Year 6 English: Apostrophes, speech and capitals (Medium)

English · Grammar and punctuation
Level: Medium

Student: _____ Date: _____

Instructions
- There are 10 questions. Read each one carefully.
- Write your answers on this paper. Use the space under a question to work it out.
- A grown-up can read a question aloud — that's fine.
- The answers are at the end. Check them together when you have finished.

Questions

1. Which sentence has its apostrophe in the right place?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** He'd rather walk than catch the bus.

○ **B** H'ed rather walk than catch the bus.

○ **C** Hed rather walk than catch the bus.

2. Which word completes the sentence? I think ___ going to rain before lunch.

Circle one answer.

○ **A** it's ○ **B** its

3. Which word fits the gap? The ___ change rooms are down the hall. (several players)

Circle one answer.

○ **A** players ○ **B** players' ○ **C** player's

4. Which word fits the gap? The ___ arrived at the zoo this morning. (several keepers, no owner)

Circle one answer.

○ **A** keepers ○ **B** keeper's ○ **C** keepers'

5. Which sentence is written correctly?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Priya sighed, “That was the best day ever!”

○ **B** Priya sighed “That was the best day ever!”

○ **C** Priya sighed, “That was the best day ever”!

6. Add the speech marks and punctuation: Sione wondered How deep is the lake?

7. Fix the capital letters: 'the rspca rescued a possum from a roof in cairns.'

8. Which sentence writes the initials with capital letters and full stops?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** A B Paterson wrote famous bush poems.

○ **B** a. b. Paterson wrote famous bush poems.

○ **C** A. B. Paterson wrote famous bush poems.

9. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

Circle one answer.

○ **A** Uluru a sandstone monolith in the Northern Territory is sacred to the Anangu people.

○ **B** Uluru, a sandstone monolith in the Northern Territory is sacred to the Anangu people.

○ **C** Uluru, a sandstone monolith in the Northern Territory, is sacred to the Anangu people.

10. Fix every mistake in this question: 'Whos coming to the museum with us on sunday?'

Answer key

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1. A — He'd rather walk than catch the bus.
He'd rather walk than catch the bus. The apostrophe goes where the letters were left out, and every contraction needs one.

2. A — it's
I think it's going to rain before lunch. It's is short for it is.

3. B — players'
The players' change rooms are down the hall. Several owners: put the apostrophe after the s.

4. A — keepers
The keepers arrived at the zoo this morning. A plain plural that does not own anything has no apostrophe.

5. A — Priya sighed, “That was the best day ever!”
Priya sighed, “That was the best day ever!” A comma comes after the saying words, then the opening marks.

6. Sione wondered, “How deep is the lake?”
Sione wondered, “How deep is the lake?” The marks go round only the spoken words.

7. The RSPCA rescued a possum from a roof in Cairns.
The RSPCA rescued a possum from a roof in Cairns. Names, titles, initials, acronyms, languages and religions need capitals. Initials have full stops.

8. C — A. B. Paterson wrote famous bush poems.
A. B. Paterson wrote famous bush poems. Initials are capitals, each followed by a full stop.

9. C — Uluru, a sandstone monolith in the Northern Territory, is sacred to the Anangu people.
Uluru, a sandstone monolith in the Northern Territory, is sacred to the Anangu people. Extra detail sits between a pair of commas.

10. Who's coming to the museum with us on Sunday?
Who's coming to the museum with us on Sunday? 'Who's' means 'who is', and the days of the week start with a capital.