

Shamsa's Project

[a fictional story]

It was Saturday morning and Shamsa woke up early. She stepped onto the balcony and looked out at the trees in the garden below. The sun shone brightly, its sparkling rays painting the garden a golden color. Giant palms swirled and twirled in the wind. **The sky was as blue as a shiny sapphire stone.** It was the perfect day to go out and play.

Shamsa's favorite teacher, Mrs Aisha, had given the class a project about the environment. Shamsa was confused. All she wanted was to go outside and play. What did she know about the environment? The environment was as enormous as the Earth. She was just a little girl.



After a delicious breakfast of fried eggs and toast, Shamsa went out into the garden. The sweet smell of jasmine floated in the air. She hadn't walked far when she met Jamal the camel. Jamal's large eyes were filled with tears. "What's the matter, Jamal?" asked Shamsa.

"I'm really worried about Ali! He is my best camel friend," said Jamal sadly.

"Oh, dear!" said Shamsa. "What happened?"

"I don't know," said Jamal. A big, round, tear rolled down his furry face.

"He refuses to eat or drink. He won't even eat palm leaves and that's his favorite food."

"Don't worry, Jamal!" said Shamsa, "I will help Ali."

Shamsa told her parents about Ali. Shamsa's father worked at the zoo. He called his friend, the veterinarian, who worked with the Animal Rescue Team. When the Animal Rescue Team arrived and saw Ali, they were deeply concerned. The vet did tests on Ali. He discovered that Ali was not eating or drinking because he had swallowed a plastic bag.

"Thousands of camels die every year because they swallow **harmful** plastic bags by mistake. People throw them away in the desert," the veterinarian said **gravely**. "I will perform an operation on Ali. Let's hope for the best!"

Shamsa's Paper Bag



Two weeks later, Shamsa was walking in her garden when she saw Jamal and Ali nibbling happily at some palm trees. Ali looked much healthier.

"Thank you for saving me, Shamsa!" said Ali.

"Thank you, Jamal and Ali! Thank you for helping me find a way to save the camels!" said Shamsa. "Your story has given me an idea for my class project. **I have designed a paper bag. I want to help raise awareness about the problem of camels eating plastic bags.**"

"Wow! That is amazing," said Ali, "I love your project, Shamsa."

A1. Who is Ali?

- A. a vet
- B. Shamsa's teacher
- C. a young girl
- D. a camel

A2. What was Ali's favourite food?

- A. paper bags
- B. plastic bags
- C. palm leaves
- D. fried eggs

A3. '...the veterinarian said **gravely** ...' What is the closest meaning to the word **gravely**?

- A. happily
- B. seriously
- C. loudly
- D. brightly

A4. '...**harmful** plastic bags...' What is the closest meaning to the word **harmful**?

- A. safe
- B. delicious
- C. dangerous
- D. horrible

A5. "I have designed a paper bag. I want to raise awareness about the problem of camels..."

This shows that Shamsa was

- A. uncaring and uncreative
- B. unkind and selfish
- C. happy and carefree
- D. caring and creative

A6. "The sky was as blue as a shiny sapphire stone," is an example of which literary feature?

- A. a metaphor
- B. a simile
- C. rhyme
- D. alliteration

A7. At the end of the text, why did Ali love Shamsa's project?

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UAE Drones for Good Award

The 'UAE Drones for Good Award' is a contest held in Dubai. The contest focuses on drones. A drone is an airplane that **flies without a pilot**. Drones can be used to help improve the world in areas such as education, the environment, oil, research, and fire-fighting.



The award aims to use drone technology to improve people's lives. The total prize money for the contest is Dhs 5 million. The contest is held at Dubai Internet City from 4th –6th February.

Saif Al Aleeli, organizer of the contest, said; "**Innovation** is a major factor in developing drone technology."

A total of three teams have qualified for this year's finals. The finalists are:

NAME OF DRONE	WHAT THE DRONE CAN DO
FireBot	FireBot is the first drone designed and developed in Dubai. It does firefighting tasks. It moves to the source of the fire and monitors the fire until the arrival of the firefighters.
ReefRover	ReefRover is a drone developed to study underwater ecosystems. It helps scientists study and protect coral reefs and rare sea animals.
FlyLab	FlyLab is a drone aimed at the education sector. It flies into the classroom. It inspires students to develop skills in technology.

Patrick Meier, a technology expert, explained how; "Drones can help protect the environment and provide support during natural disasters."

In the future, the UAE will continue to be **innovative** by promoting workshops and training on the use of drone technology.

B1. What is a drone?

- A. a contest
- B. an award
- C. a plane with a pilot
- D. a plane without a pilot

B2. How many teams reached the finals of the contest?

- A. 3
- B. 6
- C. 4
- D. 5 million

B3. "...flies without a pilot..." Which of these words is a verb?

- A. flies
- B. without
- C. a
- D. pilot

B4. "...continue to be innovative..." What is the closest meaning to the word **innovative**?

- A. uncreative
- B. educational
- C. traditional
- D. inventive

B5. Who can FireBot help?

- A. environmentalists
- B. firemen
- C. experts
- D. pilots

B6. What can ReefRover help to do?

- A. promote training
- B. put out fires
- C. educate students
- D. protect sea turtles

B7. In the text, why does the writer mainly use a table?

- A. to persuade you that FireBot is the best drone
- B. to explain what a drone is
- C. to inform you what each drone does
- D. to describe ReefRover

How to Make a Travel Journal

Travel journals are special books where you can record your memories of the places you visit. The following is a 'how to guide' for making a travel journal.



Step 1: Choose a Country

Choose a country to travel to. Read about the places you would like to visit. You can find out about many great countries worth visiting on the Internet. Then, think about how you want your journal to look.



Step 2: Select a Beautiful Notebook

There are many beautiful notebooks available at book shops. You can choose one to write your journal in. You could even make your own book.

Step 3: Write Notes While on Your Visit

A journal is like a diary. Write whatever you did on that day, in your journal. Write about your feelings. You can also keep lists, directions, and phrases you hear. You can even glue a map of a place you would like to visit.



Step 4: Collect, Collect, Collect

Collect souvenirs wherever you go (maps, tickets, cards and brochures). These can easily be glued into your travel journal. They are a record of the places you visited.



Step 5: Enjoy Your Trip! Put It All Together

When you get home after your trip, keep the excitement alive by pasting all you have collected into your travel journal. When it is finished, you will be able to share experiences with your friends.

Have fun making your travel journal!



Adapted from an article by Emily Maloney

C1. What is the title of Step 3?

- A. Find a Beautiful Notebook
- B. Write Notes While on Your Visit
- C. Collect, Collect, Collect
- D. How to Make a Travel Journal

C2. In the text, where can you start to find ideas for your journal?

- A. books
- B. journals
- C. tickets
- D. Internet

C3. How many steps are there?

- A. one
- B. two
- C. four
- D. five

C4. 'Select a Beautiful Notebook' Which of these words is an adjective?

- A. Select
- B. a
- C. Beautiful
- D. Notebook

C5. In the text, why should you collect souvenirs?

- A. to glue in maps
- B. as memories
- C. to choose a place
- D. for notes

C6. Why does this text have so many pictures?

- A. to help you write about your feelings
- B. to help you collect souvenirs
- C. to help you imagine what a travel journal looks like
- D. to help you share your experiences



AL AIN ZOO



Visit the Best Animal Park in the UAE

Covers 990 Acres and Is Home to More Than 4000 Animals



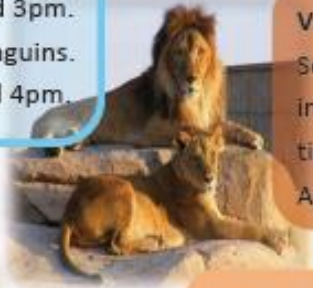
FAMILY NIGHTS

CHILDREN'S
GARDEN



Visit the Bird House

See over 300 birds and 25 different species. The birds are fed at 9am and 3pm. The Bird House is also home to penguins. The penguins are fed at 10:30am and 4pm.



Visit the Cat House

See one of the biggest collections of cats in the world. The collection includes white tigers, cheetahs, Arabian leopards and Arabian sand cats.



White Lions

See the endangered white lion from South Africa.

Open daily:

1st June - 30th September

4pm-10pm

During Eid Al Fitr:

10am-10pm

Ticket prices:

- adults: 15 AED
- children aged 3-12: 5 AED
- children under 3 years: free entry

D1. At the zoo, where can you visit the cheetahs?

- A. at the cat house
- B. on family nights
- C. at the bird house
- D. in the children's garden

D2. When can you visit Al Ain Zoo at 3pm?

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D3. "...white lion from South Africa" Which of these words is a preposition?

- A. white
- B. lion
- C. from
- D. South

D4. Why does the writer choose to include a picture of a train?

- A. to show the reader how to get the zoo
- B. because the zoo is very big
- C. to show where to visit the animals
- D. because children can feed the animals

D5. What is the main message of the text?

- A. Al Ain Zoo is a great UAE animal park
- B. Al Ain Zoo is open all day
- C. Al Ain Zoo has many endangered species
- D. Al Ain Zoo has a great Children's Garden