



**St Margaret College  
Half Yearly Examinations 2011**

**Year 6**

**English Written**

**Time: 1 Hour 15 Minutes**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Sort these nouns under the correct column. (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)**

cycling	horse	theatre	cake	swimming	fish
calf	<del>school</del>	cinema	goat	bread	dancing

Farm Animals	Hobbies	Places	Food
	dancing	school	

**B. Punctuate these sentences.**

**(10 × ½ mark = 5 marks)**

a. london is a big capital city

\_\_\_\_\_

b. where are you going this weekend

\_\_\_\_\_

c. mum said how lovely this cat is

\_\_\_\_\_



C. What have they just done? Use the verbs in the box to complete the sentences. (5 × 2 marks = 10 marks)

	<b>to finish</b>	He <b>has just finished</b> his homework.
1.	<b>to play</b>	He _____ just _____ a football match.
2.	<b>to write</b>	She _____ just _____ a poem.
3.	<b>to cut</b>	They _____ just _____ the cake.
4.	<b>to ride</b>	Tom and Peter _____ just _____ their bike.
5.	<b>to ask</b>	The teacher _____ just _____ a question.

D. Form adverbs from the words in the brackets. (5 × 2 mark = 10 marks)

**Example:** The artist painted a picture beautifully. (beautiful)

- The baby slept \_\_\_\_\_ in the pram. (sound)
- We joined hands \_\_\_\_\_ together. (happy)
- The boy worked the first sum \_\_\_\_\_. (easy)
- He drove the car \_\_\_\_\_ up the hill. (fast)
- Our team played \_\_\_\_\_. (good)



## E. Comprehension

25 marks

Peggy Pigtales was a good girl, and she was quiet and reserved. Not many words passed her lips, partly due to shyness, and partly because she sometimes felt she had nothing interesting to say. (par.1)

But that all changed when Peggy and her family moved house.

On arriving at the new place, she discovered a huge attic full of old junk.

In one pile she found a big chest containing all kinds of strange things. Under them all, she found something special. It was an old book with a great, heavy, thick cover, with gold writing on it. But what made it truly special was how it shone in the darkness of that attic, and in the most magical, fantastical way. What's more, the book was actually floating in the air. Peggy could find nothing holding it up. (par.2)



She took the book down to her room and hid it there until night time, putting her puppy on guard duty over it. That night, when she was sure no one would disturb her, she sat with her puppy and started reading the book. It was a storybook, but Peggy could hardly get any of it read. She had only just started when her dog started speaking to her.

"What an interesting book you've found! It seems to have some lovely stories!" Peggy couldn't believe it, but the puppy continued talking, telling her all sorts of things, and asking a thousand questions. After some time, Peggy regained her composure and asked, "So how come you're talking?" "I don't know," answered the dog. "Instead of just thinking things, now I'm saying them too... it hasn't changed much for me; I guess it was the book that did it, though." (par.3)

Peggy decided to investigate the matter, and she thought she would show the book to some other animals. One after another, the animals all started talking, and before long, Peggy was chatting - in the most friendly manner - with a dog, three cats, two doves, a parrot, and five lizards. All the animals spoke as though they had been doing so all their lives, and all of them had some pretty interesting tales to tell! (par.4)

"Sure, my little girl!" Lemmy the lizard told her, "We all lead pretty incredible lives!" Peggy Pigtales spent the next several days nattering with her new friends, and really enjoyed it. One day, though, unaware as to why, the book disappeared, and with it went the animals' voices. Peggy looked everywhere, but couldn't find that book. Within a few days, she was missing the chats with her new animal friends so much that she could hardly think of anything else. (par.5)

Then she remembered what Lemmy the lizard said to her, and she realised that she hardly spoke at all to her classmates or other children, and they probably had incredible lives too! (par.6)



So, from that day, gradually, Peggy started talking more to her schoolmates, trying to find out about their lives. In the end, without realising it, she came to have more friends than anyone else in the whole school. And never again was she short of someone to have a good old chat with. (par.7)

(Written by Pedro Pablo Sacristan)

**Underline the correct answer in questions 1, 2 and 3. (3 × 1 mark = 3 marks)**

1. When Peggy moved house she found old junk in a (garage, attic, barn).
2. The book was full of (stories, songs, prayers).
3. Peggy discovered that her animal friends were (boring, busy, incredible).

**4. Put a tick (✓) in each box to show whether each sentence is TRUE or FALSE.**

	TRUE	FALSE
<b>Example:</b> The child in the story is a girl.	✓	
a) Peggy found the special book in a big chest.		
b) When Peggy had finished reading the book, the dog started talking to her.		
c) Peggy showed the book to a few goats and sheep.		
d) When the book vanished, Peggy missed talking to her animal friends.		
e) Peggy began talking and making friends with her school mates instead.		

(5 × 1 mark = 5 marks)

**Answer these questions in a full sentence.**

5. Why was Peggy usually quiet and reserved?

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(2 marks)

6. At what time did she decide to read the book she found?

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(2 marks)

7. Which animal began telling the girl about its life first?

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(2 marks)

8. Apart from the animals, who did Peggy realise, had incredible lives as well?

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(2 marks)

9. Do you think that Peggy's character improved after she found the book?

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(3 marks)

10. What do you think was the REAL magic that the book did to Peggy?

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(3 marks)

11. Find words or phrases in the passage that mean:

a) talking and chattering (par. 5)	
b) little by little (par. 7)	
c) without knowing the reason (par. 7)	

(3 × 1 mark = 3 marks)

**F. COMPOSITION**

**(25 marks)**

**Write a composition of not less than 150 words on ONE of the following:**

1. Write a letter to your friend telling her/him about three of your favourite hobbies.  
(Say what your hobbies are, when you practice them and where)
  
2. My last holiday.  
(Say where you went, say with whom, say what you did)
  
3. A dream I had last night.  
(Say whether it was a happy or bad dream, write about it)
  
4. A young queen was given a special present from a great wizard. It was a .....  
Continue the story. Write about this present and explain why it was special.

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

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