** (proh-trood) v. to stick out or thrust forward

Tony's fishing pole *protruded* from his bag.

**PROVINCIAL** (pruh-vin-shuhl) adj. a person who lack open-mindedness and sophistication

Although Billy was from the country his manners were far from *provincial*.

**PROXIMITY** (prok-sim-i-tee) n. nearness in place in time

These tragic events happened in strange proximity to one another.

**PRY** (prahy) v. to inquire unnecessarily into other people's business.

Nothing is worse than having a nosy neighbor that *pries*.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL** (sahy-kuh-loj-i-kuhl) adj. having to do with what affects the mind

Jenny felt like she might have a *psychological* breakdown if she didn't get asked to the dance.

**QUANDARY** (kwon-duh-ree) a state of uncertainty; a dilemma

Joe found himself in a *quandary* when he missed his bus.

**QUARREL** (kwawr-uhl) v. an angry dispute or fight

Brooke couldn't help but overhear her parents *quarrel*.

**QUEUE** (kyoo) n. a line

Laura was in a *queue* for 20 minutes at the supermarket.

**QUIBBLE** (kwib-uhl) v. to find fault and criticize

Albert *quibbled* about the smallest little things.

**QUIRK** (kwurk) n. a strange part of someone's behavior

Harry's *quirk* was wearing stained t-shirts.

**RADICAL** (rad-i-kuhl) adj. excellent or wonderful

Karen's skateboarding skills are completely *radical*.

**RALLY** (ral-ee) v. to gather, organize, and inspire

The general *rallied* his troops before they went into battle.

**RANT** (rant) n. a violent or extravagant exclamation or speech

After he was turned down for a loan, Mr. Rodi focused always *ranted* about the bank.



**RAPPORT** (ra-pawr) n. a close and harmonious relationship

Matilda had a great *rapport* with her cousins.

**REALISTIC** (ree-uhl-is-tik) adj. interested in what real or practical

Mark *realistically* couldn't be in two places at one time.

**REAP** (reep) v. to get in return

April *reaped* the benefits of her hard work by receiving an A in her Math class.

**REBUTTAL** (ri-buht-l) n. a statement made during a argument or debate

Sally presented a *rebuttal* to the statement that cupcakes are good for you.

**RECONCILE** (rek-uhn-sahyl) v. to bring to an agreement or harmony

The sisters *reconciled* their argument over shoes with a delicious lunch.

**RECOUNT** (ree-kount) v. to narrate or relate the fact of a story

Jed decided to *recount* the details of his story to his teacher.

**RECTIFY** (rek-tuh-fehy) v. to set right

Jimmy needed to rectify the flat tire on his bicycle.

**RECUR** (ri-kur) v. to happen or occur again

Cybil kept having *recurring* dreams about having, a baby.

**REDUNDANT** (ri-duhn-duhnt) adj. characterized by repetition of expressing yourself; saying the same thing; telling the same story over and over again

Phillip hated going to his aunt's house because she always told the same *redundant* story.

**REFUGE** (ref-yooj) n. protection from danger

Marissa took *refuge* underneath her umbrella during the rainstorm.

**REHABILITATE** (ree-huh-bil-i-teyt) v. to restore to good health

Dr. Brown told Ellie to use crutches because her ankle needed to *rehabilitate*.

**REKINDLE** (ree-kin-duhl) V. to renew or revive

They *rekindled* their relationship after ten years.

**RELENTLESS** (ri-lent-lis) adj. persistent and steady

The *relentless* sound of the rain kept Ruby awake all night.

**RELEVANT** (rel-uh-vuhnt) adj. connected to the matter at hand

Jackie made a very *relevant* comment about current events.

**RELIEVE** (ri-leev) v. to ease of any burden

The aspirin Pat took for his headache *relieved* him of his pain.

**RELINQUISH** (ri-ling-kwish) v. to surrender or give up

Rachel *relinquished* the idea that she'd be traveling in Europe all summer because she didn't have enough money to make the trip.

**RELUCTANT** (ri-luhk-tuhnt) adj. unwilling or hesitant

Although she'd been nominated, Elizabeth felt like a *reluctant* candidate for the position.

**REMINISCE** (rem-uh-nis) v. to recall past events and experiences

Andy *reminisced* about the first time he played baseball.

**RENDEZVOUS** (rahn-duh-voo) n. a meeting at a particular time and place

Eric and Cate planned a secret *rendezvous* after school.

**RENEGADE** (ren-i-geyd) n. one who rejects a religious cause, allegiance, or group for another; a desert

When Hilary switched schools she was considered a *renegade* by her old friends.

**REPENT** (ri-pent) v. to feel sorry about a past action

Bella felt as if she needed to *repent* for lying to her mother.

**REPRESENTATION** (rep-ri-zen-tey-shuhn, -zuhn-) n. picture, figure, statue, etc.

Jennifer drew her own *representation* of Leonardo Da Vinci's famous painting, Mona Lisa.

The sculpture was a *representation* of an apple.

**REPRIMAND** (rep-ruh-mand) v. to scold or rebuke

Mr. Hewitt *reprimanded* his students for talking during a test.

**REPRIEVE** (ri-preev) n. temporary relief

The pain medication gave the queen *reprieve* from her painful headache.

**REPULSIVE** (ri-puhl-siv) adj. causing aversion or disgust

Bacon is *repulsive* to many vegetarians.

**RESENT** (ri-zent) v. to be angry because of an insult

Fran *resented* the fact that her brother always teased her and never got in trouble.

**RESIGNATION** (rez-ig-ney-shuhn) n. an accepting and submissive attitude

Ralph accepted being fired from his job with *resignation* rather than anger.

**RESOLVE** (ri-zohlv) v. to determine or decide to do something

Maggie *resolved* to talk to her teacher about her poor grades.

**RESOLUTE** (rez-uh-loot) adj. resolved or determined

Mark was *resolute* that this year he would win the marathon.

**RESUME** (ri-zoom) v. to take up and go again or continue

After dinner, Cheri cleaned the dishes and *resumed* playing her favorite video game.

**RETORT** (ri-tawrt) n. a witty or severe remark that happens after a first speaker's statement

Cynthia tried to think of a witty *retort* after Claude insulted her.

**REVEL** (rev-uhl) v. to celebrate or take great pleasure

Jim *reveled* in his recent success.

**REVERE** (ri-veer) v. to regard with respect

Kari *revered* her grandfather's history.

**RIFT** (rift) n. a break in a friendly relations

The two companies who had worked well together in the past were now experiencing some kind of *rift* because of a miscommunication.

**RIGOROUS** (rig-er-uhs) adj. rigidly accurate; precise

Fran's morning exercise routine was *rigorous*.

**RISQUE** (ri-skey) adj. daringly close to being dangerous or improper