



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF-YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS
February 2012

YEAR 4

ENGLISH

TIME: 1h 15min

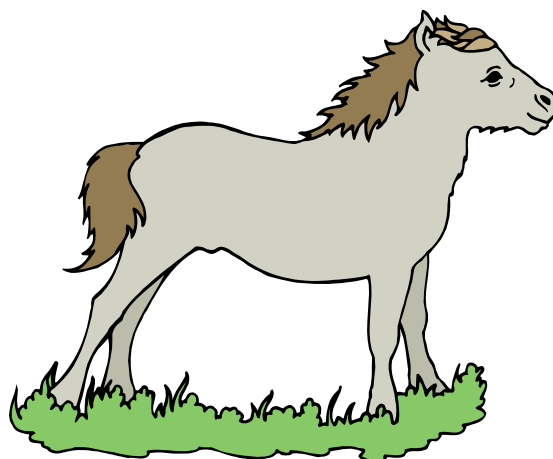
(Reading Comprehension, Language and Writing)

Name: _____

Class: _____

Total Mark

Total: 60 marks



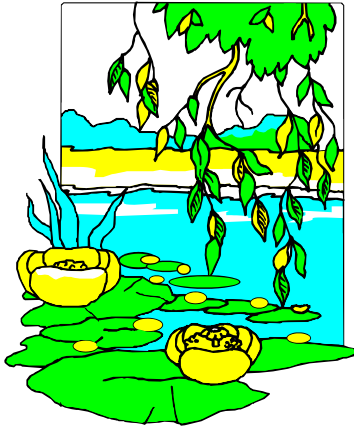
A. Reading Comprehension

(20 marks)

Read the following passage carefully.

Home Sweet Home

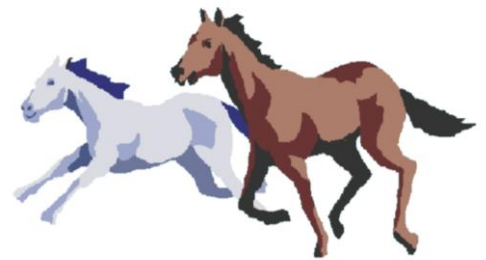
Every morning as I open my eyes I see this **breathtaking** view of the countryside in which there is a beautiful pond of crystal clear water. Some trees grow over the pond and water-lilies grow at the deep end. Over the fence on one side I can see a field. On the other side over the gate we can see our master's house which stands by the road side. At the top of the meadow is a large number of fir trees. At the lower end, there is a fast-running **stream** flanked by two steep banks. (Paragraph 1)



Because I am young I live upon my mother's milk, as I cannot eat grass yet. In the daytime I run by her side, and at night I cuddle up beside her. When it is hot, we stand by the pond in the shade of the trees. When it is cold, we take shelter inside the nice warm **shed** near the fir trees. (Paragraph 2)

Mother has the sweetest **temper** of any horse I have ever known. She never kicks or bites anyone. (Paragraph 3)

There are six young **colts** in the meadow besides myself. They are older than me. Some are nearly as large as grown up horses. Sometimes I run with them and have great fun. We **gallop** all together round and round the field, as hard as we can go. (Paragraph 4)



At the end of the day I lie down on the warm hay next to mum and sleep like a log. This is the happiest time of my life and there is no place like home! (Paragraph 5)

(Adapted from *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell)

Tick (✓) to show the correct answer.

1. The first thing the colt sees every morning is: (1 mark)

a.	a village	
b.	a town	
c.	the countryside	
d.	the fun park	

2. How many colts live in the meadow? (1 mark)

a.	six	
b.	seven	
c.	eight	
d.	nine	

3. Write True or False. The first one is ready. (4 marks)

Ex.	At the top of the meadow there are fir trees.	TRUE
a	The colt's home is beautiful.	
b	The pond is very dirty.	
c	The master's house cannot be seen.	
d	Ten other colts live in the meadow.	
e	The colt likes running in the fields.	
f	During the night the colt sleeps alone.	
g	The colt's mother is very sweet-tempered.	
h	The stream is at the lower end of the meadow.	

Answer the following questions.

4. What grows at the deep end of the pond? (2 marks)

5. The colt cannot eat any grass. Why? (2 marks)

6. Where do the horses take shelter when it is cold? (2 marks)

7. What does the colt do during the day? (2 marks)

8. In your own words, describe the colt's home. (2 marks)

9. Circle the correct word to show the meaning. (4 marks)

The first one is ready.

	Words in the passage	Meaning		
a.	stream (par. 1) means	pond	river	water
b.	breathtaking (par.1) means	ugly	beautiful	noisy
c.	temper (par.3) means	temperature	bad	character
d.	colts (par.4) means	young horses	ponies	donkeys
e.	gallop (par.4) means	run	sleep	grow

B. Language

(10 marks)



B. 1. Read and fill each blank space with ONE suitable word. (5 marks)
The first one is ready.

1. The children are at home. They are helping around the house.
2. Clara is in the kitchen. _____ is sweeping the floor.
3. Dad is cleaning up. _____ is washing the dishes.
4. Mum is in the wash room. _____ is washing the clothes.
5. Mark is helping Mum. _____ is hanging the clothes.
6. The children are having fun. _____ like helping out.

B. 2. Read and fill in the missing words. The first one is ready.

1. A house is **big**. A castle is bigger. **(5 marks)**

2. A tortoise is **slow**. A snail is _____.



3. A snake is _____ than a worm. (long)



4. Peter is _____ than his sister. (tall)



5. A plane is _____ than a car. (fast)



6. A cat is _____. A dog is **heavier**.



C. Writing

(30 marks)

C. 1. Look at the pictures.

Complete the sentences.

(6marks)

Example



I am a baker.

I am working now.

I work in a bakery.

1.



I am a _____.

I take care of your _____.

2.



I am a _____.

I am working now.

I am _____ meat.

3.



I am a builder.

I _____ bricks on top of each other.

I am _____ a wall.

C. 2. Write two sentences about this picture.

(4 marks)



Example:

Peter wakes up at eight o'clock.

1. _____

2. _____

C.3. Composition

(20 marks)

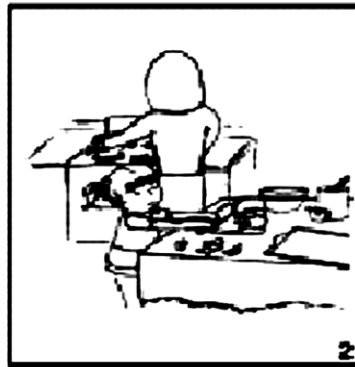
In not less than 90 words write ten sentences or a paragraph on ONE of the following:

1. Picture Composition: A Bad Day in the Kitchen

Look at the pictures carefully. Write about what is happening.

The following phrases may help you:

(mixing the ingredients, rolling pin, baking tray, black smoke, cup cakes are burning, run quickly to the nearest bakery)



2. Sundays

Describe how you spend Sundays with your family.

3. Write about Winter

The table will help you.

Starts and ends	Weather	Celebration	Other Information
starts 21 st December ends 20 th March	coldest season often rains thunderstorms	Christmas holidays Jesus born	countryside is greener
after Autumn	warm clothes sleep with thick blankets	New Year celebrations all over the world	

4. My favourite person.

Write about a person that you really like. This person could be your dad, mum, sister, brother or your best friend. Write about his or her every day life. Also write why you like him or her so much and what makes him or her so special.

Title number: _____

You may plan your composition in the space below.



Title Number: _____

END OF PAPER