



St Margaret College
Half Yearly Examinations 2013

Year 5

English Language

Time: 1hr 15min

Name: _____ Class: _____

A: Reading

20 marks

Read the following passage carefully.

HAMSTERS

Hamsters are rodents which make good pets. The most common hamster is the golden or Syrian hamster, which is the species most commonly kept as a pet. They are clean and tidy animals. They live for about two to three years. If you handle them every day, they become very tame and friendly. It is best to keep just one because they usually fight. They can't jump or climb but they can move very quickly. They also like to explore. Hamsters like to burrow underground in the daylight to avoid being caught by predators.



(paragraph 1)

They sleep during the day and wake up at night. It is best to feed them in the evening. Their diet includes a variety of foods, including mixed grain, dried food, berries, nuts, fresh fruits and vegetables. In the wild, they feed primarily on seeds, fruits and greens and will occasionally eat burrowing insects. They have sharp front teeth and big food pouches in their cheeks.

(paragraph 2)

The hamster's tail can be difficult to see, as it is usually not very long. Hamsters are very flexible, but their bones are somewhat fragile. Hamsters have poor eyesight; they are near sighted and colour blind. Hamsters also use their sense of smell to identify danger and locate food. They store food in their pouches and in their cages. A female hamster can have a litter of 6 to 12 young. Young hamsters have no fur and they are born with their eyes and ears closed.

(paragraph 3)

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

(4 marks)

1.1	Hamsters are similar to	
a	pigs.	
b	pets.	
c	birds.	
d	mice.	✓

1.2	They live for	
a	many years.	
b	a long time.	
c	2 to 3 years.	
d	six months.	

1.3	It is best to keep them on their own because they	
a	fight a lot.	
b	make loud noises.	
c	do lots of exercise.	
d	sleep day and night.	

1.4	Hamsters are usually fed	
a	with a spoon.	
b	three times a day.	
c	every month.	
d	in the evening.	

1.5	When hamsters are born	
a	they have a lot of fur.	
b	they jump up and down.	
c	they have no ears.	
d	they have closed eyes and ears.	

2. Tick (✓) to show whether each sentence is True or False. (4 marks)

		True	False
1.	Hamsters have a good eyesight.		✓
2.	They do not move a lot.		
3.	They don` t have any teeth.		
4.	They store food in their pouches.		
5.	Females have only 3 young.		

3. Answer the following questions. (12 marks) (2 marks each)

a) Why do hamsters make very good pets?

b) How can they become tame?

c) What do hamsters do during the day?

d) Why can hamsters pass through small spaces?

e) What do hamsters like to eat?

f) If a hamster bites you, it can hurt you. Why is this so?



B. Language

B.1. Write a suitable question for these answers.

(5 marks)

Follow the example.

a) Simon lives in a big house.

Where does Simon live?

b) I am happy because I got a present.

W_____ are you happy?

c) Jack is reading a book.

W_____ is Jack doing?

d) Sam is going to school.

W_____ is Jack going?

e) We are going to play football on Tuesday.

W_____ are we going to play football?

f) Amy went to grandma's house.

W_____ went to grandma's house?

B.2. Fill in with the correct verb

(5 marks)

Long, long ago there lived a magician who (know) _____
everything there was to know about magic. The magician
(have) _____ a very tall and special hat. Whenever he
(wear) _____ this hat, he (can) _____ just
think magic thoughts and they (will) _____ come true.



B.3 Fill in with suitable RHYMING words.

(5 marks)

I don't know what to do today
Perhaps I'll go outside and play
Or stay indoors and watch TV
Or take a bath, or climb a _____

Or maybe I'll go take a hike
Or skip the rope, or ride my _____
Or drink some milk, or scratch my head
Or play a game, or stay in _____
I'm so confused, and bored and blue
To know not what I ought to _____
So, what do you think I should do ?
I guess that I should just ask _____

C.1 Read the advert and fill in the blanks with a suitable word:

Thursday 21st February	drinks	different
medal	badminton	basketball

New Sports Complex

A New Sports Complex will have its
Grand Opening Day
on Thursday 21st February
at 10.00 a.m.



The new sports complex will open on Thursday 21st February. You can take part in sports like _____, football and tennis. Children will have the opportunity to participate in _____ using their own racket. There will be _____ games where parents can play as a team against their own children. All participants will get a _____. Food and _____ will be served at noon. Don't miss it! See you there at 10:00am!

C.2 Composition

(20 marks)

Write a composition of not less than 120 words on one of the following:

1. Last week there was a very terrible storm. Write a letter to your favourite uncle/aunt about what had happened.
2. I am a dog. My name is Pooch. I live in a big house.....
3. When I grow up.
4. The best day of my life.

Composition No _____
