



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

N1540(E)(N20)H

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE

TOURIST DESTINATIONS N5

(22030115)

20 November 2018 (X-Paper)

09:00–12:00

OPEN-BOOK EXAMINATION

Candidates may take student portfolios containing class notes, brochures, guides, case studies, assignment/projects and tests, as well as prescribed textbooks, an atlas, maps, travel magazines and a GSA into the examination venue.

Candidates may use a pocket calculator.

Candidates are entitled to 15 minutes reading time.

This question paper consists of 17 pages and three addenda of 5 pages.

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
NATIONAL CERTIFICATE
TOURIST DESTINATIONS N5
TIME: 3 HOURS
MARKS: 200

NOTE: If you answer more than the required number of questions, only the required number will be marked. Clearly cross out ALL work you do NOT want to be marked.

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections.

SECTION A: 40 marks
SECTION B: 160 marks
 2. SECTION A is COMPULSORY.
 3. Answer FOUR of the five questions in SECTION B.
 4. Read ALL the questions carefully.
 5. Start each question on a NEW PAGE.
 6. Number the answers according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
 7. Write each question number in CAPITAL LETTERS at the top of the page.
 8. Write neatly and legibly.
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SECTION A (COMPULSORY)**QUESTION 1****1.1 AFRICA**

Refer to your resources and identify each of the numbers on the MAP OF AFRICA (ADDENDUM A). Write only the answer next to the question number (1.1.1–1.1.20) in the ANSWER BOOK.

1.1.1 Line of latitude

1.1.2 Continent

1.1.3 Continent

1.1.4 Capital

1.1.5 Capital

1.1.6 Island

1.1.7 Island

1.1.8 Country

1.1.9 Country

1.1.10 Country

1.1.11 Country

1.1.12 Lake

1.1.13 Strait

1.1.14 Sea

1.1.15 Sea

1.1.16 Ocean

1.1.17 Ocean

1.1.18 Mountain peak

1.1.19 River

1.1.20 River

(20 × 1) (20)

1.2 INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS

Refer to your own map of the Indian Ocean islands and your GSA to answer the following questions.

Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Choose the answer and write only 'True' or 'False' next to the question number (1.2.1–1.2.20) in the ANSWER BOOK.

- 1.2.1 Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world.
- 1.2.2 Asia is the closest country to the Maldives.
- 1.2.3 The sea channel between Africa and Madagascar is called the Mozambique channel.
- 1.2.4 The time zone of Mauritius is UT +4.
- 1.2.5 The Tropic of Cancer is crossing Mauritius.
- 1.2.6 Reunion is part of French territory.
- 1.2.7 The Bazaruto Island archipelago is regarded as an Indian Ocean Island.
- 1.2.8 Mahé is the capital of the Maldives.
- 1.2.9 Mauritius lies east of Reunion.
- 1.2.10 The equator crosses the Maldives archipelago.
- 1.2.11 Tanzania lies west of the Comoros.
- 1.2.12 The largest island in the Seychelles archipelago is La Digue.
- 1.2.13 The Aldabra Atoll is part of the Seychelles.
- 1.2.14 The capital of Comoros is Port Louis.
- 1.2.15 Dhivehi is one of the languages spoken in Madagascar.
- 1.2.16 The coastline of Kenya is close to the Seychelles.
- 1.2.17 French is spoken in Reunion and Mauritius.
- 1.2.18 There are no direct flights between South Africa and the Maldives.
- 1.2.19 Rodrigues is part of the Comoros.
- 1.2.20 The Indian Ocean is located along the West Coast of Africa.

(20 × 1) (20)
[40]

TOTAL SECTION A: 40

SECTION B

Answer any FOUR of the five questions in this section. Each question consists of an African section and an Indian Ocean Island section.

QUESTION 2**AFRICAN SECTION**

2.1 Choose FOUR of the following COUNTRIES:

Namibia; Zimbabwe; Kenya; Zambia; Morocco; Mozambique

From the list of geographical features/attractions below, choose FIVE that will match each country of your choice. Each feature may be used only once.

List the five features underneath the name of each country of your choice, for example:

SOUTH AFRICA
 Drakensberg Mountains
 Orange River
 Augrabies Waterfalls
 Soutpansberg
 Karoo

Geographical features

Epupa Falls	Thomson's Falls	Murchison Falls	Muturazi Falls
Manchewe Falls	Okavango Delta	Etosha Pan	Makgadikgadi Pans
Mount Kilimanjaro	Mount Elgon	Brandberg	Mount Nyangani
Mount Binga	Lake Mutirikwe	Kafua River	Kunene River
Atlas Mountains	Dawa River	Souss River	Drâa River
Shire River	Chobe River	Lake Albert	Ngonye Falls
Save River	Lake Kariba	Lake Turkana	Bazaruto Archipelago
Lake Cahora Bassa	Lake Tanganyika	Equator	Lake Mweru
Lake Otjikoto	Western Sahara	Lubombo	Chimanimani
Kalahari Desert	Desert	Mountains	Nyika Plateau
	Quirimbas	Jebel Toubkal	
	Archipelago		

(4 × 5) (20)

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

Choose TWO of the following COUNTRIES:

Reunion; Mauritius; Comoros

Write the NAME of each COUNTRY OF YOUR CHOICE in CAPITALS on top of a NEW PAGE. Answer ALL the questions based on each country of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

2.2 REUNION

- 2.2.1 Name the spectacular waterfall near Hell-Bourg. (1)
- 2.2.2 Name the Cirque where you will find the waterfall mentioned in QUESTION 2.2.1. (1)
- 2.2.3 Explain what a 'cirque' is. (2)
- 2.2.4 Identify the mountainous region where escaped slaves used to hide. (1)
- 2.2.5 Name the original capital of Reunion. (1)
- 2.2.6 Name and briefly describe TWO attractions that a tourist could visit in the city mentioned in QUESTION 2.2.5. (2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR**2.3 MAURITIUS**

- 2.3.1 Give the full name and code of the currency of the island. (2)
- 2.3.2 Name THREE tour operators on the island (refer to your GSA). (3)
- 2.3.3 List the day(s) of the week that direct flights are available from King Shaka International (DUR), South Africa to Mauritius (refer to your GSA). (1)
- 2.3.4 Give the full name and two-letter IATA code of the airline that is flying the route from King Shaka International (DUR) to Mauritius. (2)
- 2.3.5 Give the full names of the TWO international airports that are situated close to the capital of Mauritius. (2)

AND/OR**2.4 COMOROS**

- 2.4.1 Do South Africans need a visa for a week-long visit to Comoros? (1)
- 2.4.2 What is the cost of a visa? (1)
- 2.4.3 Indicate the preferred method of payment for the visa. (1)
- 2.4.4 Give the email address of the issuing authority. (1)
- 2.4.5 Give the TWO names of the capital. (2)
- 2.4.6 Describe the attractiveness/appeal of the capital's harbour without mentioning specific attractions. (3)
- 2.4.7 Name the island that is a collectivité territoriale of France. (1)

[40]

QUESTION 3**AFRICAN SECTION**

- 3.1 Refer to ADDENDUM B, as well as to your own resources, to answer the following questions.
- 3.1.1 Name the country where the Gomoti Plains Camp will be built. (1)
- 3.1.2 Give FOUR facts to explain why tourists would like to see and experience the Okavango Delta. (4)
- 3.1.3 What kind of transport is a 'mokoro'? (1)
- 3.1.4 How is a mokoro made? (2)
- 3.1.5 List THREE ways on offer in the article to see the animals in the vicinity. (3)
- 3.1.6 Name the type of accommodation that will be at this camp. (1)
- 3.1.7 Explain what the type of accommodation mentioned in QUESTION 3.1.6 will entail. (2)
- 3.1.8 What is the name of the neighbouring game reserve? (2)
- 3.1.9 Explain what is meant with 'the landscape is wild and untouched'. (2)
- 3.1.10 Give the contact details for further information (name of the person and email address). (2)

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

Choose ONE of the following COUNTRIES:

Seychelles or Madagascar

Write the NAME OF THE COUNTRY of your choice in CAPITALS on top of a NEW PAGE. Answer ALL the questions on the country of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

3.2 SEYCHELLES

- 3.2.1 Compare the two groups of islands (the Inner and Outer Islands) with reference to their distinct geologies, as well as descriptions of their different vegetation. (3 × 2) (6)
- 3.2.2 Name the TWO areas that are declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites. (2)

- 3.2.3 On which island is the tea factory situated? (1)
- 3.2.4 List TWO cultural attractions in the capital of Seychelles and motivate a visit to each. (2 × 3) (6)
- 3.2.5 Name the highest part of the archipelago. (1)
- 3.2.6 Which island was once a leper colony? (1)
- 3.2.7 Which is the northernmost of the granitic islands? (1)
- 3.2.8 Which island is also known as *L'île Aux Vaches*? (1)
- 3.2.9 Which island is the largest in the Amirantes Archipelago? (1)

OR

3.3 MADAGASCAR

Choose an item from COLUMN B that matches a name or word in COLUMN A. Write only the letter (A–L) next to the question number (3.3.1–3.3.10) in the ANSWER BOOK.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
3.3.1	Antemore	A	the largest river
3.3.2	Nosy Be	B	Rickshaw
3.3.3	Pousse-Pousse	C	UNESCO World Heritage Site
3.3.4	Tsingy	D	Malagasy singers
3.3.5	National airline	E	MD
3.3.6	Ambohimanga	F	rock pinnacles
3.3.7	Famadihana	G	handmade paper
3.3.8	Betsiboka	H	the turning of the bones festival
3.3.9	Currency	I	the highest peak
3.3.10	Mphira gasy	J	an important holiday resort
		K	a type of lemur
		L	MGA

(10 × 2)

(20)
[40]

QUESTION 4**AFRICAN SECTION**

Choose between QUESTION 4.1 and QUESTION 4.2

4.1 Refer to ADDENDUM C as well as your own resources.

- 4.1.1 What is the local name of Zanzibar? (1)
- 4.1.2 Zanzibar is also referred to as 'The Spice Island'.
Name ONE spice that is produced in Zanzibar. (1)
- 4.1.3 List ONE of the major islands of the Zanzibar archipelago besides Zanzibar. (1)
- 4.1.4 What is the duration of the ferry ride from Dar es Salaam to Zanzibar according to the addendum? (1)
- 4.1.5 The first stop was Stone Town.
What did the writer smell while walking through the narrow, winding streets? (2)
- 4.1.6 In the article, the writer heard 'the call to prayer'.
Name the religion that is practised. (1)
- 4.1.7 One of the places that is visited in this article, is the Darajani Market.
List the ONE possible shopping item that they were contemplating to buy there. (1)
- 4.1.8 Name the other market that the writer visited at night. (1)
- 4.1.9 Explain why the House of Wonders/Beit el-Ajaib is included in this tour. (1)
- 4.1.10 Give the name of the less expensive accommodation establishment mentioned in the article. (1)
- 4.1.11 Refer to the addendum and name ONE tour operator who can help with accommodation or cruise bookings. (1)
- 4.1.12 Describe what the 'vibrant kangas' are that the writer likes so much? (1)
- 4.1.13 Name ONE water sport activity besides snorkelling that a tourist can enjoy. (1)

- 4.1.14 The Cathedral Church of Christ was the first church built in East Africa.
On which site in Stone Town is it built? (1)
- 4.1.15 Why is a yellow fever vaccination necessary when visiting Tanzania and Zanzibar? (1)
- 4.1.16 Explain the difference between *Kiswahili* and *Swahili*. (2)
- 4.1.17 Give the full name and three-letter IATA code for the international airport of Zanzibar. (2)

OR

4.2 Choose between Namibia and Uganda.

Write the NAME OF THE COUNTRY of your choice in CAPITALS on top of a NEW PAGE. Answer ALL the questions on the country of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

- 4.2.1 Name the capital of the country of your choice. (1)
- 4.2.2 Describe the location of the capital city in detail, referring to where in the country it is located and the nearby geographical features. The scale of your own map might be useful. (4)
- 4.2.3 Explain the accessibility by road from South Africa to the country of your choice. (4)
- 4.2.4 Discuss the government of the country of your choice. (2)
- 4.2.5 Who is the current president of the country of your choice? (1)
- 4.2.6 Name and describe THREE attractions in the capital of the country of your choice. (3 × 2) (6)
- 4.2.7 Name ONE traditional dish and describe what it entails. (2)

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

Choose TWO of the following COUNTRIES:

Maldives; Madagascar; Seychelles

Write the NAME OF THE COUNTRY of your choice in CAPITALS on top of a NEW PAGE. Answer ALL the questions on the country of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

4.3 MALDIVES

- 4.3.1 Give the full name of the international airport and its IATA code. (2)
- 4.3.2 What is the travel time by boat from the airport to Malé? (1)
- 4.3.3 Give an overview of the climatic conditions in the Maldives during April. (3)
- 4.3.4 Explain to a potential tourist what exactly 'Ramadan' is and how it may affect his/her travel plans. (4)

AND/OR**4.4 MADAGASCAR**

- 4.4.1 Give the location of Ivato International Airport in terms of direction and distance to the capital. (2)
- 4.4.2 Antananarivo has three levels: the Upper Town (La Haute Ville), the Plateau du Colbert (middle level) and Downtown.
On which level will you find the following:
- (a) The Zoma market
- (b) The Rova (2 × 1) (2)
- 4.4.3 Motivate a visit to the Rova. (3)
- 4.4.4 Give the name of the zoo and botanical gardens which displays a skeleton of an elephant bird. (1)
- 4.4.5 Name an ingredient of perfume that is distilled on Nosy Bé. (1)
- 4.4.6 Name the oldest European settlement in Madagascar. (1)

AND/OR**4.5 SEYCHELLES**

Re-arrange the following island of the Seychelles Archipelago in a logical clockwise circular order, starting and ending with the largest island. Number each island (1–10) in the correct order. Your own map of the Seychelles might be useful. For example:

1. Grande Comore
2. Anjouan
3. Mayotte
4. Mohéli

SEYCHELLOIS ISLANDS:

Aride, Fregate, Silhouette, Mahé, La Digue, Bird, Praslin, Curieuse, North

(10 × 1) (10)
[40]

QUESTION 5**AFRICAN SECTION**

5.1 Choose TWO of the following COUNTRIES:

Mozambique; Morocco; Botswana; Kenya

Draw a vertical line down the centre of a NEW PAGE. Write the NAMES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES of your choice in CAPITALS on top of each column. Answer ALL the questions on BOTH countries of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper. Example:

	SOUTH AFRICA	SPAIN
5.1.1		
5.1.2		

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---------|-----|
| 5.1.1 | State the date of 'Independence Day'. | (1 × 2) | (2) |
| 5.1.2 | List THREE traditional shopping items. | (3 × 2) | (6) |
| 5.1.3 | Identify the largest city. | (1 × 2) | (2) |
| 5.1.4 | List TWO attractions in each city mentioned in QUESTION 5.1.3. | (2 × 2) | (4) |
| 5.1.5 | List ONE UNESCO World Heritage Site found in each country. | (1 × 2) | (2) |
| 5.1.6 | Give the full name of the national airline and its IATA code. | (2 × 2) | (4) |

INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

5.2 Choose FIVE of the ISLANDS below.

Write the NAME OF EACH ISLAND of your choice in CAPITALS next to the question number (5.2–5.7).

Explain the meaning of each term in the questions of your choice. Terms are related to the local culture, history, events and modes of transport.

Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

5.2 **MALDIVES**

5.2.1 Hukuru Mosque

5.2.2 Dhoni

(2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR

5.3 **MADAGASCAR**

5.3.1 Taxi brousse

5.3.2 Madajazzcar

(2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR

5.4 **SEYCHELLES**

5.4.1 Subios festival

5.4.2 Liberation Day

(2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR

5.5 **REUNION**

5.5.1 Fête du Miel

5.5.2 Rhum Arrangés

(2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR

5.6 **MAURITIUS**

5.6.1 Segga dances

5.6.2 Cavadee

(2 × 2) (4)

AND/OR

5.7 **COMOROS**

5.7.1 Gallawas

5.7.2 Mosque du Vendredi

(Any 2 × 2) (4)

[40]

QUESTION 6**AFRICAN SECTION**

Choose TWO of the following COUNTRIES:

Uganda; Kenya; Zambia; Malawi

Write the NAME OF EACH COUNTRY of your choice in CAPITALS on top of a NEW PAGE. Answer ALL the questions on each country of your choice. Number answers exactly according to the numbering system in the question paper.

6.1 UGANDA

- 6.1.1 Name TWO lakes bordering the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (2)
- 6.1.2 Name the second largest town in the country. (1)
- 6.1.3 Name the major gateway to the country. (1)
- 6.1.4 Name the highest town in Uganda, which is the gateway to lake Bunyonyi. (1)
- 6.1.5 Name a lake (Lake Victoria excluded) that is bisected by the equator. (1)
- 6.1.6 Name the highest peak in the country and give its height in metres. (1)
- 6.1.7 Name the mountain range where the peak mentioned in QUESTION 6.1.6 is situated. (1)
- 6.1.8 Name the capital of the country. (1)
- 6.1.9 Name a National Park that is home to 12 different primate species. (1)

AND/OR

6.2 KENYA

- 6.2.1 Name the oldest living town in East Africa.
- 6.2.2 Name the place that was visited by Vasco da Gama.
- 6.2.3 Name Kenya's largest national park.
- 6.2.4 Name Kenya's third largest city.
- 6.2.5 Name the largest lake in Africa.
- 6.2.6 Name Kenya's highest peak.

- 6.2.7 Give the other name of Lake Turkana, Kenya's second largest lake.
- 6.2.8 Name the town or city where Fort Jesus is situated.
- 6.2.9 Name a national park from where Mount Kilimanjaro can be seen clearly.
- 6.2.10 Name the national park which is the Kenyan continuation of the famous Serengeti National Park, famous for the migration of animals.

(10 × 1) (10)

AND/OR

6.3 ZAMBIA

- 6.3.1 Name the main attraction in the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park.
- 6.3.2 Name the national park that is divided by the Kafue River.
- 6.3.3 Name the national park that borders on Lake Tanganyika.
- 6.3.4 Give the name of a prosperous area that has copper and cobalt mines.
- 6.3.5 Name the small memorial park created to honour two of Zambia's recent presidents.
- 6.3.6 Name Zambia's largest port.
- 6.3.7 Name the tourist capital of Zambia
- 6.3.8 Name the second highest waterfall in Africa.
- 6.3.9 Name the resort town on Lake Kariba.
- 6.3.10 Name the capital of the Western Province.

(10 × 1) (10)

AND/OR

6.4 MALAWI

- 6.4.1 Name the large island in Lake Malawi that is situated in Mozambican waters.
- 6.4.2 Name the oldest European building in Malawi.
- 6.4.3 Name the national park that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 6.4.4 Name the river valley where Lengwe National Park is located.
- 6.4.5 Name the traditional dance presumed by the Chewa and Mang'anja tribes.
- 6.4.6 Name the mission station that was named after David Livingstone
- 6.4.7 Name the highest mountains in the country.
- 6.4.8 Which country shares most of Lake Malawi as a border?
- 6.4.9 Name the huge valley of which Lake Malawi forms a part.
- 6.4.10 Name the commercial capital.

(10 × 1) (10)

6.5 INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS SECTION

Choose FIVE countries from COLUMN A.

Choose TWO descriptions from COLUMN B that match each country of your choice in COLUMN A. Write only the letters (A–M) next to the question number (6.5.1–6.5.6) in the ANSWER BOOK.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
6.5.1	Seychelles	A	La Fournaise volcano
6.5.2	Reunion	B	Atolls with lagoons and coral reefs
6.5.3	Maldives	C	Vallée de Mai and Coco de Mer
6.5.4	Mauritius	D	Kaskazi winds
6.5.5	Madagascar	E	Beau Vallon Bay
6.5.6	Comoros	F	Mount Kathala
		G	Fady
		H	Rufiyaa
		I	Lemurs and orchids
		J	St. Gilles
		K	Chamarel coloured sands
		L	Ngazidja
		M	Pointe Coton

(5 × 2)

(10)

6.6 Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Choose the answer and write only 'True' or 'False' next to the question number (6.6.1–6.6.5) in the ANSWER BOOK.

- 6.6.1 Rodrigues is part of Reunion.
- 6.6.2 The dialling code for Mauritius is 00230.
- 6.6.3 The time zone of Madagascar is UT +4.
- 6.6.4 The SA Representative of Seychelles is living in Victoria.
- 6.6.5 South Africans do not need a visa to go to Reunion.

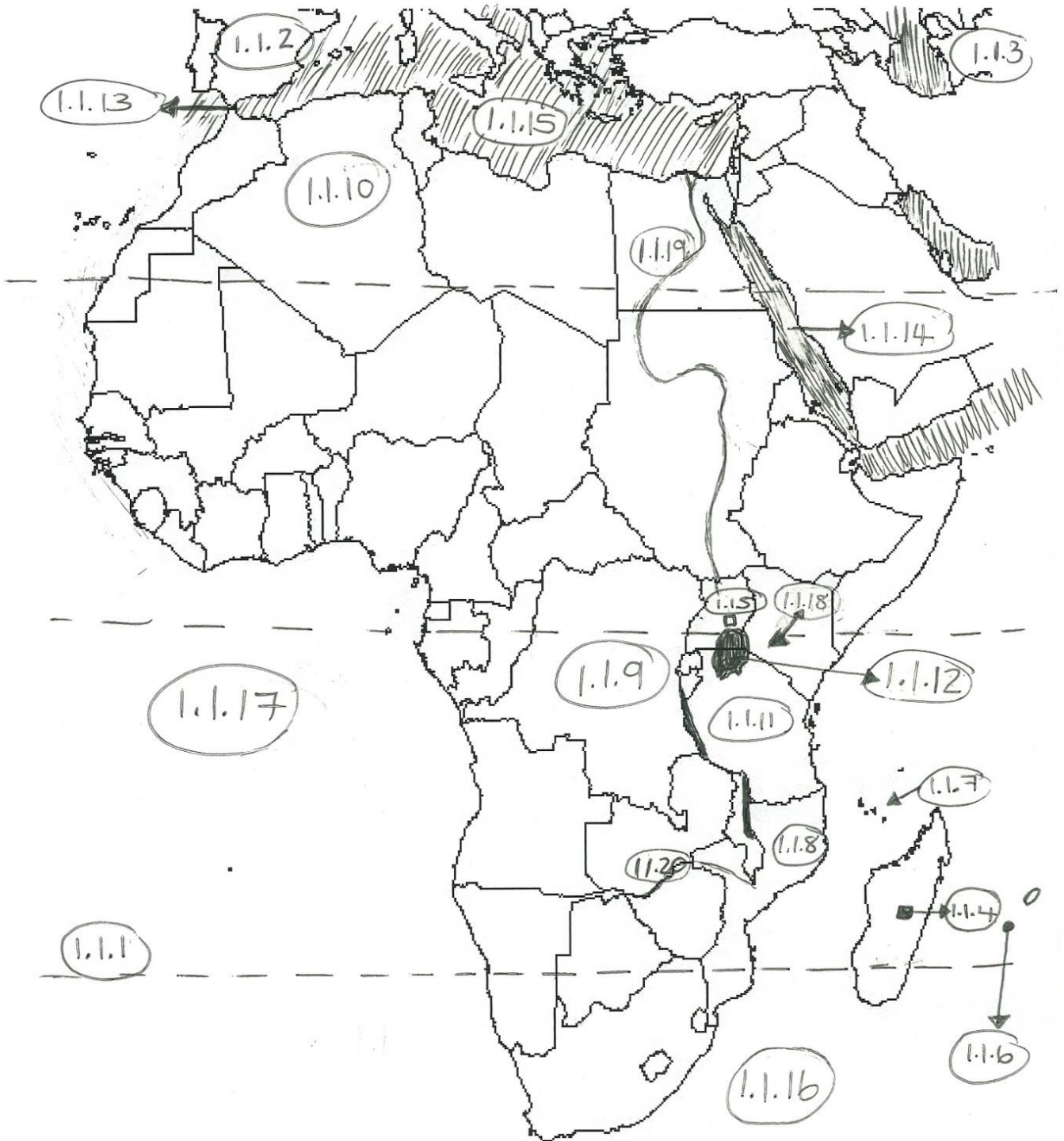
(5 × 2)

(10)

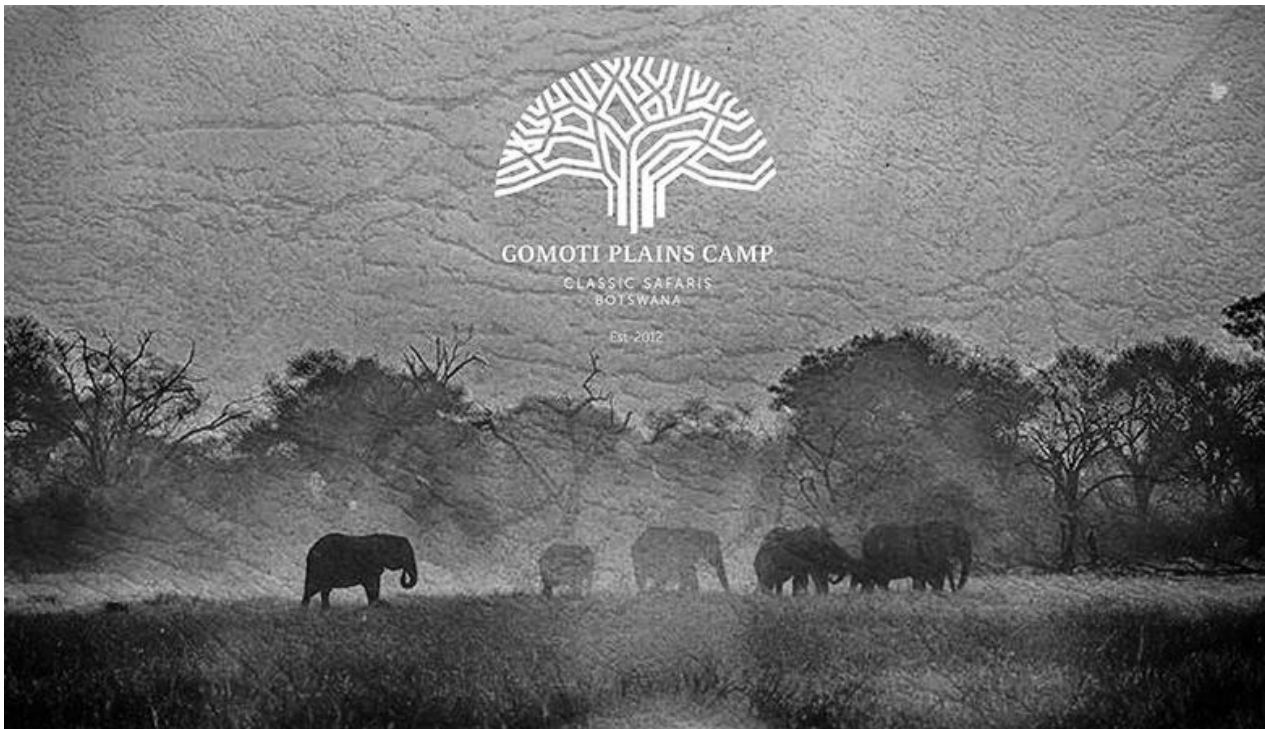
[40]

TOTAL SECTION B: 160
GRAND TOTAL: 200

ADDENDUM A



<http://geography.about.com/library/blank/africa.jpg>

ADDENDUM B

Hi All,

Yes, it is official. The opening date for Gomoti Plains Camp is 1 March 2017.

Building is underway and due to be completed in January 2017. Ten luxury safari tents, comprising of two family units and eight double units. We are so excited to bring you this news and cannot wait to enthral you with this awesome new addition to the family.

Gomoti Plains is situated in a private concession, bordering the Chitabe concession and the Moremi Game Reserve. The camp will offer all year phenomenal game drives and mokoro's, walking safaris and night drives (water dependent, of course). The wildlife viewing over the past year has been spectacular at Gomoti Plains, and the landscape is wild and untouched.

The perfect combination with Machaba Camp to see all the Okavango Delta has to offer. Fantastic opening specials and packages available.

Contact Wendy for further information at: enquiries@machabacamp.com

ADDENDUM C

Finding some zen in Zanzibar

By Mei Capes-Winch

East Africa has an irrepressible allure, and I've become addicted to its vibrant *kangas*, its friendly people and its crystal-clear waters. So, to get my next Kiswahili fix, we headed to Unguja Island – more commonly known as Zanzibar – which is just a two-hour ferry ride from the Tanzanian coastal capital of Dar es Salaam, or a direct flight from many African cities.

Thanks to its close proximity and budget airline options, the largest island in the Zanzibar Archipelago is an easily accessible and relatively affordable idyll where South African residents with itchy feet can spend their crashing currency. And with a week's prescription of sun, sea, sand and Stone Town tucked between the pages of my passport, a holiday in Zanzibar proved to be just what the doctor ordered to take the edge off my East African cravings.

Not all who wander are lost

Our first stop was Stone Town – the historical part of Zanzibar City and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which lies 10 minutes from the international airport on a western headland that protrudes into the Indian Ocean.

Stone Town has all the accoutrements of a magician, whereby the distractions of noise and charm mask its subtle changes to amaze and astound the amateur. It is a hypnotist by whose acquaintance you allow yourself to be harmlessly deceived as you wander beguiled under its spell; submitting to its whims at every indiscernible turn.

Its smoke and mirrors are a labyrinth of coralline ragstone and mangrove timber architecture, and its urban fabric tells the tale of the town's former life as a Swahili trading port. The now crumbling buildings were once moulded under the influence of disparate cultures from Asia to Europe, and its notorious history as East Africa's main slave market remains imprisoned in the foundations.

Its bells and whistles are the elaborately hand-carved doors that are hewn along the narrow walkways, the spice shops that pepper the alleyways, the smell of incense that permeates the clothes drying on verandas. A stolen glance into an interior courtyard offers an intimate hint of a different life. Each lane is in an active state of dissolution, disappearing seamlessly around every corner before it has barely come into being. At first, I felt this disorienting, but when I surrendered to the colours and the calls to prayer, I found myself smoothly absorbed into the town's creases; another laughter line on its wrinkled face.

For me, the smells, sights and sounds were as heart-warmingly familiar as a box of Quality Street at Christmas, and our first day of aimless exploration summoned countless recollections from previous travels. However, it was the convergence of this diverse range of memories that took me by surprise. How magical it was to be reminded of wandering down a cobbled lane in Italy at one turn, then looking up at a wooden balcony reminiscent of Nepal at the next.

ADDENDUM C (Continued)

After a few hours of ambling, we found ourselves dodging the tentacles of octopus and salesmen at Darajani Market, which was nothing fancy but all compelling. Following some serious deliberation on whether we should buy coffee beans or vanilla pods, we settled on a bag of saffron. It seemed appropriate and, although neither of us have any idea how to cook with it, the little threads of red conjure the memory of our meandering in a way that a cappuccino never could.

At the end of a day spent enjoying being lost, our tired feet stumbled past House of Wonders – the first building in East Africa to have electricity and an elevator, and then upon Forodhani Night Market, where we gorged on Zanzibar pizzas and *nyoma choma* (barbequed meat) and drank out of coconuts by the sea until it was time to allow our senses to unwind.

As much as we had enjoyed being schedule-free for a brief interlude, we started the next day with a purpose. Full of (Zanzibari coffee) beans, we jumped on a boat with Colors of Zanzibar to visit the old quarantine station and the giant aldafran tortoise colony on Prison Island. This endangered species was a gift from the Seychelles government in the 19th century, and it was astounding to be in the presence of these testudinal relics – one of which was 158 years old!

While snorkelling in the clear waters around the island at the end of our tour, we manoeuvred through harmless jellyfish and were amazed to be in such a peaceful and pristine environment while so close to the bustle and dilapidation of Stone Town. Our sneak peek of the marine world also gave us a thirst for more water-based activities, and so, after a late seafood lunch back in town, we set off on an intoxicatingly beautiful dhow sunset cruise with Zama Tours.

As we sailed past the architectural wonders along the shoreline and watched the sun set over fishermen diving into the waters of the Indian Ocean, we ate spicy cassava chips while the sky turned pink and counted the stars as another day came to a close in magical Zanzibar.

Where to stay in Stone Town

Zanzibar Palace Hotel provides the perfect launchpad for a stay in Stone Town. And the climb to the Dunia Honeymoon Suite on the top floor is particularly worth the lactic acid build-up. Feeling like Rapunzel in her tower, but surrounded by antique Zanzibari furniture, this suite offers a fantastic view over Stone Town, and a further short flight up to the ensuite bathroom provides a loo with a view and loungers to soak it all up from.

For those on a budget, Warere Town House is a great option that lies near the ferry terminal. Basic, but clean and comfortable, beautiful fabric designs and other Zanzibari decorative touches make it a welcoming place to lay your head. Its rooftop restaurant – where you can start the day with a breakfast of champions – also offers a great lookout over the town.

ADDENDUM C (Continued)

House of Spices doubles up on the goods. Not only is it a centrally located hotel, making it a convenient base from which to explore Stone Town's alleys, but it is also one of the town's most reputable restaurants. Something of a local icon, House of Spices provides a fantastic fusion of Italian and Zanzibari cuisine, thanks to its Modena-born owner and local chefs. Spices are woven into the variety of dishes in a delectable manner that will help you to understand how the Spice Island got its name. Book your stay through Adventure Camps Tanzania and don't miss out on the chilli chocolate mousse for dessert!

If you love scuba diving or are interested in joining the Safari Blue tour, Fumba Beach Lodge is a great place from which to explore the Menai Bay Conservation Area. A safe haven for flipper fiends, you can expect your days to be filled with dolphins, islands, sandbanks, and coral reefs, before you return to the lodge to read a good book in your hammock, surrounded by monkeys. An endemic Zanzibar colobus monkey has also recently been spotted here for the first time!

What to know

Zanzibar is a predominantly Islamic island, which makes for a beautifully rich culture. Expect five calls to prayer a day, beef bacon for breakfast, and most women – even girls from an early age – to be wearing a *hijab*. No one will particularly be seen to take offense at any scantily-clad tourists, but it's always nice to be considerate by covering up your wobbly bits and being respectful in how you dress.

It's no easy feat to get around the island unless you hire a taxi or join a tour with a company such as Viva Africa Tours or Zara Tours. Some roads aren't fantastic, and policemen are out to pocket a few pennies, so they will happily detain anyone on false premises, such as not having a valid driving licence if you hire a car or motorbike. Even though you may escape unscathed from any run-ins, they can still put a dampener on your day and waste a lot of precious tanning time. So, if you don't fancy sweating over petty injustices, it's worth splashing the cash and jumping in a taxi. Also consider staying in just one beach spot to save wasting time and dollars on the road.

Visa requirements

As a British citizen living in South Africa, visas are the bane of my present-day existence. But for once, a visa didn't require the promise of my first born and my inside leg measurements. South Africans have the good fortune of being able to waltz into Zanzibar for free on their Green Mamba, but thankfully most Europeans don't have it too much harder.

It is recommended that visas be obtained at the nearest Tanzanian High Commission before departure, but living in Cape Town makes this no easy feat, so I opted to pay my US\$50 and present my yellow fever certificate on arrival, which secured my single-entry visa to paradise before I could say *jambo* (hello).

[Adapted from www.africageographic.com]