



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS

February 2016

YEAR 5

ENGLISH

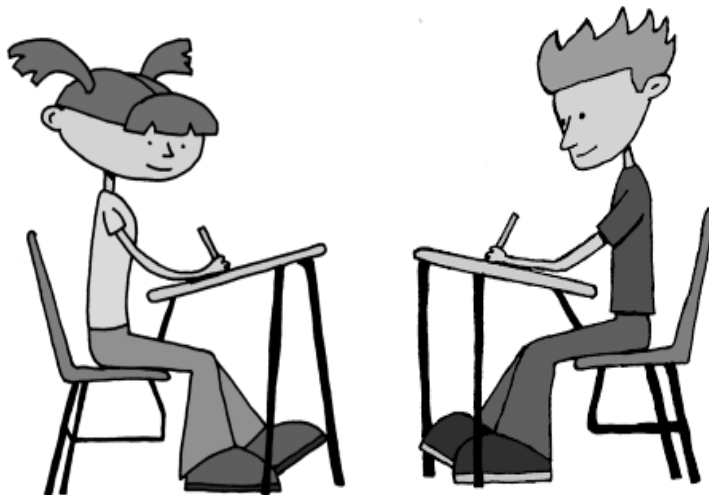
TIME: 1hr 15 min

(Reading Comprehension, Language, and Writing)

Total

60

Name and Surname: _____ Class: _____



A. Reading Comprehension

(20 marks)



Read the following passage carefully.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Today, some types of animals are endangered. This means there are very few animals of that kind left on Earth. The animals could face extinction. Extinction means all the animals of that kind die. When a type of animal is extinct, it is gone forever.

The biggest threat to animal habitats are humans. As human populations increase, more and more space is needed for people. Building areas for people to live in has pushed animals out of their natural homes. Forest and swamp habitats are the most at risk. Trees are cut down to make room for homes and businesses. Swamps are filled in so that towns can expand. The **habitat** is destroyed. The animals have nowhere else to go. Without their habitat, the number of animals will go down.

Humans must do something about this. They must protect animals by better planning when considering building and development projects. Another major cause is overhunting by humans. The practice of shooting animals as a sport can quickly bring the animals to extinction. This is a worldwide problem. The governments of countries around the world must unite to agree on laws regarding the protection of animals.

Besides hunting for sport, there is also poaching which is a great threat to animal populations. Poaching means hunting, killing or capturing wild animals illegally. Many of these animals are **endangered species** and most are in need of protection. Many animals are poached for parts of their bodies - the elephant for its tusks, the rhinoceros for its horns and the shark for its fins. Other animals are killed for their fur.

There is still hope for animals that are already on the endangered species list. Some organisations are working hard to recreate habitats for them. Breeding programmes are helping animal populations to grow.

We must be aware of what is happening to animals and think before we act. The things we do can affect more than just ourselves. It is still possible to maintain a diverse animal population for future generations to enjoy.

(adapted from *www.readerK12.com*)

Tick (✓) to show the correct answer.

1. A **habitat** is the place (1 mark)

a) where animals always fight.	
b) where animals live.	
c) where animals are kept.	

2. What is the meaning of '**endangered species**'? (1 mark)

a) There are a lot of animals left.	
b) There are no animals left.	
c) There are only a few animals left.	

3. Tick (✓) to show whether each sentence is **True** or **False**. (2 marks)

		True	False
a)	The biggest danger to animals is other animals.		
b)	It is impossible for humans to help animals from becoming extinct.		
c)	The problem of overhunting exists worldwide.		
d)	Breeding endangered animals does not help to increase animal populations.		

Answer the following questions.

4. What does extinction mean? (2 marks)

5. Mention one way in which humans affect animal populations? (2 marks)

6. Which habitats are the most threatened? (2 marks)

7. How can overhunting lead to extinction? (2 marks)

8. How can governments help to overcome extinction? (2 marks)

9. Why is poaching a threat to endangered species? (2 marks)

10. What are some organisations doing to prevent animal extinction?
(2 marks)

11. What can you do to help endangered species? (2 marks)

B. Language

(10 marks)

1. Fill in with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (5 marks)

Mum _____ takes _____ (take) me to school every day. When it rains we go by car. I always _____ (sit) at the back of the car with my seat belt tightly fastened. Yesterday mother _____ (drive) me to school in her car because it _____ (rain). We always _____ (get) to school on time! Tomorrow is a special day at school as we will celebrate carnival. We _____ (have) a lot of fun.



2. The Marvellous Plan

(5 marks)

Fill in the blanks with words taken from the table.

rats	woman	day	under	down
doctor	strong	sat	green	little

George sat _____ at table. He was shaking a little. Oh, how he hated grandma! He really hated that horrid old _____. He had a tremendous urge to do something about her, something extraordinary, a sort of explosion. He may have been only eight, but he was a brave, _____ boy. He wanted to put a firework banger _____ her chair. He wanted to put a long, _____ snake down the back of her dress. He would have liked to put six, big, black _____ in the room with her. But he did not have these things. As George _____ pondering this interesting problem he saw something he did have! Grandma's brown medicine! Grandma took this medicine four times every _____. It did not do her the slightest bit of good. She was always just as horrid after she had taken it as she had been before. So thought George, "I know exactly what to do. I will make her a new medicine that is so _____, it might cure her completely or blow off the top of her head. I will make her a magic medicine that no _____ in the world has ever made before."

(Adapted from Roald Dahl's *George's Marvellous Medicine*)

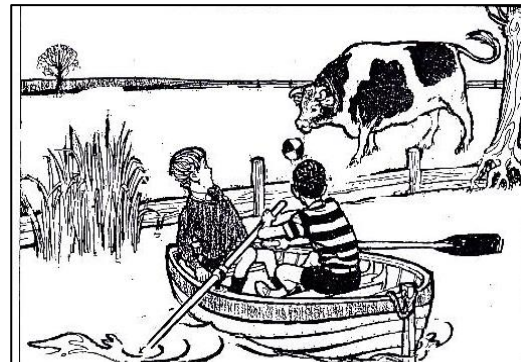
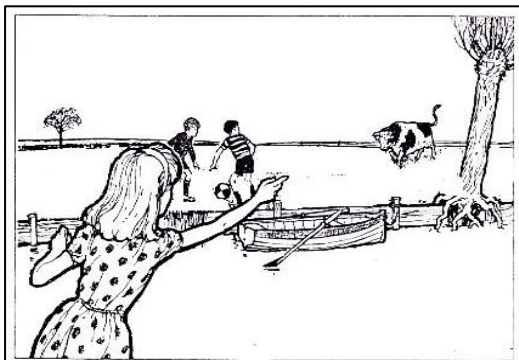
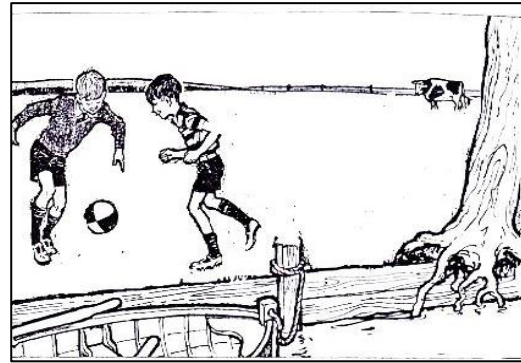
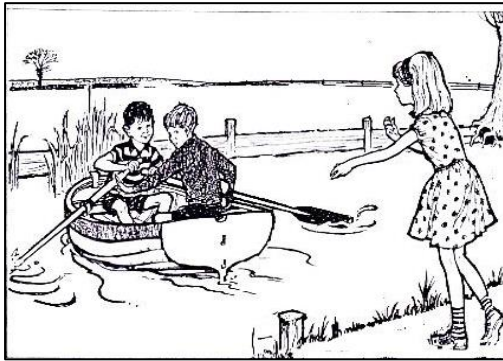
C. 3. Composition

(20 marks)

In not less than 120 words write a composition on **ONE** of the following:

1. Look at the pictures below and continue the story.

Karl and Mark went for a walk by the river. There they saw their father's boat.....



2. **The Time Travelling Machine**

Imagine you have gone into a time-travelling machine and ended up in the past - or perhaps, the future. Write about what you saw, what the place looked like and whom you met.

3. **My Favourite School Outing**

Write about the best school trip you have ever been on. Say where you went, what you saw, what you did and why it is your favourite school trip.

4. **The Crazy Scientist**

I followed the crazy scientist into his dark laboratory. I couldn't believe what I saw standing in the corner..... Continue the story.

Title Number: _____

Use the space below to plan your writing.

