



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS

February 2017

YEAR 5

ENGLISH

TIME: 1hr 15 min

(Reading Comprehension, Language, and Writing)

Total:

60

Name: _____

Class: _____



Read the following passage carefully.

Mammals in the Sea

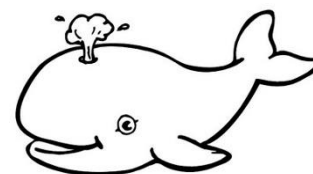
Most kinds of mammals live on land. But some, such as seals, walruses, whales and dolphins make their home in the sea. Some of these animals can stay underwater for long periods of time. But like all mammals, they are air breathers. They must come to the surface to breathe from time to time.

(par. 1)

Whales and dolphins look so much like fish that many people think they are fish. In fact they are mammals. They have hair, and are warm-blooded. Baby whales drink milk from their mothers.

(par. 2)

Whales normally swim along just below the surface and come up for air regularly. This brings a lot of oxygen into the blood. When they dive they almost empty their lungs, but the oxygen already in their blood is enough for them during their dive. When they surface again, the small amount of air left in their windpipe is blown through the blowhole at the top of their heads... whoosh! Then they breathe in again.



(par. 3)

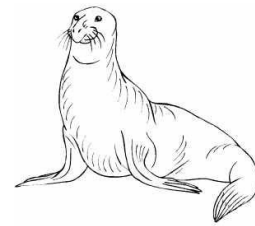
Dolphins and porpoises are very small whales. These mammals delight us with their playful tricks and warm our hearts with their friendly faces.



Most people cannot tell a dolphin and a porpoise apart, but there is an easy way. The snout of a dolphin is beak-like and it almost seems to be smiling. A porpoise has a round snout. Dolphins are also much more playful than porpoises and often leap above the waves.

(par. 4)

Seals, sea lions and walruses belong to another group of sea mammals. All these animals are called 'pinnipeds', which means 'fin-foot'. Their fins are simply flattened feet. These sea mammals are very different from dolphins and whales. Although they spend much of their time in the water, they are able to come on land and waddle about on their fin-feet.



(par. 5)

Most sea mammals feed on different types of fish and plankton. Plankton is made up of tiny plants and animals that can only be seen through a microscope.

(par. 6)

(adapted from *Childcraft Encyclopaedia Vol 13*)

Read the comprehension passage on pages 2 and 3, then work out the following exercises.

Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1. Most mammals live (1 mark)

a.	in the sea.	
b.	on land.	
c.	in rivers and lakes.	

2. Seals, whales, dolphins and porpoises are mammals because (1 mark)

a.	they are all big.	
b.	they are cold-blooded and lay eggs.	
c.	they are warm-blooded and breathe air.	

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

(2 marks)

		True	False
a.	Many people think that whales and dolphins are fish.		
b.	Whales normally swim deep in the sea.		
c.	Dolphins and porpoises are alike.		
d.	Seals, sea-lions and walruses are called 'pinnipeds'.		

4. Answer the following questions.

a. Give the name of two mammals found in the passage.

(2 marks)

b. How do whales get oxygen?

(2 marks)

c. What happens to the air left in their wind-pipe?

(2 marks)

d. Name two differences between dolphins and porpoises.

(2 marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

e. Why are the 'pinnipeds' different from the other sea mammals. (2 marks)

f. Which sea mammal would you rather be? Why? (2 marks)

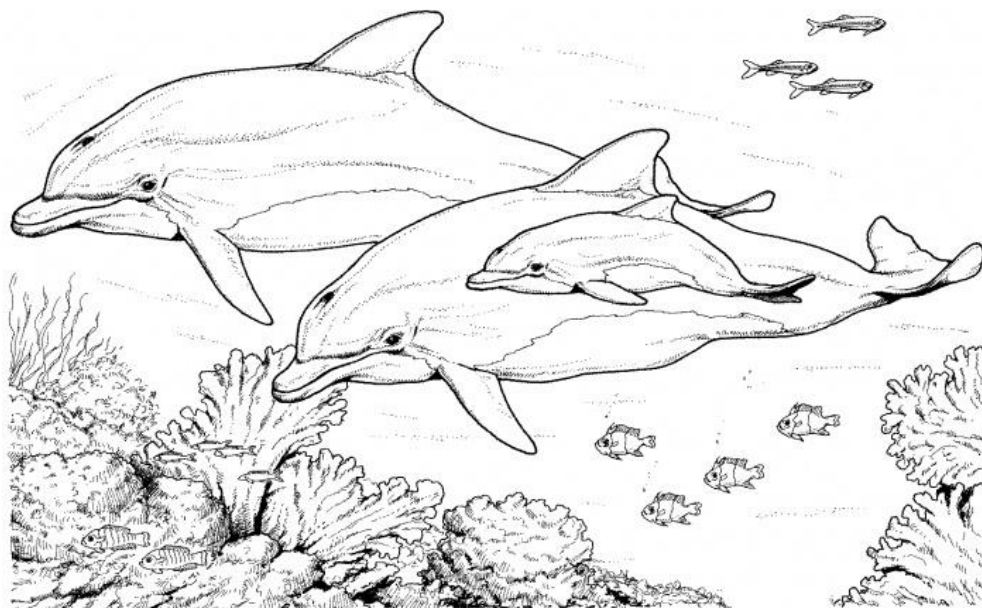
g. Find words from the text that have the same meaning as the following: (4 marks)

take in air (par. 1) _____

frequently (par. 3) _____

jump (par. 4) _____

swing from side to side (par. 5) _____



B. Language

10 marks

1. Read the passage below and underline the correct verb. The first one has been done for you. (5 marks)

Mrs Green could still remember vividly the day when a thief (*tries*, *tried*, *was trying*) to snatch her handbag. On that morning, her daughter (*calls*, *called*, *was calling*) home to say that she (*comes*, *came*, *was coming*) for lunch. So Mrs Green (*decides*, *decided*, *was deciding*) to buy her groceries that morning. While she (*walks*, *walked*, *was walking*) alone, a young man (*snatches*, *snatched*, *was snatching*) her handbag and (*runs*, *ran*, *was running*) off. Luckily, some passers-by (*hear*, *heard*, *were hearing*) her scream. They gave chase and (*manage*, *managed*, *were managing*) to capture the thief. Then they handed him to the police. Mrs Green (*is*, *was*, *will be*) very grateful and (*thanks*, *thanked*, *was thanking*) everyone for their help.

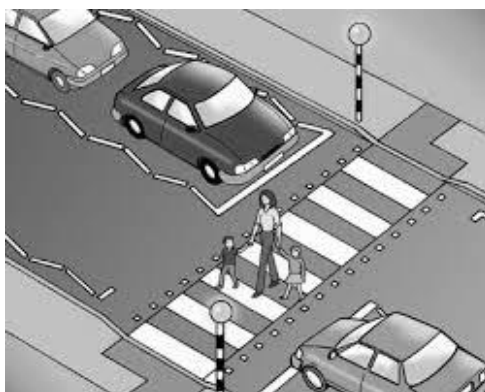


2. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable word in the box below.

(5 marks)

zebra	amber	pedestrians	different	green
pavement	passengers	intervals	stop	ready

Traffic lights have three _____ colours. They are red, _____ and green. The lights will change at short _____. When the light is red, all the motorists, motorcyclists and cyclists on the road must _____. Only when the light turns _____, can they go. When they see the amber light, they must get _____ to stop. Pedestrian lights at the _____ crossings have only two colours, red and green. _____ cross the road when the light is green. When _____ want to get in and out of a car, they must use the door that opens on the _____ side.



C. Short Writing Task

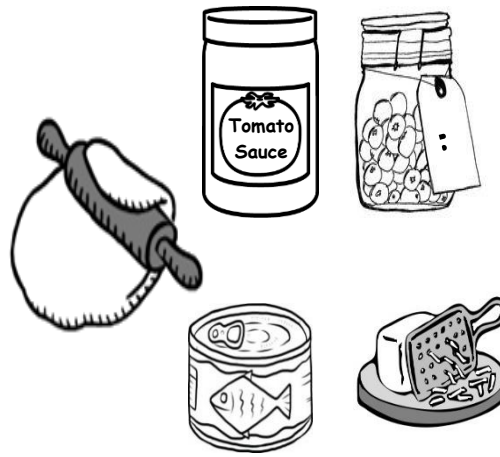
12 marks

1. Jake and Emma want to use these ingredients to make a pizza together.

Write down the method how to make the pizza. (6 marks)

Ingredients

- 1. dough
- 2. tomato sauce
- 3. olives
- 4. tuna
- 5. grated cheese



Method

1. First, roll the dough on the kitchen counter.

2. Then _____

3. _____

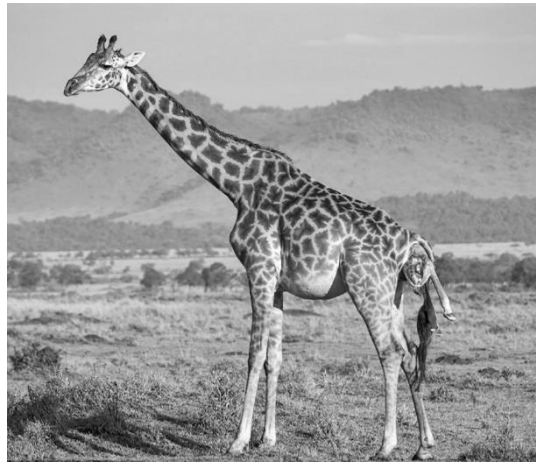
4. _____

5. _____

6. _____



2. You visited the zoo and saw a giraffe. Describe the animal to your friends. (6 marks)



D. Long writing task.

Composition

18 marks

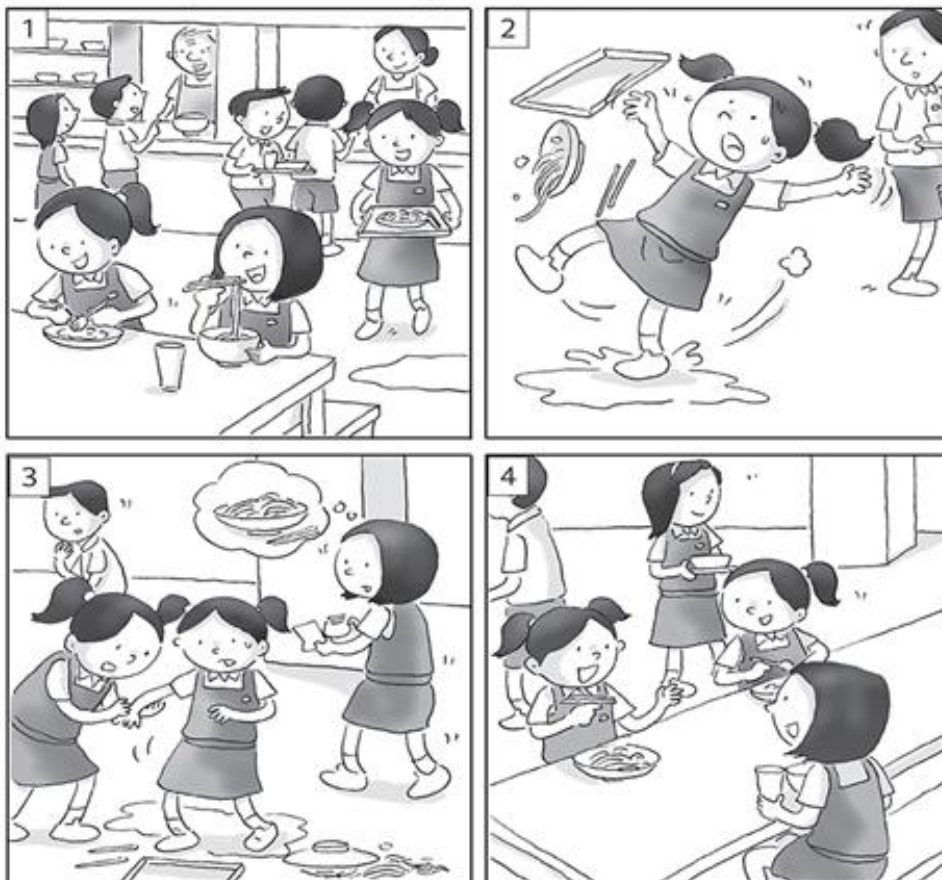
Write a composition of about 120 words on ONE of the following:

1. Picture Composition

Look at the pictures carefully and write a story.

The following words and phrases may help you:

breakfast club	lunch	slippery	fell down
embarrassed	join	grateful	help



2. The Magic Shoes

Imagine that you have been to a market and bought a pair of magic shoes. Continue the story. Write about the magical powers your shoes have.



3. A Lovely Day Out

Your cousins, who live in England, came to Malta for a holiday. Write about the day you spent together.

4. My Favourite Book

Write about your favourite book and give reasons why you like it so much.



Title number: _____

Plan your work here:

