



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS

February 2017

YEAR 4

ENGLISH
(Reading Comprehension, Language and Writing)

TIME: 1hr 15 min

Total:

60

Name: _____

Class: _____



A. Reading Comprehension

20 marks

Read the following text carefully.



Thousands of animals are out and about at night. They are called nocturnal animals. Night animals eat in the dark. Some find more food at night. Others feel safer. Lots of night animals have big bulgy eyes. This helps them to see in the dark. This is not always easy. So night animals need to smell and hear well too. Most night animals stay in their home during the day and go to sleep.

1. Circle **two** words that show what night animals need to do well.

(1 mark)

fly

smell

jump

hear

2. Write TRUE or FALSE next to each sentence.

(3 marks)

a.	Nocturnal animals are animals that are out and about at night.	_____
b.	Night animals hunt in the dark because they find it hard to sleep then.	_____
c.	During daytime, most night animals eat the food they catch at night.	_____

Read the following passage carefully.

The Story of Echo the Bat



As the warm days of spring lead to summer, a baby bat is born. He has a tiny, furry body with strange wings. His mother holds him close to her and wraps him in her wings. All day long, she hears his chirping cry echo through the hollow tree. From that day on, his mother calls him 'Echo'.

Echo spends his days in the hollow tree upside down, holding on to his mother, who hangs by her feet. Everyday, just when the sun sets, Echo's mother calls to him, "Hold on tight! I am taking you with me so I can catch some insects for breakfast. Flying insects are food for us bats," Mother Bat explains.

Echo grabs hold of his mother with his clawed thumbs and away they go. They fly up and down and all around the forest. His mother makes a high-pitched chirp to lead her to the insects. Echo can hear his mother's chirping, but he is more interested in flying.

Every evening, Mother Bat has to go out and find insects. Sometimes she doesn't take Echo with her and she tells him to stay home and take care of the other baby bats. Before she goes, Mother Bat warns Echo and the other pups, "Be careful not to fall because there are owls and snakes who would love to have you for their dinner!"

Echo and the other bats hold on tightly to the inside of the tree. They are very scared of the owls and snakes they hear about. They huddle close together to stay warm and wait for their mother to come back.

When Mother Bat flies back she starts to lick Echo's fur to smell his scent. Echo is very happy when his mother returns. He is very eager to learn to fly and go and catch insects on his own.

(Adapted from *The Adventure of Echo the Bat* by Ginger Butcher)

3. Write one word to complete these sentences. (5 marks)

- a. The baby bat has a thin, furry body and _____ wings.
- b. The baby bat's cry echoes through the _____ tree.
- c. Everyday just when the sun _____, Mother Bat goes to hunt.
- d. Flying _____ are food for bats.
- e. Mother Bat makes a high-pitched _____ to lead her to the insects.

4. Choose the best ending for these sentences by ticking (✓) the correct box. (3 marks)

i. Mother Bat warns Echo and the other pups to be careful of the

a)	mice and hedgehogs.	
b)	cats and dogs.	
c)	owls and snakes.	

ii. Echo and the other pups huddle close together

a)	so they can look outside.	
b)	to stay warm.	
c)	to sleep.	

iii. When Mother Bat flies back, she licks

a)	the hollow tree.	
b)	the insects.	
c)	Echo's fur.	

5. Answer the following questions

(8 marks)

a. When is Echo the bat born?

b. What does Echo do when he doesn't go hunting with his mother?

c. Why does Mother Bat warn Echo and the other pups to be careful of the owls and snakes?

d. Does Echo want to learn to fly and catch insects? How do you know?

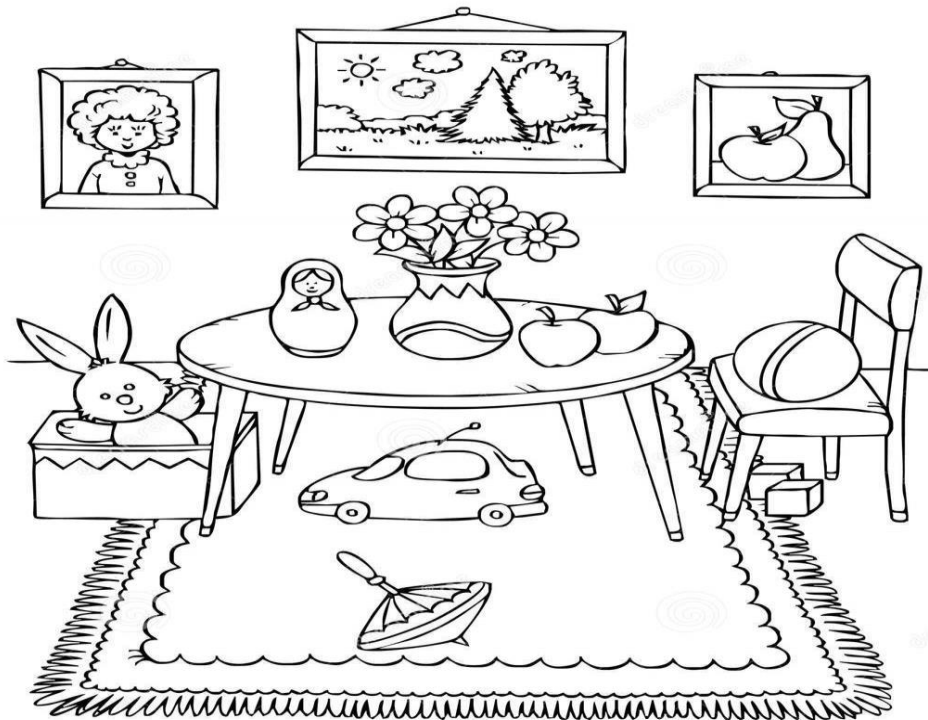
B. Language

10 marks

1. Look at the picture. Fill in the blanks with these words.

(5 marks)

in	next to	on	under	between
----	---------	----	-------	---------



These are Harry's toys. _____ the chair there is his favourite ball. Right _____ the table there is his remote controlled car. The apples are _____ the vase. The vase of flowers on the table is _____ the doll and the apples. His soft toy bunny is _____ the box.

2. Look at this picture.

A Picnic



What are they doing NOW?

(5 marks)

The first one has been done for you.

Family Vella is out in the countryside. It is a fabulous morning. The sun is shining (shine) brightly. A bird _____ (sing) in the tree. Little Rosie _____ (hug) her mother. Thomas _____ (drink) some orange juice. Their dog Sam _____ (run) after a butterfly. Lucy _____ (choose) an apple to eat.






C. Writing

10 marks

1. Look at these signs. What mustn't you do?

The first one has been done for you.

(4 marks)

a.	You mustn't <u>catch frogs.</u>	
b.	You mustn't _____.	
c.	You mustn't _____.	
d.	You mustn't _____.	
e.	You mustn't _____.	

2. Imagine you are Thomas. You are going to invite your friend Lara to a picnic. **Complete the dialogue.** (6 marks)



Thomas: Hello Lara! How are you?

Lara: _____.

Thomas: My family and I are going on a picnic next Sunday. Would you like to join us?

Lara: _____.

Thomas: We'll be going to Buskett. It's so nice there.

Lara: It will be great. Do I need to bring anything?

Thomas: _____.

Lara: Ok then! Thanks for inviting me and see you.

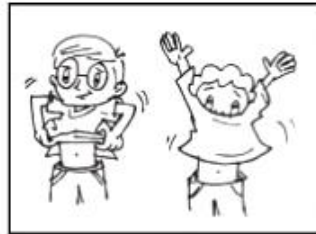
Thomas: I can't wait! See you!

D. Composition

20 marks

In not less than 90 words write **ten sentences or a paragraph** on **ONE** of the following:

1. On the way home from school.



2. Write about Winter.

These words may help you.

<i>Weather</i>	<i>Clothes</i>	<i>Things to do</i>	<i>Other information</i>
windy	jackets	Watch TV	catch a cold
rainy	gloves	indoor games	celebrate Christmas
cold	woollen hats	read a book	rough sea



3. Imagine you are a kitten. Describe yourself.

Where do you live?

How do you spend your days?

Do you have any friends?

How do you find food?



4. Write a story about a magic carpet.

You buy an old carpet from a shop. When you lay it on the floor in your bedroom it begins to twitch and move. What happens next?



Title Number: _____

You may use the following space to plan your creative writing.

A large, empty, rounded rectangular box with a thick border, intended for planning creative writing.

Now write your sentences/paragraph here.

Title number: _____

End of paper