

We set off six days ago in our shiny, black vehicle, to Ixopo. First stop was a farm where we were treated to lunch and introduced to graceful artists. Matt, one of the artists and refugee from the advertising rat race of the city, has made a name for himself with sand painting. The secret is in the tones he has mastered by mixing colours with mineral sands. When the sun makes each little grain of sand dance with internal light, his landscapes come alive. After more tea, we got our first glimpse of the town in the gleaming late afternoon light. The old town is a decaying remnant of its colonial past, but we suspect the majority of people there are happier for it.

At dinner, I steered clear of the tripe, but filled up on dough cooked in curry, wild spinach, beans and mealie meal. We fell into a deep sleep in our comfortable room, which was decorated with an animal theme.

Breakfast the next day was a busy affair of cereal followed by eggs, bacon, steak, toast and coffee. [20 wpm] That morning we saw the old steam train at the station. It is a great tourist magnet, where they come to relive the past. Dudley discussed his new train project and after a short but charming dusting in coal soot, we returned to the land of [25 wpm] Dick King.

The monks bought land from him and turned it into a wonderful example of farming, complete with chapel, now perfect for wedding parties. When the seminary went out of business, the land was bought by three neighbouring farmers who split [30 wpm] it up. Because nobody else wanted them, Mira got the portion with the old mission buildings. She saw them for the treasure they were and, when we visited, was busy labouring with love, patience and sweat to restore a sense of grandeur and soul [35 wpm] to these old buildings.

After two nights there, in spite of dashing about, we found a sense of deep peace among the themed gardens and honest abbey buildings, a mill, still working, chapel, dairy and piggery, living quarters and associated buildings. [40 wpm] All good and well, but the good folk would not allow us to simply put our feet up and dream the days away. The braai fires were burning and we were soon enjoying our meal in the hills. Sunday we wandered around the region looking at the neighbouring [45 wpm] missions, amazing works of art, craft and religious fervour. Then, towards sunset, we went for a picnic and paddle on the farm dam.

16^e
max18^e
max

Next stop was a bush lodge and nature reserve. There were numerous nature trails on this grand piece of [50 wpm] real estate. Both before and after breakfast we walked and examined the plants a bit, but not nearly enough. The places we were seeing were getting harder and harder to leave. But, we had places to go and appointments to keep. The next day [55 wpm] we set off early to try to catch a glimpse of the forest. This forest is one of the last refuges of the species. We were treated to a tree peppered with parrots just as the sun popped over the hill. Once a place where a boy, nearly a century ago, [60 wpm] could play with horse and rifle, there are now just thirsty gum trees and dusty logging tracks.

20^e
max22^e
max24^e
max

The thing about the trip that charmed me most, was all the roads. There is a lovely road that runs from Ixopo into the hills. These hills are grass [65 wpm] covered and rolling and they are lovely beyond description. I know there really is such a road, because we drove it numerous times. Then again, we think it was the warmth and graciousness of the people. Farm after farm, guesthouse after guesthouse, [70 wpm] every lodge, things were generally rustic, tasteful and restrained.

26^e
max28^e
max

Imagine a place where the coastline and sunshine warms the very depth of your soul, and leaves you feeling blessed.

Imagine a place where the cool mountain air, forests and waterfalls soothe the spirit, where the cry of the fisheagle over pristine estuaries takes your breath away. Imagine a place that has inspired poets, artists, sculptors, songwriters, authors and healers.

[75 wpm] 30^e max

What a wonderful time we had, a holiday never [80 wpm] to forget.

32^e max

MARKING OF SPEED - PENALISATION OF ERRORS

Penalise ONCE per paper

- ★ Line spacing
- ★ Open line between paragraphs
- ★ Incorrect font
- ★ Incorrect margins
- ★ Incorrect language (US) - e.g. use of 'z' instead of 's'
- ★ Paper size
- ★ Accidental caps lock
- ★ Smart quotes in words like "we'll be there ..." are acceptable in English
- ★ Punctuation (two after full stop, one or two after colon and semi-colon, one after comma) - applied consistently
- ★ Evidence of enter used at the end of a line (initial capital)

Marks for speed levels below 35 wpm are not indicated. Use only 'P' or 'F' to indicate whether or not the speed has been achieved, in the left-hand margin. The candidate gets the highest mark for any speed passed at **35 wpm and above**. The candidate also gets credit for the highest speed passed (24/60) even if the mark is lower than another speed level achieved.

Extract from syllabus, page 20:

- Omissions or repetition of words in a sentence as well as words omitted as a result of non-completion of the text up to the minimum speed requirement, are marked according to the system whereby the first five strokes constitute an error and thereafter every subsequent ten strokes constitute an additional error.

MARK SCHEME FOR TIMED ACCURACY TEST WITH A 10 MINUTE TIME LIMIT														
20 to 80 words per minute														
Number of errors	Max errors													
		10	11	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32
	Wpm	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80
	Mark	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
1		56	57	57	57	58	58	58	58	59	59	59	59	59
2		53	53	54	55	56	56	56	57	57	57	57	58	58
3		49	50	51	52	53	54	55	55	56	56	56	56	57
4		46	47	48	50	51	52	53	53	54	54	55	55	56
5		42	44	45	47	49	50	51	52	53	53	54	54	54
6		38	40	42	45	47	48	49	50	51	52	52	53	53
7		35	37	39	42	44	46	47	49	50	50	51	52	52
8		31	34	36	39	42	44	46	47	48	50	50	50	51
9		28	31	33	37	40	42	44	45	47	48	48	49	50
10		24	27	30	34	38	40	42	44	45	46	47	48	49
11		20	24	27	32	35	38	40	42	44	45	46	47	47
12		17	21	24	29	33	36	38	40	42	43	45	46	47
13		13	17	21	27	31	34	37	39	41	42	43	44	45
14		10	14	18	24	29	32	35	37	39	41	42	43	44
15		6	11	15	21	26	30	33	36	38	39	41	42	43
16		2	8	12	19	24	28	31	34	36	38	40	41	42
17		1	4	9	16	22	26	29	32	35	37	38	40	41
18		0	1	6	14	20	24	28	31	33	35	37	38	40
19			0	3	11	17	22	26	29	32	34	36	37	39
20				0	9	15	20	24	27	30	32	34	36	38
21					6	13	18	22	26	29	31	33	34	36
22					3	11	16	20	24	27	30	32	34	35
23					1	8	14	19	23	26	28	31	32	34
24					0	6	12	17	21	24	27	29	31	33
25						4	10	15	19	23	25	28	30	32
26						2	8	13	18	21	24	27	29	31
27						0	6	11	16	20	23	25	28	30
28							4	10	14	18	21	24	26	29
29							2	8	13	17	20	23	25	28
30							0	6	11	15	19	22	24	26
31								4	9	14	17	20	23	25
32								2	8	12	16	19	22	24
33								1	6	11	14	18	20	23
34								0	5	9	13	16	19	22
35									3	8	12	15	18	21
36									1	6	10	14	17	20
37									0	5	9	13	16	19
38										3	8	11	14	17
39										2	6	10	13	16
40										0	5	9	12	15
41											3	8	11	14
42											2	6	10	13
43											1	5	8	12
44											0	4	7	11
45												2	6	10
46												1	5	8
47												0	4	7
48													2	6
49													1	5
50													0	4
51														3
52														2
53														1
54														0

Ses dae gelede het ons na Ixopo in ons blink swart kar vertrek. Die eerste stop was 'n plaas waar ons middagete geniet het en aan verskeie kunstenaars voorgestel is. Matt, een van die kunstenaars en uitgewekene van die gejaagde lewe van die stad, het vir homself naam gemaak met skilderkuns. Die geheim wat hy bemeester het, is deur kleure met minerale sand te meng. Sy landskappe kry lewe as die son oor elke greintjie sand dans. Na nog tee het ons ons eerste vlugtige blik van die stad in die glansende, laat middagson gekry. Die ou dorp is 'n vervalle restant van sy koloniale verlede, maar ons vermoed dat die meerderheid van die inwoners gelukkig is.

Vir aandete was daar afval op tafel, maar ek het dit vermy en deeg wat in kerrie gekook is met wilde spinasie, boontjies en mieliemeel genuttig. Ons het daarna in ons gerieflike kamer, wat met 'n diere tema versier is, gaan slaap.

10^e
max

Ontbyt die volgende dag was 'n groot gedoente met pap, eiers, spek, biefstuk, geroosterde brood [20 wpm] en koffie. Die oggend het ons die ou stoomtrein gesien. Dit is 'n groot toeriste-aantreklikheid, wat die verlede laat herleef. Dudley het sy nuwe treinprojek met ons bespreek en na 'n rukkie tussen die roet, is ons terug na die land van Dick [25 wpm] King.

11^e
max

Die monnike het die grond by hom gekoop en daarvan 'n spogplaas gemaak. Daar was ook 'n kapel waarin huwelike voltrek kon word. Nadat die kweekskool in onbruik geraak het, is die grond deur drie naburige boere gekoop en verdeel.

12^e
max

Aangesien [30 wpm] niemand anders dit wou besit nie, het Mira die deel met die ou sendinggeboue gekry. Sy het die onskatbare waarde daarvan besef en toe ons haar besoek het, was sy besig om die ou geboue liefdevol, met geduld, sweet en 'n sin vir luuksheid op te [35 wpm] knap.

Na twee nagte daar het ons, ten spyte van swier, 'n gevoel van kalmte tussen die tuine, kloostergeboue, 'n werkende meule, kapel, melkery, varkhokke, leefkwartiere en aangrensende geboue ervaar. Alles was nou goed en wel, maar die inwoners [40 wpm] sou ons nie toelaat om ons voete te laat rus en net die dae om te droom nie. Die braaivure was aangesteek en ons het spoedig daarna ons ete in die heuwels geniet. Sondag het ons in die omgewing rondgeloop en die naburige sendinghuise, pragtige [45 wpm] kunswerke en handwerk met godsdienstige temas bewonder. Met sonsondergang het ons piekniek gehou en op die plaasdam geroei. 16^e max

Die volgende stop was 'n boshuis en reservaat. Daar was verskeie natuurlike paadjies op die mooi stuk grond. Voor en na [50 wpm] ontbyt het ons geloop om die plante 'n bietjie te bekyk. Dit was al moeiliker om die plekke wat ons gesien het, agter te laat. Maar ons het nog ander plekke gehad om te sien en afsprake om na te kom. Die volgende dag het ons vroeg vertrek om 'n [55 wpm] kylie in die plantasie te kry. Die plantasie is een van die laaste toevlugsoorde van die spesie. Ons is vermaak deur 'n swerm papegaaie, net toe die son oor die heuwel opkom. Waar nou dorre gombome en stowwerige spore van saery is, was dit omtrent [60 wpm] 'n eeu gelede 'n plek waar 'n seun met perd en geweer kon speel. 20^e max

Die aspek van hierdie toer wat my die meeste betower het, was die paaie. Daar is 'n pragtige pad wat van Ixopo tot in die heuwels loop. Hierdie golwende heuwels is met gras bedek [65 wpm] en is onbeskryflik mooi. Ek weet daar is regtig so 'n pad, want ons het dit telkemale gery. Die warmte en gasvryheid van die mense was vir ons oorweldigend. Plaas na plaas, gastehuis na gastehuis, elke oornagplek was oor die algemeen rustig, [70 wpm] smaakvol met goeie organisasie. 22^e max

Stel jou voor 'n plek waar die kuslyn en sonskyn die dieptes van jou siel met 'n warm gevoel van saligheid laat. Stel jou voor 'n plek waar die koel berglug, woude en watervalle die siel streel en waar die geskreue [75 wpm] van die visarend oor eertydse mere jou asem wegslaan. Stel jou voor 'n plek wat digters, kunstenaars, beeldhouers, liedjieskrywers, skrywers en genesers besiel het.

30^e max

Wat 'n wonderlike tyd het ons gehad, 'n vakansie om nooit ooit te vergeet nie. [80 wpm]

32^e max

NASIEN VAN SPOED - PENALISERING VAN FOUTE

Penaliseer EEN keer per vraestel

- ★ Reëlafstand
- ★ Oop reël tussen paragrawe
- ★ Verkeerde lettertype (font)
- ★ Verkeerde kantlyne
- ★ Verkeerde taal (Engels ipv Afrikaans kan AutoCorrect-gevolge hê)
- ★ Papiergrootte
- ★ Wisselslot per ongeluk aan (*accidental caps lock*)
- ★ 'n (moet óf regaf-aanhalingstrepie óf sluitings-aanhalingstrepie wees) [die man dra 'n hoed] - smart quotes in woorde soos "we'll be there ..." is in Engels aanvaarbaar)
- ★ Leestekens (twee na punt, een of twee na dubbelpunt of kommapunt, een na komma) - konsekwent toegepas
- ★ Bewys dat enter aan die einde van 'n reël gebruik is (reël begin met hoofletter)

Punte vir spoedvlakke onder 35 wpm word nie aangedui nie. Gebruik slegs 'P' of 'F' in die linkerkantruimte, om aan te dui of die spoed geslaag is of nie. Die kandidaat kry die hoogste punt vir enige spoed, **35 wpm en hoër**, wat hy geslaag het. Die kandidaat kry ook krediet vir die hoogste spoed wat hy geslaag het (24/60), al is die punt laer as vir 'n ander spoed geslaag.

Uittreksel uit sillabus, bl. 19:

- Weglatings of herhaling van woorde in 'n sin sowel as woorde weggelaat as gevolg van nie-voltooiing van die teks tot die minimum spoedvereiste, word nagesien volgens die stelsel waar die eerste vyf aanslae as een fout beskou word en daarna elke tien daaropvolgende aanslae as 'n addisionele fout.

MERKSKEMA: TYDNOUKEURIGHEIDSTOETS MET 10 MINUTE TYDBEPERKING														
20 tot 80 woorde per minuut														
Aantal foute	Maks foute													
		10	11	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32
	Wpm	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80
	Punt	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
1		56	57	57	57	58	58	58	58	59	59	59	59	59
2		53	53	54	55	56	56	56	57	57	57	57	58	58
3		49	50	51	52	53	54	55	55	56	56	56	56	57
4		46	47	48	50	51	52	53	53	54	54	55	55	56
5		42	44	45	47	49	50	51	52	53	53	54	54	54
6		38	40	42	45	47	48	49	50	51	52	52	53	53
7		35	37	39	42	44	46	47	49	50	50	51	52	52
8		31	34	36	39	42	44	46	47	48	50	50	50	51
9		28	31	33	37	40	42	44	45	47	48	48	49	50
10		24	27	30	34	38	40	42	44	45	46	47	48	49
11		20	24	27	32	35	38	40	42	44	45	46	47	47
12		17	21	24	29	33	36	38	40	42	43	45	46	47
13		13	17	21	27	31	34	37	39	41	42	43	44	45
14		10	14	18	24	29	32	35	37	39	41	42	43	44
15		6	11	15	21	26	30	33	36	38	39	41	42	43
16		2	8	12	19	24	28	31	34	36	38	40	41	42
17		1	4	9	16	22	26	29	32	35	37	38	40	41
18		0	1	6	14	20	24	28	31	33	35	37	38	40
19			0	3	11	17	22	26	29	32	34	36	37	39
20				0	9	15	20	24	27	30	32	34	36	38
21					6	13	18	22	26	29	31	33	34	36
22					3	11	16	20	24	27	30	32	34	35
23					1	8	14	19	23	26	28	31	32	34
24					0	6	12	17	21	24	27	29	31	33
25						4	10	15	19	23	25	28	30	32
26						2	8	13	18	21	24	27	29	31
27						0	6	11	16	20	23	25	28	30
28							4	10	14	18	21	24	26	29
29							2	8	13	17	20	23	25	28
30							0	6	11	15	19	22	24	26
31								4	9	14	17	20	23	25
32								2	8	12	16	19	22	24
33								1	6	11	14	18	20	23
34								0	5	9	13	16	19	22
35									3	8	12	15	18	21
36									1	6	10	14	17	20
37									0	5	9	13	16	19
38										3	8	11	14	17
39										2	6	10	13	16
40										0	5	9	12	15
41											3	8	11	14
42											2	6	10	13
43											1	5	8	12
44											0	4	7	11
45												2	6	10
46												1	5	8
47												0	4	7
48													2	6
49													1	5
50													0	4
51														3
52														2