



ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE  
HALF-YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS  
February 2013

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YEAR 4

ENGLISH

TIME: 1h 15min

(Reading Comprehension, Language and Writing)

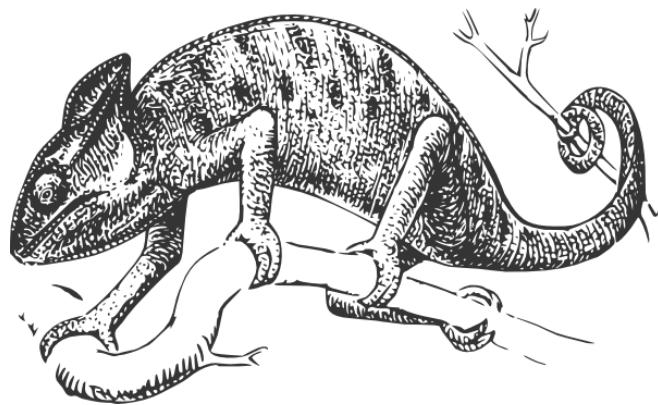
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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Total: 60 marks



Read the following passage carefully.

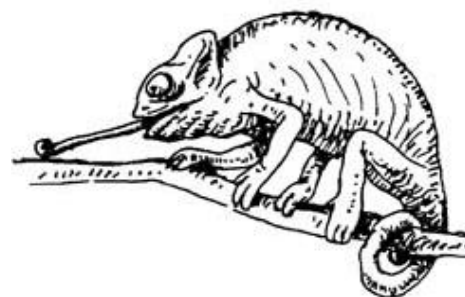
### A Reptile of Many Talents



What animal has feet like a parrot, can see in more than one direction at a time, and has a tongue that can move with incredible speed? It's not a bird. It's not a frog. It's a chameleon. *(paragraph 1)*

If you look closely at a chameleon's toes, you'll see it has parrot-like feet. Each foot has five toes grouped as two on the outside and three on the inside. They help the chameleon to **grip** branches. *(paragraph 2)*

Besides its feet, a chameleon's eyelids are also very interesting. Its top and bottom eyelids are joined together with just a tiny **opening** big enough for the pupil to see through. Unlike humans, chameleons can look at two different directions at the same time. They have very good eyesight which helps them to hunt for food. They also have extremely long tongues, sometimes even longer than their own body.



*(paragraph 3)*

One of the chameleon's most amazing talents is the ability to change the colour of its skin. Chameleons can change colour to blend into their **surroundings**. This is called **camouflage**. They also use their colours to attract mates or to show their emotions. But very often they change colour to regulate their body temperature. *(paragraph 4)*

Most chameleons are found in Africa, but a few species have been found in other places around the world. They live in tropical rain forests and even deserts. Since chameleons do not have ears, they feel movement instead of hearing sounds. *(paragraph 5)*

All of these special features make the chameleon an interesting member of the reptile family. *(paragraph 6)*

(Adapted from *A Reptile of Many Talents* by Kelly Hashway)

Tick (✓) to show the correct answer.

1. The chameleon is:

(1 mark)

a)	a bird.	
b)	a dinosaur.	
c)	a reptile.	
d)	a fish.	

2. The chameleon's feet are like those of:

(1 mark)

a)	a duck.	
b)	a monkey.	
c)	a frog.	
d)	a parrot.	

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

(4 marks)

		True	False
a	The chameleon has four toes grouped in twos.		
b	Its top and bottom eyelids are joined together.		
c	They can look in two different directions at the same time.		
d	The chameleon's tongue is never longer than its body.		
e	The chameleon can change the colour of its skin.		
f	Most chameleons live in Antarctica.		
g	They live in tropical rainforests and even deserts.		
h	They have very small ears.		

**4. Answer the following questions.**

a) How does a chameleon's tongue move? (2 marks)

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b) Why does the chameleon have two toes on the outside and three toes on the inside of its foot? (2 marks)

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c) Why does it change colour? Give two reasons. (2 marks)

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

d) In which part of the world are most chameleons found? (2 marks)

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e) How do chameleons know when someone is approaching if they don't have ears? (2 marks)

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

The first one is ready.

	Words in the passage	Meaning		
a.	<b>grip</b> (par. 2)	touch	walk	<b>hold</b>
b.	<b>opening</b> (par.3)	part	hole	eyelid
c.	<b>camouflage</b> (par.4)	disguise	colour	skin
d.	<b>surroundings</b> (par.4)	trees	environment	grass
e.	<b>regulate</b> (par.4)	fix	take	control

B. Language

10 marks

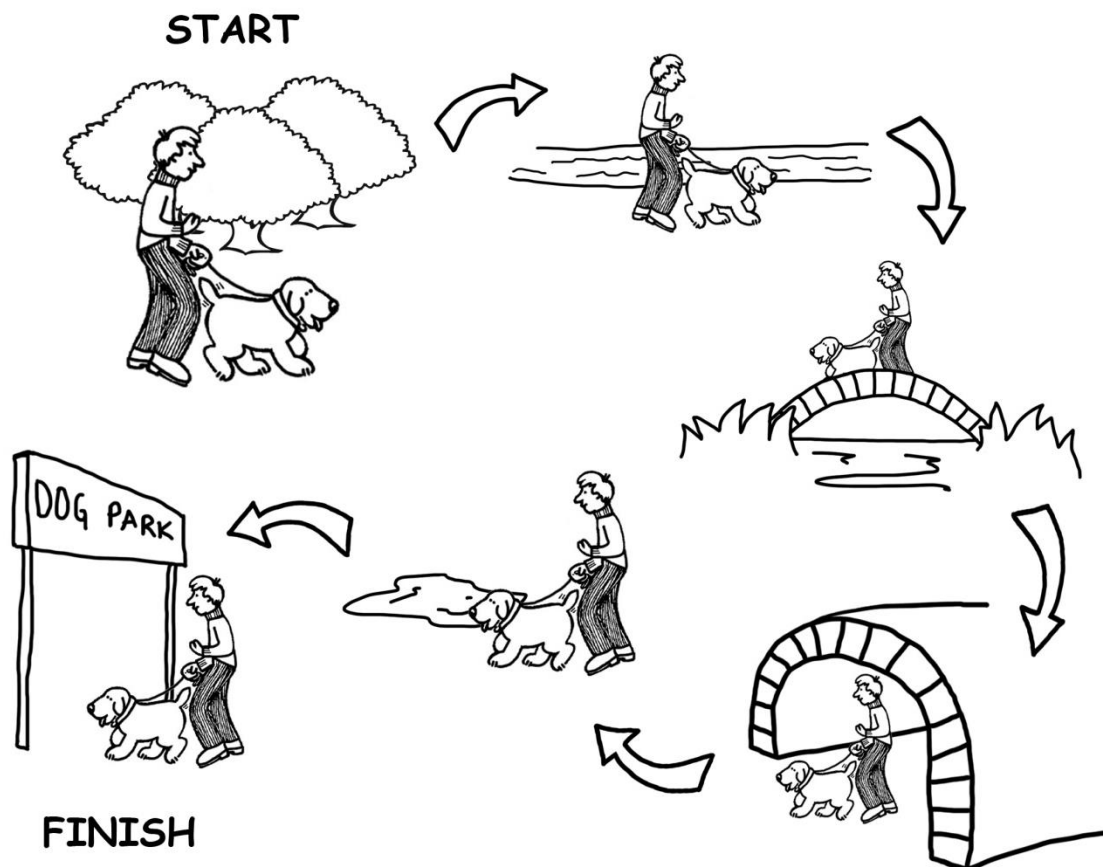
B. 1. Read and fill each blank space with ONE suitable word.

Use each of the given words ONCE.

The first one has been done for you.

(5 marks)

round	through	<del>past</del>	over	into	along
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1. Jim takes his dog for a walk. He walks past the trees.
2. He walks \_\_\_\_\_ the river.
3. Then he goes \_\_\_\_\_ the bridge and \_\_\_\_\_ the tunnel.
4. Jim doesn't like to get wet so he walks \_\_\_\_\_ the puddle.
5. At last he arrives and goes \_\_\_\_\_ the dog park.

B. 2. What are they doing? Look, read and fill in the missing words.

The first one has been done for you.

(5 marks)



1. Maurice *is talking* to the horse.
2. The bird \_\_\_\_\_ up in the sky.
3. Phillipe, the horse \_\_\_\_\_ along the street.
4. The dog \_\_\_\_\_ to grab some food.
5. Belle \_\_\_\_\_ a book.
6. Gaston \_\_\_\_\_ beautifully.

C. Writing

30 marks

C. 1. Fill in the missing words to complete this tasty recipe.

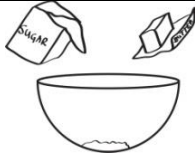
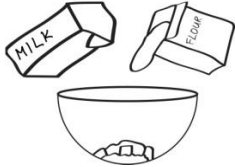
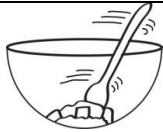
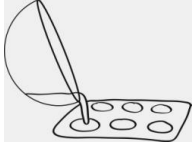
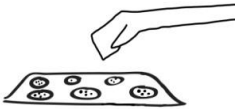
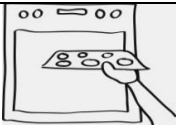
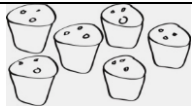
**Chocolate Chip Muffins**

**Ingredients**  
 100g sugar  
 100g butter  
 250g flour  
 230ml milk  
 Chocolate chips to decorate



(4 marks)

<b>mixture</b>	<b>tin</b>	<b>oven</b>	<b>minutes</b>
<b>decorate</b>	<b>mix</b>	<b>add</b>	<b>ready</b>

1.		First _____ together the sugar and butter.
2.		Then _____ the flour and milk.
3.		Continue to stir until the _____ is creamy.
4.		Pour the batter into the muffin _____.
5.		_____ with chocolate chips.
6.		Put in the _____ and bake for 45 _____.
7.		Now, they are _____ to eat. Yummy!

C. 2. Writing an invitation

(6 marks)

It is your birthday and you are going to have a party.

Write an invitation to your best friend telling him/her to come.

Write the day, place and time of your party.

# My Birthday Party



Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

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From,

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C.3. Composition

(20 marks)

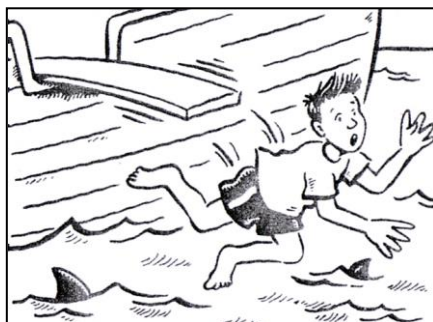
In not less than 90 words write ten sentences or a paragraph on ONE of the following:

1. Picture Composition: The Dream

Look at the pictures carefully. Write about what happens.

The following words may help you:

(sleeping, pirate ship, take him away, jump overboard, scared)



2. Write a letter to your friend who lives far away telling him/her why you like your school so much. Tell him/her about your classroom, the yard, the hall and some activities that you carry out at school.

**3. You are a snail in the garden.** Describe your home and say how you came to be in that place. How do you spend your time ? Do you have any friends? What are you afraid of?

**4. My favourite book.**

Write about a book that you really like. This book can be a fairy tale, a scary book or an information book. Write about what the book is about, what it is called and why you like it so much.

Title number: \_\_\_\_\_

You may plan your composition in the space below.

