



**ST NICHOLAS COLLEGE
HALF YEARLY PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS
February 2013**

YEAR 6

ENGLISH

TIME: 50min

(Reading Comprehension)

Name: _____

Class: _____

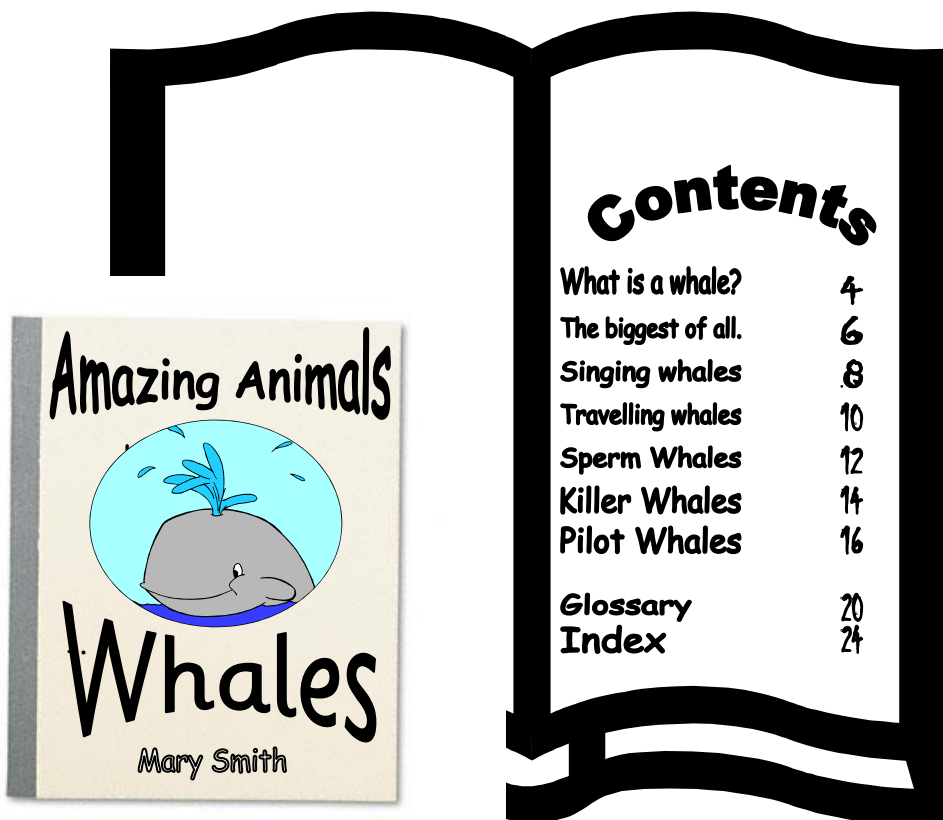
Total: 30 marks



Read the following and then answer the questions that follow.

'Whales' is one of twelve books in a series called 'Amazing Animals'. It is an excellent book about whales. If we need to use this book to find information about these amazing mammals, it is important that we know how to use the Contents page.

The Contents page at the beginning of the book tells us how the information is organised. In the picture below you can see the front cover of the book and the Contents page.



1. **Fill in the missing words.**

- a. 'Whales' is an information book in a series called _____ (½ mark)
- b. There are _____ books in the series. (½ mark)
- c. The Contents page can be found at the _____ of the book. (½ mark)
- d. The title of the book is written on the _____ cover. (½ mark)

2. **Now look at the front cover and Contents page in the picture. Work out the following.** (Answer in short.)

- a. What is the first chapter about? _____ (½ mark)
- b. If I want to read about Pilot whales I must go to page _____ (½ mark)
- c. Name two other chapters in this book.

_____ (1 mark)
- d. Who is the author of this book? _____ (1 mark)
- e. Why is the Contents page important?
_____ (1 mark)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions below.

The story of Gelert

Many years ago there was a prince in Wales called Llewelyn. He loved animals and kept a fine pack of dogs. One of these he loved more than all the others and his name was Gelert. Not only was Gelert a fine hunting dog, but also an excellent guard dog and a very good-natured animal. (par. 1)

One day the prince decided to go for a ride around his land. He knew that wolves had been seen in the forest near the castle. He was **anxious** for his baby son, for hungry wolves had been known to find their way into houses. So he told Gelert to stay behind and guard the baby. The dog lay down beside the cradle. Prince Llewelyn went off happily, knowing his son would be safe with the dog to guard him. Soon Gelert was left alone. (par. 2)

After a while Gelert heard a strange sound. He pricked up his ears and sniffed the air. What was that strange scent? There was a shuffling sound in the corridor. Who or what could it be? The half shut door slowly opened and a large grey wolf stared hungrily inside. Gelert growled. (par. 3)

The wolf bared his fangs, looked beyond Gelert and saw the baby. Here was a tasty meal. The wolf leapt towards the cradle. Gelert jumped too, at the wolf's throat. The two animals were locked together, snarling and biting. The fight was long and savage. There was fur everywhere. The cradle overturned but the baby lay safe and asleep under the blanket. (par. 4)

At last Gelert made one final effort and sank his teeth deep into the wolf's throat. The wolf writhed and finally lay still. Gelert fell to the floor, weak from the fight, and licked his wounds. (par. 5)

When Llewelyn returned from the ride a terrible sight met his eyes. His baby's cradle was overturned and his son was nowhere to be seen. Gelert crawled towards his master with blood dripping from his jaws. (par. 6)



"Wicked animal! Where is my son?" screamed Llewelyn. "Gelert, have you killed my only son?" (par. 7)

With a cry of rage Llewelyn grabbed his sword and thrust it into Gelert's heart. Gelert's cry woke the baby. When the prince heard the baby he

pulled the cradle aside. There lay his baby boy and beside him lay the body of a large grey wolf. Llewelyn suddenly realised it was the wolf's blood that dripped from Gelert's jaws, and that Gelert had saved the boy's life. (par. 8)

Filled with **remorse**, Prince Llewelyn buried his faithful hound and named the place 'Beddgelert', which means 'the grave of Gelert'. Today in Wales you will find the village of Beddgelert, named after the memory of the faithful dog. (par. 9)

(Adapted from *The Legend of Brave Gelert* by Elle Wilson)

1. **Underline the best answer to complete the sentences.** (3 marks)

- a) Llewelyn was a (duke, king, prince).
- b) His favourite dog was called (Llewelyn, Gelert, Wolf).
- c) In the forest near the castle people had seen (dogs, bears, wolves).

2. **Answer these questions.** (6 marks)

- a) What does **anxious** in paragraph 2 mean? _____
- b) Who was going to guard the baby? _____
- c) Which paragraph talks about the fight? _____
- d) Which word in paragraph 8 means anger? _____
- e) What does '*it*' in par.8, line 2, refer to? _____
- f) What does the word **remorse** (par.9) mean? _____

3. Read the following sentences. Write T if the sentence is true, F if it is false or N if there is no information about it. (8 marks)

a)	The prince had eleven dogs.	
b)	Llewelyn lived in a castle in Wales.	
c)	A big black wolf came into the castle.	
d)	The baby woke up during the fight between the two dogs.	
e)	Gelert finally succeeded in killing the wolf.	
f)	The prince's son lay dead on the floor.	
g)	In Wales there is a village called Beddgelert.	
h)	The story of Gelert is a Welsh legend.	

4. What kind of dog was Gelert? (1 mark)

5. What made Gelert suspect that the wolf was coming? (1 mark)

6. From paragraph 4 write the phrase that shows that the wolf was about to attack. (1 mark)

7. What did Prince Llewelyn think when he saw blood dripping from Gelert's jaws? (2 marks)

8. The place where the dog was buried is called 'Beddgelert'. Why was it made a special place? (2 marks)

END OF PAPER