

# AFRICAN HIGHLIGHTS

# Chapter targets

### By the end of this chapter you should be able to:

- Listen and speak for and in a variety of purposes, audiences and contexts
- Interact effectively in group discussions and interview situations
- Explain the meaning of texts by finding relevant information and detail
- Evaluate your own work and present a final draft
- Use structurally sound sentences in a meaningful and functional manner

The following explanations will help you understand some of the more difficult words in this chapter. If you do not need this help, then you already speak English well!

Audience: The people who listen to, read or view something that is spoken,

written down or shown or presented.

Editorial: You will usually find the editorial to the left of the cartoon on

one of the middle pages of a newspaper. It will be in the top left-

hand corner of the page, and the name of the writer is not given.

Everybody knows that this is the editor's article and that it gives

the editor's point of view.

**Literal language:** Literal language is language that says something without

altering the normal dictionary meaning of words, e.g. I ate a ham

sandwich for breakfast.

Figurative language: Figurative languages describes things in an unusual way to form

a picture in your mind, e.g. A time for the beloved country to cry

with joy.

**Register:** The style and grammar you use to suit your audience.

Style: This is the way that you put your thoughts into words.

### **OUR FOCUS:**

In 2010, the Football World Cup is held in South Africa on the African continent. A World Cup Football tournament normally brings great financial rewards to the host country. Tourism is usually the industry that benefits the most. Another African country that owes much of its prosperity to tourism is Egypt. Hopefully, you will enjoy reading about its marvellous history.

# WORLD CUP 2010 WILL HEAL THE NATION (1)

1. The beloved country cried with joy when, on 15 May 2004, the FIFA president Sepp Blatter agonisingly eased a card with the name of South Africa, the winner of the World Cup for 2010, out of the most talked-about envelope in football. There wasn't, on this most dramatic stage, a dry eye in the Zurich World Trade Centre. Tears of relief, disbelief, realisation, ecstasy and an overwhelming sense of national pride rolled down cheeks to form a wave of passion so large that South Africa could only but feel a countrywide healing coming on.



# WORLD CUP 2010 WILL HEAL THE NATION (2)

- 2. In victory for South Africa there was much humility and a warning against arrogance from Mandela who had helped in South Africa's last-minute push in Zurich. Mandela entranced the hard men of FIFA to such an extent that they held up the announcement as the 86-year-old was led in.
- After saying: "The winner is football!" Sepp Blatter then held the envelope like a magician. He opened it and, agonisingly, edged the card out. Slowly the words

### SOUTH AFRICA

appeared! Pandemonium broke out! Mandela cried. Desmond Tutu would have cried if he hadn't been dancing so much!

# WORLD CUP 2010 WILL HEAL THE NATION (3)

- 4. But there was no joy for the two countries, Morocco and Egypt, who had lost out. As always, Nelson Mandela came to the rescue when he said: "I'd like to thank everyone who supported us. I'd like to say to those whom we beat the fact that you have not been successful today is no reflection on you. It just means that you may be more lucky than us next time."
- 5 Luck, though, had little to do with winning the World Cup. It took the bid committee seven long, hard years of making sure that luck was not a factor. The time leading up to 2010 and the years after the World Cup will need to be years of peace and harmony.
- Now is the time for healing. A time for the beloved country to cry with joy.



# FOCUS ON EGYPT

EGYPT ALSO BID FOR THE FOOTBALL
 WORLD CUP AT THE SAME TIME AS
 SOUTH AFRICA. NEEDLESS TO SAY, EGYPT
 WAS EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED WHEN
 THE 2010 WORLD CUP SOCCER BID WAS
 WON BY SOUTH AFRICA.





• EGYPT IS A FASCINATING AND ANCIENT COUNTRY IN NORTH AFRICA. MOST PEOPLE, AT SOME TIME OR ANOTHER, WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL TO THE LAND OF THE GREAT SPHINX AND THE PYRAMIDS SO THAT THEY CAN SAIL THE RIVER NILE ON A FELUCCA (A SMALL SAILING BOAT WITH A TALL MAST) OR ENTER THE ANCIENT TEMPLES IN LUXOR OR ABU SIMBEL. EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET THERE SOON.



### Mediterranean Sea Alexandria **EGYPT** SINAL Cairo Memphis Herakleopolis Eastern Desert Bahariya Beni Hasan Hermopolis Amarna Red Sea Dakhla Esna Edfu Kom Ombo Aswan Philae NUBIA Abu Simbel

# LANGUAGE STRUCTURES: EGYPT FACT SHEET

- 1. EGYPT'S BOUNDARIES ARE THE MEDITTERANEAN SEA IN THE NORTH, ISRAEL AND THE RED SEA IN THE EAST, SUDAN IN THE SOUTH, AND LIBYA IN THE WEST. IT HAS A MAXIMUM LENGTH FROM NORTH TO SOUTH OF ABOUT 1085KM AND A MAXIMUM WIDTH, NEAR ITS SOUTHERN BORDER OF ABOUT 1255KM. ONLY JUST OVER 4% OF ITS LAND AREA OF 1001450 SQ. KM IS USED BU ITS POPULATION OF ABOUT 54 MILLION PEOPLE! CAIRO IS THE CAPITAL AND THE LARGEST CITY.
- 2. EGYPT IS THE CRADLE OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS AND HAS RECORDED HISTORY THAT DATES FROM ABOUT 3200 BC.
- 3. THE CULTIVATED AREAS ARE IN THE VALLEY AND DELTA OF THE NILE, A NUMBER OF DESERT OASES, AND ALONG THE SUEZ CANAL. THE REST IS DESERT. PART OF THE DESERT IS MOUNT SINAI WHERE, ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE'S OLD TESTAMENT, MOSES RECEIVED THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.
- THE NILE, POSSIBLY THE LONGEST RIVER IN THE WORLD, ENTERS EGYPT FROM SUDAN AND FLOWS NORTH FOR ABOUT 1545 KM TO THE MEDITTERANEAN SEA. FOR ITS ENTIRE LENGTH, FROM THE SOUTHERN BORDER TO CAIRO, THE NILE FLOWS THROUGH A NARROW VALLEY LINED BY CLIFFS. LAKE NASSER, A HUGE RESERVOIR FORMED BY THE ASWAN HIGH DAM, EXTENDS SOUTH ACROSS THE SUDAN BORDER. THE LAKE IS ABOUT 480 KM LONG AND IS ABOUT 16 KM ACROSS AT ITS WIDEST POINT. ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF THE LAKE LIES IN EGYPT.
- 5. YOU MUST HAVE WORKED OUT FOR YOURSELF THAT THE RAINFALL IS EXTREMELY LOW. THE AREA WITH THE HIGHEST RAINFALL IS ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST, WHERE THE AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL IS ABOUT 200 MM. THIS DECREASES RAPIDLY TO THE SOUTH, WITH CAIRO RECEIVING ON AVERAGE ONLY ABOUT 29 MM OF RAIN A YEAR. IN MANY PARTS OF THE DESERT IT MAY RAIN ONLY ONCE IN SEVERAL YEARS.

### INVESTIGATE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES

### Questions on Paragraph 1:

- a. Give synonyms for the following: boundaries, about, maximum.
- b. Rewrite the last sentence, beginning: 'Egypt's capital is ...'
- c. Write the three numbers 1 085, 1 255 and 1 001 450 as words.
- d. Why has the writer ended the second-last sentence with an exclamation mark?

### Question on Paragraph 2:

e. You know that a newborn baby can sleep in a 'cradle', so a country cannot be said to be a "cradle". But the sentence makes sense and tells us that Egypt was like a cradle or container of an ancient civilisation. Does this sentence have a literal or a figurative meaning? Discuss this in your group.

Qu	testions on Paragraph 3:
f.	Use the correct form of the word (derivative) in each of the following sentences:
	<ol> <li>The of all available land is most important. cultivated</li> </ol>
	ii. There are oases in the desert. number
	iii. On one oasis we found some dwellings. desert
	iv. He is true to his word and acts according
	v. The part of Egypt is sandy desert. south
Qu	estions on Paragraph 4:
g.	Fill in the missing information in these sentences:
	<ol> <li>The Nile, which is in the world, enters Egypt from Sudan.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The Nile flows through a narrow valley which is by cliffs.</li></ol>
	iii. Lake Nasser, which is by the Aswan High Dam, extends southwards.
h.	Give words of opposite meaning (antonyms) for the following. The first letter of a
	possible antonym is given to help you. Other answers could also be correct.
	<ol> <li>The answer to this problem is possibly / (d) in your own hands.</li> </ol>
	ii. The tour guide entered / (d) my name in / (f) the list.
	<ol><li>iii. An entire / (A p) description of the temple was very confusing.</li></ol>
	iv. The guide gave a narrow / (an ex) account of Mount Sinai.
	v. That tributary of the Nile is not a huge river/ (It is an in river.)

### Questions on Paragraph 5:

extremely

- Rewrite the first sentence in indirect (reported) speech, beginning:
  - The guide remarked that we ... extremely low.

yearly

Match up the pairs of words that have similar meanings (synonyms).

annual formulated rapidly lessens average particularly several normal decreases many worked out suddenly

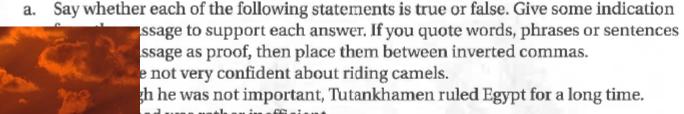
- AFTER AN UNEVENTFUL FLIGHT, WE FLEW INTO CAIRO. WE WEEKEN PROPERTY OF VEHICLE (1) TO CAIRO. WE WEEKEN THE PROPERTY OF VERY SMOOTHLY.
- 2. OUR HOTEL WAS THE NILE HILTON. FROM OUR BALCONY, WE LOOKED DOWN ON THE EGYPTIAN MUSEUM WAS ALSO OUR FIRST PORT OF CALL THE NEXT DAY, AS WE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT THE UNBELIEVABLE TUTANKHAMEN EXHIBITION.
- 3. TUTANKHAMEN WAS AN EGYPTIAN PHARAOH WHO LIVED FROM 1343 TO 1325 BC. ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT A VERY IMPORTANT KING, WHEN BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGISTS FOUND HIS TOMB IN 1922, THEY DISCOVERED TO THEIR AMAZEMENT THAT ALL THE ORIGINAL TREASURES WERE STILL INSIDE. THE TOMB HAD NOT BEEN OPENED SINCE 1325 BC, SO EVERYTHING WAS PRESERVED IN PERFECT CONDITION. AS THIS WAS THE ONLY ROYAL TOMB THAT HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETELY DESPOILED BY ROBBERS, ITS DISCOVERY WAS A LANDMARK IN THE STUDY OF ANCIENT EGYPT. MORE THAN 5000 PRECIOUS ITEMS WERE RECOVERED FROM THE TOMB AND ARE NOW ON DISPLAY. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE SPENT MOST OF THE DAY EXPLORING THE WONDERS OF THE





### **EGYPTIAN ADVENTURE (2)**

- 4. THE NEXT DAY WE DID EVERYTHING THAT TOURISTS ARE EXPECTED TO DO WHEN IN CAIRO- AND LOVED IT! FIRST, WE DROVE OUT TO THE PYRAMIDS AND THE GREAT SPHINX AT GIZA. THESE THREE PYRAMIDS WERE BUILT AS TOMBS FOR KINGS, AND THE TALLEST IS THE CHEOPS PYRAMID, WHICH IS 146 METRES HIGH! THEN, WITH OUR HEARTS IN OUR MOUTHS, WE WENT ON A CAMEL RIDE, AND WE STILL WONDER HOW THE ARABS MUST HAVE FELT AFTER TRAVELLING HUNDREDS OF KILOMETRES ACROSS THE DESERT IN THIS MOST UNCOMFORTABLE FASHION.
- ONE OF THE BIGGEST BAZAARS IN THE WORLD. AS WE WALKED THROUGH ITS NARROW STREETS, WITH THE SMELL OF SPICES IN OUR NOSTRILS, A FEAST OF WONDERFUL ARTICLES TEMPTED OUR HANDS INTO OUR PURSES.
- 6. WHAT A FABULOUS DAY! BUT MORE WAS TO COME, FOR THE NEXT MORNING WE WERE TO FLY ABU SIMBEL FOR THE START OF OUR THREE-DAY-VOYAGE ON LAKE NASSER.

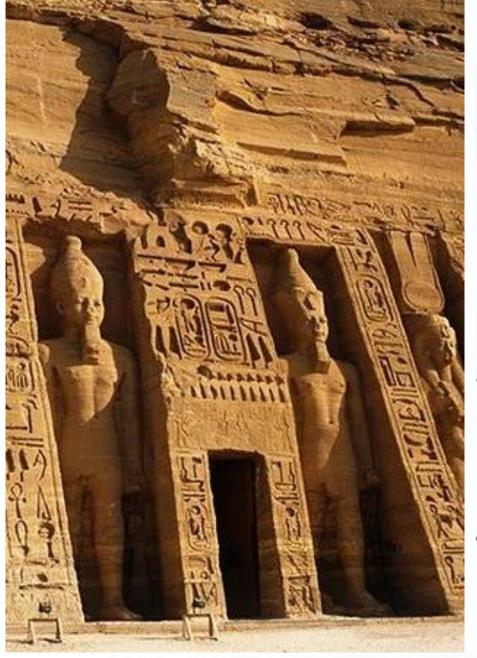


ed was rather inefficient.

f us felt like buying anything at the Kahn El Khalili Bazaar. s had never taken anything at all from Tutankhamen's tomb. ptian Museum was a great attraction for us. at you had been in Cairo with us. Write a letter of about 10 lines to Egypt rs, 1384 Khalili Road, Heliopolis 3510, Cairo, to express the group's

r our time with Mohamed. a member of the group in Egypt. Imagine that you phone one of or a friend in South Africa. With another class member, carry on this

d. Write five sentences of your own about some highlight of your Egyptian tour. Each sentence must begin: 'Needless to say, ...'



- 1. Egyptian tour guides are possibly the best-informed guides in the world. Most of them have a degree in Egyptology and all of them are extremely proud of their heritage. So a visitor very soon learns that one of the greatest pharaohs who ever lived was Ramses II. He must have been a very vain man, because wherever we went we saw temples and statues that he had had erected in his honour!
- 2. The best preserved and the most impressive of these is his temple at Abu Simbel which was constructed \_\_(a)\_\_ 1250 bc. The front of the main temple has four sitting statues of him, and each is \_\_(b)\_\_ 20 metres high. He also had a smaller temple built \_\_\_(c)\_\_ his, in honour of his queen, Nefertari. The facade of this temple is adorned \_\_\_(d)\_\_ statues of him, his wife and their children. The interior of his temple is more than 55 metres \_\_\_(e)\_\_.
- 3. There are two more remarkable facts about these temples. The first is that western civilisation was unaware of their existence until they were discovered in 1812. The second is that in 1964 a huge dam, called Lake Nasser, was completed on the River Nile. Before it was finished, these and many other ancient temples were cut into sections and reassembled on higher ground, 64 metres above the Nile. This saved them from being submerged under the rising water level as Lake Nasser filled up.
- When we boarded our luxurious 84-cabin boat to set off on our lake voyage, we left behind an Abu Simbel that we can never forget.



- a. In Paragraph 1, all the adjectives have been printed in bold. Work out eight sentences of your own, using each of the eight different adjectives in each sentence.
- b. In Paragraph 2, five prepositions or prepositional phrases have been omitted, namely from front to back / in about / next to / over / with. Write the correct word/s chosen from the above to match (a) to (e) in Passage 4.
- c. Can you form nouns from the following words?

i. extremely (para 1)

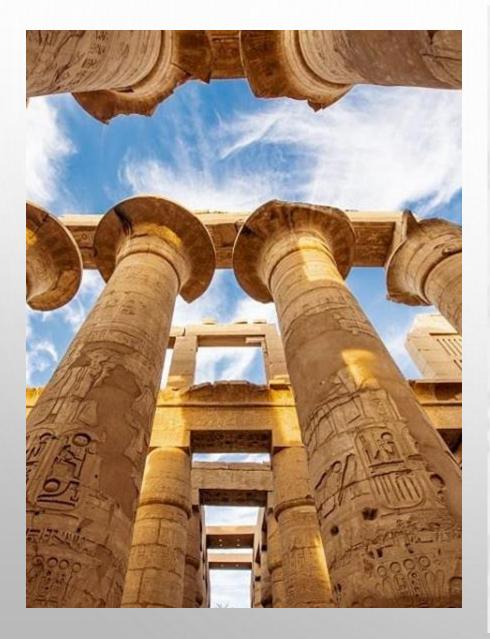
iv. sitting (para 2)

ii. vain (para 1)

v. luxurious (para 4)

iii. preserved (para 2)

# **UNFORGETTABLE EGYPT**



- Our three-day Lake Nasser cruise was both peaceful and informative. We lazed on deck and swam in the pool while the low hills on both sides slipped past us. Once or twice a day we would board a small boat and go to the desert shore, where our guide would explain to us the details of another temple that had been saved from the rising waters of Lake Nasser. And then we disembarked and flew to Luxor.
- 2. What a treasure trove! Our first stop was in Luxor itself at the Temples of Luxor and Karnak. They are huge! It was amazing to walk down paved streets and stroll among 3 square kilometres of massive columns and statues, which formed part of the city of Thebes some 2 000 years before Christ. Even here, Ramses II played a major role in the completion of the most important temple of the god Amon.
- 3. But more was to come. We crossed the Nile to go to the Valley of the Kings, a burial site used by Egyptian rulers a century-and-a-half before Christ. We were absolutely amazed at their wonderful state of preservation, especially the colours that are still bright after three-and-a-half centuries. Archaeologists have already discovered 34 tombs, most of them carved deep into solid bedrock. The most famous tomb, and also one of the smallest, is that of Tutankhamen. Of course, it is now empty, but it remains one of the great attractions.
- 4. The only woman buried in the Valley of the Kings is Queen Hatshepsut, who was a ruler in her own right. Some kilometres away, however, in the Valley of the Queens, there is a striking temple called the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut.
- After a southwards cruise on the Nile as far as Aswan and after many more unforgettable experiences, we flew back to Cairo. Then we left Egypt with great regret, but certain that we would go there again some day.

### **ACTIVITY 5: SUMMARY SKILLS**

- a. Read Passage 5 slowly and with great concentration. When you think that you have grasped what it is about, cover it so that you cannot read it. Then look at the following five short extracts – one from each paragraph:
  - i. Another temple that had been saved from the rising waters of Lake Nasser.
  - ii. Luxor itself at the Temples of Luxor and Karnak
  - iii. Valley of the Kings, a burial site
  - iv. Queen Hatshepsut
  - Then we left Egypt with great regret.
- Using the extracts above as starting points, try to write down, in five paragraphs, everything that you can remember about the passage.

### BUILDING VOCABULARY

You can get great enjoyment and improve your dictionary skills by discussing these seven dictionary sentences. By all means, look up some of the words yourself, but you will learn a lot if you also discuss them with your neighbour or in your group.

- Do you get fruit from a fruit machine?
- Do you make an example of someone who sets a good example?
- Do you plant a family tree?
- Do you say 'How do you do?' to someone you know very well?
- · Do you think that a crematorium at night would be creepy?
- Do you think that a geologist should know something about geography?
- Do you use a musical instrument to harp on about something?

# ACTIVITY 6: LISTEN AND SPEAK TO COMMUNICATE

Each group can choose one of the following tasks. When they are finished, they can present their results to the whole class.

- a. Imagine that you were fortunate enough to be in the Zurich Trade Centre when Sepp Blatter made his famous announcement. Now you have agreed to be interviewed on television about it. Take part in this interview within your group, but remember that your style and register must be suitable for your large TV audience.
- b. The other members of the group form a panel of interviewers and must have their questions ready. They must apply interviewing skills, and ask questions which they think will obtain information that their viewers will want to hear. At all times, they must be considerate in allowing others to ask questions and state their opinions.
- c. You have just returned from a trip to Egypt. Imagine that you have taken a large number of slides, and you are now presenting a slide show for some of your closest friends. Comment on your experiences as you describe the slides and be prepared to answer questions they may ask about the various places in Egypt.

# RECAPPING AND REVISING: USING APOSTROPHES

Use the apostrophe ('s or s') in each of the
following, and complete the sentences suitably.
e.g. A school for girls is called
A school for girls is called a girls' school.
a. The office where the secretary works is called
b. The handbag which belongs to Mr Smith's wife
is
c. The law which was formulated by a man called Murphy is known as
d. The home where the nurses live is called
e. The motorbike which belongs to my brother-in-law is
f. A voyage which lasts a week is
g. The plan drawn up by Mike is called
h. A hostel for railwaymen is called

# RECAPPING AND REVISING: USE PRONOUNS

You will find that one of the following pronouns: 'something/anything, somebody/anybody, somewhere/anywhere' can be used to complete these sentences suitably:	
e.g. I don't like the look of this area. Can't we go else?	
I don't like the look of this area. Can't we go somewhere else?	
Your face looks familiar. Haven't I seen you before?	
b. You look as if you are about to say unpleasant.	
C. I cannot see today. I don't feel well.	
d. There is I cannot accept about your behaviour.	
E I wish there were I could do to console you.	
I never seem to go interesting these days.	

# RECAPPING AND REVISING: WRITE AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

- YOU FEEL THAT 2010 IS TOO SOON FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST THE FOOTBALL WORLD CUP SUCCESSFULLY.
- WRITE AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY ON WHY 2014 WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER.

### **Bull's Eye!**

End-of-chapter revision and self-assessment exercise

At the end of every chapter you will be asked to answer 10 questions set on the chapter. These are quite straightforward, and you are requested to answer them before you check your answers in the chapter itself.

- a. 'FIFA' is an acronym, i.e. a word made from the first letters of other words. What does 'FIFA' stand for?
- b. How is figurative language different from literal language?
- c. Who comforted the Egyptians who were present when the result of who would host the 2010 World Cup was announced?
- d. Why is an 'editorial' an important article in any newspaper?
- e. Name two methods of recording information during an interview.
- f. What grammatical term is used to describe words of similar meaning?
- g. Would you expect a conversation to be conducted in direct or in indirect speech?
- h. Was Tutankhamen's tomb discovered in 1325 BC, 1812 AD, 1922 AD or 1976 AD? Were the archaeologists who found it American, Swiss or British?
- i. Give an abbreviation for 'paragraph'.
- Give a derived noun from the adjective or verb 'cultivated'.

