



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS

February 2015

YEAR 4

ENGLISH
(Reading Comprehension, Language and Writing)

TIME: 1hr 15 min

Total:

60

Name and Surname _____

Class: _____



Read the following passage carefully.

PENGUINS

Penguins are called flightless birds since they cannot fly. While other birds have wings for flying, penguins have flippers to help them swim in the water. Most penguins live in the southern part of the earth.



The **Galapagos Penguin** is the only type of penguin that in the wild moves north of the equator.

Large penguin populations can be found in countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Chile, Argentina and South Africa. No penguins live at the North Pole.

Penguins eat a range of fish and other sea creatures that they catch underwater. Penguins can drink sea water. They spend around half their time in water and the other half on land.

The **Emperor Penguin** is the tallest of all penguin species, reaching as tall as 120 cm in height. Emperor Penguins can stay underwater for around 20 minutes at a time. These penguins often huddle together to keep warm in the cold temperatures of Antarctica.

King Penguins are the second largest kind of penguin. They have four layers of feathers to help keep them warm on the cold Antarctic islands where they breed.

Chinstrap Penguins get their name from the thin black band under their head. At times it looks like they're wearing a black helmet, which might be useful as they're considered the most aggressive type of penguin.

Little Blue Penguins are the smallest type of penguin measuring around 33 cm in height.

The penguin's black and white feathers serve as camouflage to help them hide while swimming. The black feathers on their back are hard to see from above. The white feathers on their front seem to be reflections of the sun when seen from below.

1. Tick (✓) to show the correct answer. (4 marks)

Example: Penguins are called flightless birds because

i.	they fly up high.	
ii.	they dive and fly.	
iii.	<i>they can't fly.</i>	✓

a) Penguins have

i.	wings for flying.	
ii.	flippers for swimming.	
iii.	paws to serve as feet.	

b) Most penguins live

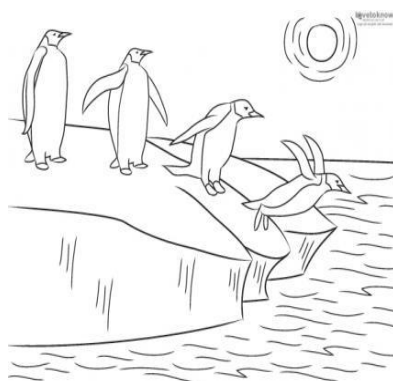
i.	in the South Pole.	
ii.	in the North Pole.	
iii.	in the Mediterranean Sea.	

c) Penguins eat

i.	fish and other sea creatures.	
ii.	seaweed.	
iii.	jelly fish.	

d) To serve as camouflage while swimming, a penguin has

i.	grey and green feathers.	
ii.	yellow and blue feathers.	
iii.	black and white feathers.	



2. Tick (✓) to show whether each sentence is true or false. (4 marks)

		True	False
<i>Ex</i>	<i>All penguin species move north of the Equator in the wild.</i>		✓
a)	Penguins spend half their time in the water and half on land.		
b)	King Penguins are the tallest of all penguins.		
c)	Chinstrap Penguins are the most aggressive of all penguins.		
d)	Little Blue Penguins are the smallest type of penguin.		

3. Answer the following questions.

a) Name **two** countries where large populations of penguins can be found. (2 marks)

b) Which penguins move to the north of the equator? (1 mark)

c) For how long can Emperor Penguins stay underwater at a time? (1 mark)

d) Why do Emperor Penguins often huddle together? (1 mark)

e) Where do the King Penguins breed? (1 mark)

f) Where do the Chinstrap Penguins get their name from? (2 marks)

g) In the passage, how is the Little Blue Penguin described? (2 marks)







h) What is camouflage? (2 marks)

B. Language

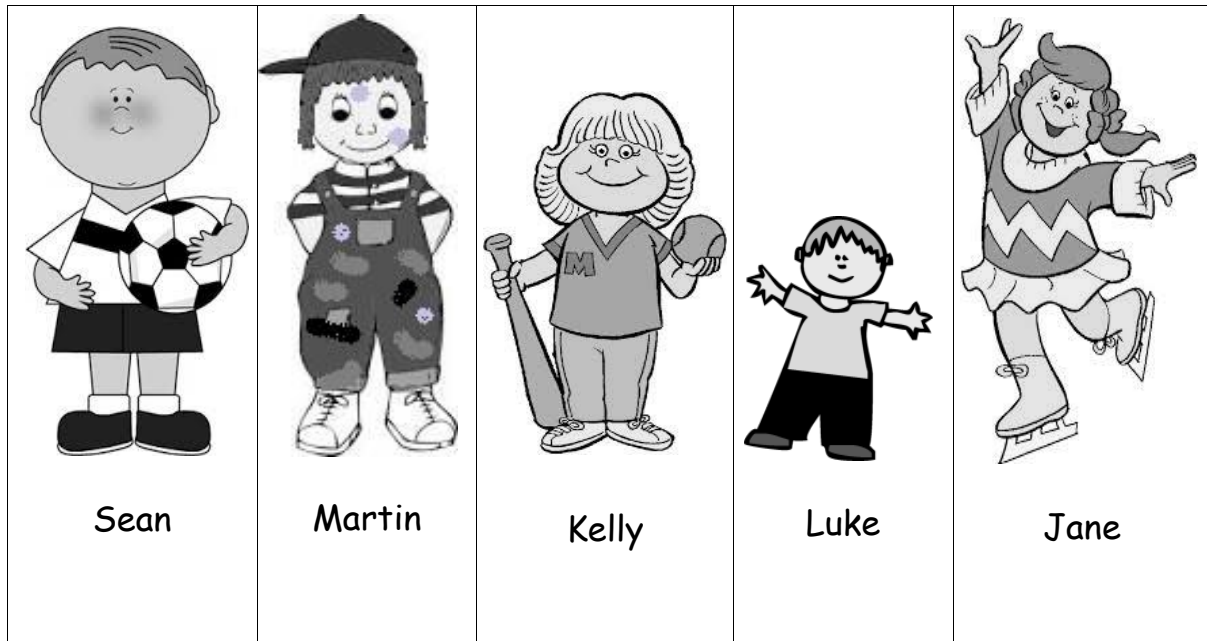
1. What are these children doing?

Complete the sentences with more than one word.

(5 marks)

a)		Sarah <u>is painting a beautiful flower.</u>
b)		The three friends _____ _____
c)		John _____ _____
d)		Thomas _____ _____
e)		The children _____ _____
f)		Lara _____ _____

2. Look at the following pictures and then fill in the blank spaces by using the words in the brackets. (5 marks)


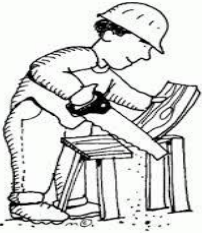





Eg. Jane is taller (tall) than her friend Kelly.

- a) Luke is (short) _____ than Martin.
- b) Martin`s hair is (long) _____ than Sean`s.
- c) Sean`s clothes are (clean) _____ than Martin`s.
- d) Kelly is (strong) _____ than Luke.
- e) Jane is feeling (happy) _____ than Sean.

3. Who am I?

(5 marks)




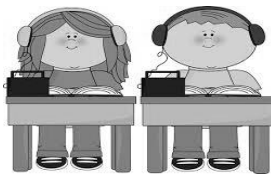


a)	I teach children at school.		I am a _____.
b)	I make furniture for your homes.		I am a _____.
c)	I put out the fire.		I am a _____.
d)	I report the news.		I am a _____.
e)	I paint pictures.		I am an _____.

4. Fill in to complete the sentences. Choose from the words below.

Do not use the same word more than once.

(5 marks)

behind	in front of	on	next to	between	under
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a)		Eg. The cat is <u>on</u> the bench.
b)		The little girl is hiding _____ the table.
c)		Buzz the bunny is _____ the tree.
d)		Louise is sitting _____ Mark.
e)		The cute cat is sitting _____ the Christmas tree.
f)		Rex the dog, lies _____ the two children.

C. Short Writing Task

(5 marks)

Use the information below to fill in the blanks in the invitation.

Aaron`s birthday falls on 1st March. He's going to have a party at THE KIDS' CAMPSITE. It will start at 2 o'clock and finish at 6 o'clock. He wants everyone to come in fancy dress.

Help Aaron write the invitation to send to his friend Jake.

YOU'RE INVITED TO MY BIRTHDAY PARTY

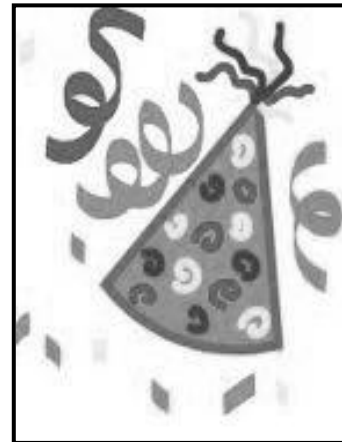
To: _____

Place: _____

Time: _____

Date: 1st March

Dress: _____



From _____

D. Creative Writing Task

(15 marks)

Write 10 sentences or a paragraph of around 90 words on one of the following:

1. My Favourite Room



Choose one of the rooms in your house and write about it. You can say which room it is; what you do there; why it is your favourite; what is in it.

2. Imagine you are a Bird

Write the story of your life. You can describe what sort of bird you are; where you live; if you have a family; how you spend your day; what you like and dislike.



3. Winter



Write about the weather in winter. You can describe the countryside; how you spend your days; what sort of food you eat; the clothes you wear; feasts that we celebrate during this season.

You may use the following space to plan your creative writing.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border and a subtle grey drop shadow on the right side. It is intended for students to use as a workspace for planning their creative writing.

Now write your sentences/ paragraph here.

Title number: _____

End of paper