



**ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS**

February 2015

YEAR 5

ENGLISH

TIME: 1hr 15 min

(Reading comprehension, Language, and Writing)

STUDENT`S PAPER

Total:

60

Name and Surname: _____

Class: _____



A. Reading Comprehension

(20 marks)

Read the following passage carefully:

A Greek Myth

Long ago in Ancient Greece there was a strong and handsome soldier called Apollo. Apollo had a beautiful wife called Athena, who had been kidnapped by an old king called Minos. Apollo was devastated and vowed to rescue Athena. He knew that the king would have taken her to his palace in Crete but a monster called the Chimera guarded this palace. (par. 1)

The Chimera was a ferocious monster with the head of a lion, the body of a goat and a long serpent as a tail. Many heroic men had travelled to his cave and tried to beat it, but had been burnt to death by his fiery breath. Although Apollo was a brave man, he



did not know how to kill this enormous monster. His father told him to go to Mount Olympus and ask the great God Zeus for advice. (par. 2)

Apollo set off immediately and soon reached the great mountain, where the twelve gods lived. Apollo called for Zeus and begged for his advice. Zeus appeared before him and explained that although the Chimera was fierce and strong, his heart was full of poisoned blood. If Apollo could pierce his heart, the blood would leak into his body and the monster would die an agonising death. Zeus then gave Apollo a shield to protect himself, a sharp sword to pierce the evil heart and a pair of shoes. These shoes were shoes of swiftness that made the wearer faster than the speed of light. Apollo thanked Zeus and set off on the long journey. (par. 3)

Apollo walked on dry roads, climbed mountains and sailed the great sea until at last he reached the palace of King Minos. He entered the cave that was home to the monster and could hear his blood-chilling roar. Apollo crept through the tunnels and edged closer to the monster's lair. When he was close enough to hear the serpents hissing, he put on the shoes of swiftness and got his sword and shield ready. With a deep breath he ran towards the Chimera with his sword in the air. (par. 4)

The Chimera roared and flames surrounded Apollo. He held up his shield and ran in every direction trying to confuse the monster. The serpent hissed, the lion's head roared and the flames soared into the air. He kept darting around and soon the Chimera was dizzy. Apollo ran forward and plunged his sword into the monster's heart. The Chimera let out a furious roar and fell to the ground. The monster was dead at last. (par. 5)

Apollo ran past the body and found his way to the tower where Athena was being held. He knocked down the door and saw his beautiful wife chained up. Quickly, he cut the chains and with the help of the shoes of swiftness, Apollo whisked Athena off to his kingdom and there they lived together happily for the rest of their lives. (par. 6)

(Adapted from <http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/userstory20944-apollo-and-the-chimera.html>)

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

1. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

i. The old king's name was (1 mark)

a)	Apollo.	
b)	Zeus.	
c)	Minos.	
d)	Chimera.	

ii. Another word for *brave* is (1 mark)

a)	ferocious.	
b)	courageous.	
c)	tame.	
d)	wild.	

iii. The shoes that Zeus gave Apollo would make him: (1 mark)

a)	perform magic tricks.	
b)	soar into the air.	
c)	become invisible.	
d)	run very fast.	

iv. King Minos' palace was in: (1 mark)

a)	Crete.	
b)	Rome.	
c)	Greece.	
d)	the forest.	

2. Answer the following questions.

a) What building was the Chimera guarding? (1 mark)

b) The Chimera looked like an elephant. Do you agree? Why? (2 marks)

3. How did Zeus tell Apollo to kill the monster? (2 marks)

4. How did Apollo know that he was getting closer to the monster's lair? (1 mark)

5. What did Apollo use to defend himself from the Chimera's flames? (1 mark)

6. How did Apollo manage to make the Chimera dizzy? (1 mark)

7. How do you think Athena was feeling while she was in the tower? (2 marks)

8. From the passage find a word similar in meaning to: (4 marks)

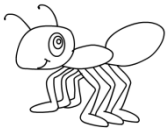
very shocked (par. 1)	
savage(par. 2)	
at once(par. 3)	
pushed forcefully (par.5)	

B. Language

Insects' World



Insects are creatures with three pairs of legs.
Some swim, some fly; they lay millions of eggs.



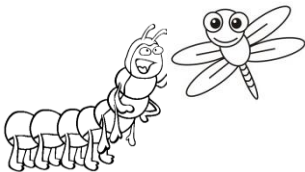
They don't wear their skeletons in, but out.
Their blood just goes sloshing loosely about.



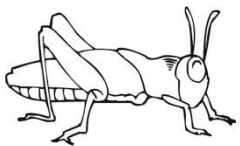
They come in three parts. Some are bare; some have hair.
Their hearts are in back; they circulate air.



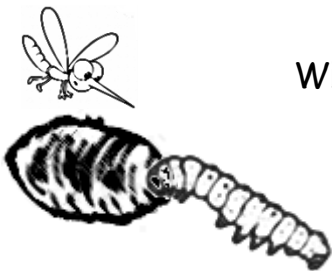
They smell with their feelers and taste with their feet,
And there's scarcely a thing that some insect won't eat:



Flowers and woodwork and books and rugs,
Overcoats, people, and other bugs.



When five billion trillion keep munching each day,
It's a wonder the world isn't nibbled away!



(by Ethel Jacobson)

1. Add another rhyming word. (2 marks)

out, about , _____

feet, eat, _____

2. Put these words in alphabetical order. (1 mark)

butterfly, beetle, mosquito, dragonfly.

3. Write in short. (3 marks)

Example: the coat belonging to the girl = the girl's coat

a) the wings belonging to the beetle = _____

b) the skeleton belonging to the ant = _____

c) the petals belonging to the flowers = _____

4. Copy a verse in the present continuous. (1 mark)

5. Quote a verse that is in the negative. (1 mark)

6. Change into the past: (2 marks)

"They smell with their feelers and taste with their feet."

C. Short writing task.

(10 marks)



Look at the poster. Use the information given to invite your cousin, who lives in the village nearby for the concert.

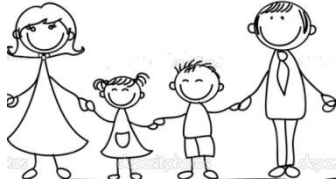
Write about 45 words.

D. Composition.

(20 marks)

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

1. A Family Outing



Ben and Tina went out with their family. They both really enjoyed the day. Imagine you are Ben or Tina and write about your family outing.

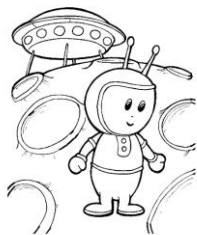
2. Looking After a Puppy

Your neighbour left you in charge of her puppy for a week. During this time, you have become an expert in looking after it.

Write some hints and information on how to look after a puppy.



3. The Martian



You were walking and met this Martian. Write about your experience.

4. Picture composition: A rainy day

This is the first part of your story:

Tim, Linda and Jeff decided to go out for a walk. It was rainy and windy ...



Look at the picture and say what happened next.

Plan your composition here:

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to plan their composition. The box is vertically oriented and occupies most of the page's width and height.

End of Paper