



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF-YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS
February 2015

YEAR 6

ENGLISH (Listening Comprehension)
TEACHER'S COPY

TIME: 30 minutes

Teacher's Booklet

Procedures for Task One

Look at the exercises for Task One.

(Allow a 15 second pause while students familiarise themselves with the task.)

Listen carefully. The teacher will read the text twice.

Listen carefully. The teacher will now read the text for Task 1 for the first time.

You are going to hear two information programmes for children. The first programme is about the sunflower. The second information programme is about the water lily.

How did the sunflower get its name?

The sunflower got its name because the head of the flower turns and faces toward the Sun throughout the day. The sunflower is a tall plant known for its showy, yellow flowers. There are more than sixty species of sunflowers. The most common type grows from one to three metres high and has one or more heads of flowers. Each head consists of a disc of small flowers surrounded by a fringe of large, yellow petals. A sunflower head may measure more than thirty centimetres in diameter and produce up to one thousand seeds. Sunflower seeds make a very healthy and nutritious snack.

(5 second pause)

Which plant appears to float on water?

The water lily, also called the pond lily, is a large, aquatic plant which appears to float on water. Water lilies send their long, strong leaves and flower stalks up from the muddy bottom below clear, shallow water. Their kidney-shaped, green leaves are usually seen floating on the surface of the water but may also be submerged. The flowers are usually raised above the water on long stalks. The white-flowered water lily is the most common. The flowers may be as large as thirty centimetres across. Their fruits

when ripe, look like bell-shaped bottles. Some water lilies bloom during the day and others during the night.

(Include a 4 second pause after each number.)

Exercise 1 Fill in each blank with ONE word.

The sunflower is a _____ (2 seconds pause) plant with _____ (2 seconds pause) flowers. (4 seconds pause)

Exercise 2 Fill in each blank with a NUMBER.

- a) There are more than _____ (2 seconds pause) different types of sunflowers. (4 seconds pause)
- b) The most common type of sunflower can grow between one to _____ (2 seconds pause) metres high. (4 seconds pause)
- c) The diameter of a sunflower's head can measure more than _____ (2 seconds pause) centimetres. (4 seconds pause)
- d) A sunflower head can produce _____ (2 seconds pause) seeds. (4 seconds pause)

Exercise 3. True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG)

Tick the correct box in the table below.

a) Water lilies can be found in shallow water.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

b) The flowers of the water lily can be pink.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

c) The flowers look like bell-shaped bottles.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

d) Water lilies bloom only during the day.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

The teacher will now read the text for Task 1 for the second time. Listen carefully.

You are going to hear two information programmes for children. The first programme is about the sunflower. The second information programme is about the water lily.

How did the sunflower get its name?

The sunflower got its name because the head of the flower turns and faces toward the Sun throughout the day. The sunflower is a tall plant known for its showy, yellow flowers. There are more than sixty species of sunflowers. The most common type grows from one to three metres high and has one or more heads of flowers. Each head consists of a disc of small flowers surrounded by a fringe of large, yellow petals. A sunflower head may measure more than thirty centimetres in diameter and produce up to one thousand seeds. Sunflower seeds make a very healthy and nutritious snack.

(5 second pause)

Which plant appears to float on water?

The water lily, also called the pond lily, is a large, aquatic plant which appears to float on water. Water lilies send their long, strong leaves and flower stalks up from the muddy bottom below clear, shallow water. Their kidney-shaped, green leaves are usually seen floating on the surface of the water but may also be submerged. The flowers are usually raised above the water on long stalks. The white-flowered water lily is the most common. The flowers may be as large as thirty centimetres across. Their fruits when ripe, look like bell-shaped bottles. Some water lilies bloom during the day and others during the night.

Listen to the sentences again. You may finish this task as you listen.

(The sentences are read a second time. Include the 4 second pause after each sentence.)

Exercise 1 Fill in each blank with ONE word.

The sunflower is a _____ (2 seconds pause) plant with _____ (2 seconds pause) flowers. (4 seconds pause)

Exercise 2 Fill in each blank with a NUMBER.

a) There are more than _____ (2 seconds pause) different types of sunflowers. (4 seconds pause)

b) The most common type of sunflower can grow between one to _____ (2 seconds pause) metres high. (4 seconds pause)

c) The diameter of a sunflower's head can measure more than _____ (2 seconds pause) centimetres. (4 seconds pause)

d) A sunflower head can produce _____ (2 seconds pause) seeds. (4 seconds pause)

Exercise 3. True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG)

Tick the correct box in the table below.

a) **Water lilies can be found in shallow water.**

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

b) **The flowers of the water lily can be pink.**

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

c) **The flowers look like bell-shaped bottles.**

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

d) **Water lilies bloom only during the day.**

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

You now have some time to check your answers. (Allow 30 seconds.)

This is the end of Task One. (Allow a 30 second pause between Task 1 and Task 2.)

Procedures for Task Two

Look at the three exercises for Task Two.

(Allow a 50 second pause while students familiarise themselves with the four exercises.)

Listen carefully. You will hear the reading twice.

If you wish you may start the exercises as you listen.

Who?

It wasn't a human. It couldn't be. It was four times as tall as the tallest human. It was so tall its head was higher than the upstairs windows of the houses. Sophie opened her mouth to scream, but no sound came out. Her throat, like her whole body, was frozen with fright.

The tall black figure was coming her way. It was keeping very close to the houses across the street, hiding in the shadowy places where there was no moonlight. On and on it came, nearer and nearer. But it was moving in spurts. It would stop, then it would move on, then it would stop again. But what on earth was it doing?

Ah-ha! Sophie could see now what it was up to. It was stopping in front of each house. It would stop and peer into the upstairs window of each house in the street. It actually had to bend down to peer into the upstairs windows. That's how tall it was. It would stop and peer in. Then it would slide on to the next house and stop again, and peer in, and so on along the street. It was much closer now and Sophie could see it more clearly.

Looking at it carefully, she decided it had to be some kind of PERSON. Obviously it was not a human. But it was definitely a person. A giant person, perhaps. Sophie stared hard across the misty, moonlit street.

The Giant (if that was what he was) was wearing a long, black cloak. In one hand he was holding what looked like a very long, thin trumpet. In the other hand, he held a large suitcase.

The BFG by Roald Dahl

Listen to the exercises and complete them.

(Include the 4 second pause after each number.)

Exercise 1 Tick (✓) the best phrase.

Number 1. The creature was

- a) four times as tall as the tallest house.
- b) four times as tall as the tallest tree.
- c) four times as tall as the tallest human.
- d) four times as tall as the tallest pole. (4 seconds pause)

Number 2. Sophie failed to scream because:

- a) she felt very excited when she saw the big creature.
- b) her throat was paralysed with fear.
- c) she felt her mouth frozen in that ice-cold weather.
- d) she was deaf and dumb. (4 seconds pause)

Number 3. Sophie noticed that the tall black figure was

- a) playing hide and seek with some kids.
- b) moving towards her by staying in the shadow of the houses across the street.
- c) moving towards her by walking in the middle of the street.
- d) reaching her by walking and stopping in the moonlight. (4 seconds pause)

Number 4. Sophie realised that the creature was

- a) stopping in front of each house to peer through the upstairs window.
- b) sliding his hand through the back door of each house.
- c) calling the children inside to come out.
- d) kicking the door of each house wide open. (4 seconds pause)

Exercise 2 Tick (✓) the correct box in the table below. TRUE or FALSE or No Information Given (NIG).

a) Sophie was scared of the creature.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

b) The tall creature was wearing a large black hat.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

c) Sophie saw the tall creature coming nearer.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

d) When she saw the giant Sophie was on the phone.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

e) The girl saw the giant during day time.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

f) At first she could not understand what the figure was doing.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

g) The figure was bending down to touch the ground.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

h) The figure was peeping into the upstairs windows of each house along the street.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

Exercise 3

Fill in with one word to complete each sentence.

- a) It was so tall its _____ (*2 seconds pause*) was higher than the upstairs windows of the houses. (*4 seconds*)
- b) Looking at it carefully, she decided it had to be some kind of _____ (*2 seconds pause*). (*4 seconds*)
- c) In his hand he was holding a _____ (*2 seconds pause*). (*4 seconds*)

Answer this question

- d) What was the giant wearing?

_____ (*10 seconds pause*)

Now you will hear the reading again. Listen carefully.

(The text is read a second time.)

You may finish off any remaining exercises as you listen.

Who?

It wasn't a human. It couldn't be. It was four times as tall as the tallest human. It was so tall its head was higher than the upstairs windows of the houses. Sophie opened her mouth to scream, but no sound came out. Her throat, like her whole body, was frozen with fright.

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- d) four times as tall as the tallest pole. (4 seconds pause)

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Exercise 2 Tick (✓) the correct box in the table below. TRUE or FALSE or No Information Given (NIG).

a) Sophie was scared of the creature.

Tick the correct box now. (4 seconds)

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Exercise 3

Fill in with one word to complete each sentence.

- a) It was so tall its _____ (*2 seconds pause*) was higher than the upstairs windows of the houses. (*4 seconds*)
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- c) In his hand he was holding a _____ (*2 seconds pause*). (*4 seconds*)

Answer this question

- d) What was the giant wearing?

_____ (*10 seconds pause*)

You now have time to check your answers. (Allow 1 minute.)

This is the end of Task Two and the end of the Listening Examination.

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