

Name : First name : Date

IFS 3eme Section Internationale Entry Test.

Reading Insert.

Read Passage A carefully, and then answer Question 1 on the Question and Answer Paper provided.

Passage A: Tiger Encounter

The following passage is set in Bandhavgarh National Park, India. The writer is describing a meeting with a Bengal tiger, one of the world's endangered species. The writer is accompanied by other visitors and a guide called Anil.

It's early morning and the sunlight is just breaking through the trees of the deep Bandhavgarh forest. We're driving down a dirt lane when suddenly the road is blocked by the massive grey bulk which is Gautam, the lead elephant used for patrols, tiger monitoring, and tourist forays into the jungle. Sitting astride Gautam, is Kuttapan, the keeper and 'driver' of the elephant. He has been at Bandhavgarh for 24 years and knows more about its tigers than anyone. Kuttapan gets my attention and points to something on the road. It's the distinct impression of a tiger's body which has recently lain there. The imprint – torso, fore-paws and tail – lies clearly over any tracks or disturbances which may have come in the night.

Suddenly we hear the distinct 'bleep-bleep' – the alarm call of the deer, announcing the presence of a predator. Kuttapan and Gautam go off to investigate and we begin to drive around to intercept them on the other side of the forest. Ten metres down the road, we hear a loud 'varoom', the call of the tiger, and we slide to a halt. Walking directly towards us, at a distance of 100 metres, is a large male tiger. It is one of the 3-year-old males known to share this territory with his brother.

We sit in stunned silence in open-topped jeeps. Some cameras continue to click and some knuckles begin to whiten as grips tighten on the roll bars of the jeep. The tiger continues his casual stroll directly towards us. About 20 metres from our jeep, he walks into a small clearing off the road,

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turns to mark a tree with his scent, then comes back and walks past us, just a metre away from the jeep. Suspension of all breathing is the easiest thing in the world at a moment like this.

When the tiger is about 50 metres away, we hear a commotion in the forest across the road. Anil, our guide, whispers loudly, 'Wolves!'. There, propped up like little statues in a clearing, are two Indian grey wolves. Rigid, alert, clearly in a state of alarm and agitation, they begin yelping at the tiger. The tiger spins around and charges off into the forest after them.

We drive down the road to where we were originally going to meet Kuttapan and Gautam. There, in an open clearing, stands the tiger, looking around as if to ask, 'Where'd they go?'. We park the jeeps and watch a silent drama unfold.

Out of the forest emerges the larger of the wolves, probably the male. The tiger turns his head and the wolf scampers back into the forest. The tiger continues to walk away down the road. Out of the forest comes the larger wolf again, moving cautiously to within a safe distance from the tiger. This time the tiger turns round and glowers at the wolf, probably assessing the distance between them and the speed it would take to catch the wolf. They stare at each other; the tiger is still, and the wolf is nervously pacing back and forth. The muscles of the tiger begin to twitch and off goes the wolf into the forest again. Finally, after one more of these encounters, the tiger moves some distance away and the wolf disappears into the forest for one last time. We can only assume that the aggressive and bold behaviour of the wolf meant he was protecting some cubs and wanted to drive the tiger out of his territory.

The tiger, now left in peace, continues his stroll.

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Question and Answer Paper.

Read carefully **Passage A, Tiger Encounter**, in the Reading Booklet Insert and then answer **Question 1** on this Question and Answer Paper.

Answer all questions using your own words as far as possible.

Question 1

- (a) **Using your own words**, explain who Kuttapan is **and** why he is part of the expedition (paragraph A, 'It's early morning ...').

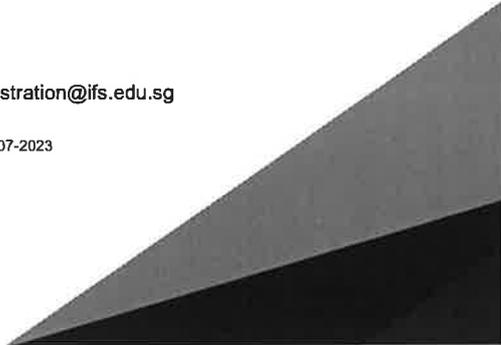
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.....[2]

- (b) **Using your own words**, explain how the writer and his companions learn that a tiger was recently present in the area (lines 5–8 'Kuttapan gets ... the night.').

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.....[2]

- (c) Which six-word phrase in paragraph B tells you that the deer is warning of the danger of being hunted ('Suddenly we hear ...')?

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.....[1]



- (d) What does the phrase 'knuckles begin to whiten as grips tighten on the roll bars ...' (lines 14 - 15) suggest about the feelings of the people in the jeep?
.....
..... [1]
- (e) **Using your own words**, describe the behaviour **and** attitude of the wolves in paragraph D ('When the tiger ...').
.....
..... [2]
- (f) Re-read the following sentence: 'We park the jeeps and watch a silent drama unfold.' (lines 24–25). What does this sentence suggest about the behaviour of the writer **and** his companions at this point?
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..... [2]
- (g) Which of the tiger's actions causes the wolf to run away (paragraph F, 'Out of the forest ...')?
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..... [1]



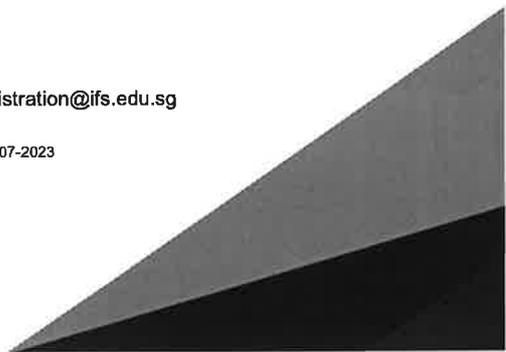
(h) Give the meaning of the underlined words in the following **three** phrases as the writer uses them in the passage. Then explain how the phrases help you understand the appearance or behaviour of the animals.

(i) The elephant: 'blocked by the massive grey bulk' (line 2) Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it:
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.....[1]

(ii) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:
.....
.....
.....[2]

(iii) The tiger: 'the tiger continues his casual stroll' (line 15) Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it:
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.....[1]

(iv) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:
.....
.....



.....[2]

- (v) The wolf: 'Rigid, alert, clearly in a state of agitation' (line 21) Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it:

.....

.....[1]

- (vi) Explanation of the **whole phrase**:

.....

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.....[2]

[Total: 20]

