St. Nicholas College

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION
FEBRUARY 2009
Year 4

English Language

Name: _____ Class: _____

Time: 1hr 15 mins

Total Number of Marks:

1. Put in a,b,c order

(5x 1 mark = 5 marks)

Example: mouse, cat, horse cat, horse, mouse
a) pelican, giraffe, monkey _____
b) elephant, rat, pig _____
c) chimp, tiger, baboon _____
d) sheep, goat, duck _____
e) parrot, leopard, lion _____

2. Fill in with the correct verb

(5x1mark = 5 marks)

Example: One finds many animals in the jungle. (find)

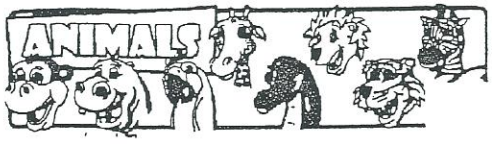
a) The giraffes _____ leaves from tall trees. (eat)

b) The leopard _____ _____ after the gazelle now. (run)

c) The hippo _____to stay in the mud. (like)

d) An elephant _____ _____ some water now. (drink)

e) The snake _____ and _____. (hiss) (slither)



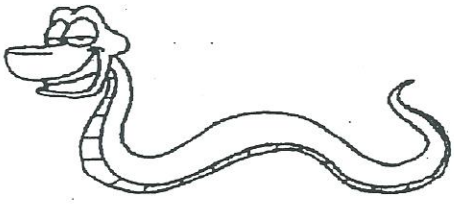
3. Use the words below to describe these animals. Use each word only once

(5x1 mark = 5 marks)

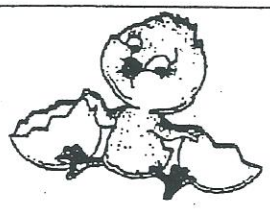
lazy	clever	huge	small	heavy	long

Example:

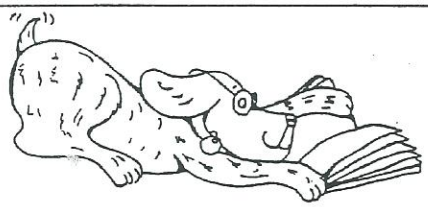
This is a huge whale.



Here is a _____ snake.

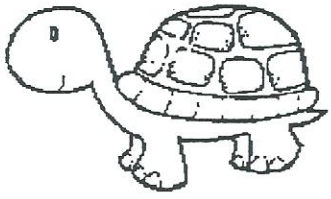


This chick is very _____.



This _____ dog can read.

Milly, the _____cat is always sleeping.

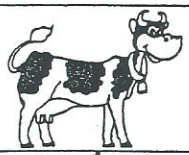
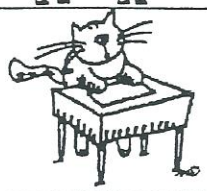
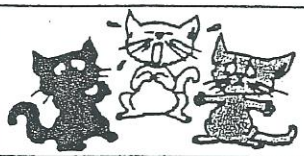
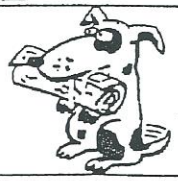


The tortoise carries a _____ shell on its back.

4. Look at the pictures and write the correct word to complete the sentences.

(7 x 1 mark = 7 marks)

in front of	behind	out of	in
around	~~on~~	between	near

	Example: The owl is sitting <u>on</u> a branch.
	The snake is coming _____ the basket.
	The cat is sitting _____ a ball of string.
	This mouse is _____ its hole.
	The cow has a bell tied _____ its neck.
	The cat is _____ the table.
	The white cat is sitting _____ the two black cats.
	The dog has the newspaper _____ its mouth.

5. The animal race

It is time for the animal Olympics. These animals are taking part in the flat race.

guinea pig tortoise ostrich horse flamingo cheetah

Complete these sentences **(5x1 mark each = 5 marks)**

Example: The cheetah came first.

a) The _____ is third.

b) The guinea pig is _____.

c) The flamingo is the _____ to arrive.

d) The horse does its best but only arrives _____.

e) The tortoise manages to arrive _____.

6. The animals that are watching the race are talking among themselves.

<u>Continue their conversation by filling in the missing words</u>.

(4x2 marks each= 8 marks)

guinea pig tortoise ostrich horse flamingo cheetah Fin

Example: "The cheetah is <u>faster</u> than the flamingo," says the lion.

a) "The guinea pig is _____ than the tortoise," says the duck.

b) "Look at the flamingo's feet. They are _____ than the guinea pig's," shouts the giraffe.

c) "The horse's neck is long but the ostrich's neck is _____," observes the snake.

d) "The horse is thin but the cheetah is _____. It must be on a diet," says the gazelle.

7. Comprehension
Read the following passage carefully

The Pelican, the Giraffe and the Monkey

I climb into the Pelican's big, orange beak and with a swoosh of wings the Pelican carries me back to his perch on the window-sill. **(Paragraph 1)**

The giraffe looks at me from her window and says, "How are you? What is your name?" "Billy" I reply. **(Paragraph 2)**

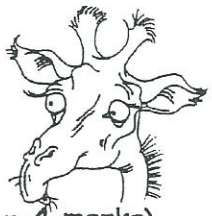
"Well, Billy," she says, "we need your help and we need it fast. We must have some windows to clean. We've spent every penny we had on buying this house and we've got to earn some more money quickly. The Pelican is starving, the Monkey is famished and I am perishing with hunger. The Pelican needs fish. The monkey needs nuts and I am even more difficult to feed. I am a very special giraffe and I cannot eat anything except the pink and purple flowers of the tinkle-tinkle tree. **(Paragraph 3)**

The Pelican cries out, "Right now I am so hungry I could eat a stale sardine!" The monkey says, "What the pelican is really crazy about is salmon! And I dream about walnuts. A walnut fresh from the tree is so sweet to eat that it makes me all wobbly just thinking about it.

(Paragraph 4)

*(Adapted from **The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me** by Roald Dahl)*

7. Comprehension



A) Put a mark (✓) in a box to show the correct answer.

(4 x 1 mark = 4 marks)

Example: A pelican is a type of

fish.	
bird.	✓
mammal.	

i. Where does the Pelican take the boy?

In the kitchen.	
On the porch.	
On the window-sill.	

ii. Which animal greets the boy and the Pelican?

The giraffe.	
The monkey.	
Billy.	

iii. What is the boy's name?

Sam	
Billy	
Brian	

iv. Which is the pelican's favourite fish?

sardine	
salmon	
cod	

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

(4 x 1 mark = 4 marks)

	True	False
Example: The Pelican eats the boy.		✓
i) The animals need to find cars to wash.		
ii) They do not have any money.		
iii) Only the monkey is hungry.		
iv) The giraffe only eats red and green flowers.		

C. From the passage find two examples of:

(4x1 mark = 4 marks)

Different food		
Animals		

D. Answer the following questions. Write complete sentences.

i) Why don't the animals have any money? (Par 3) (2 marks)

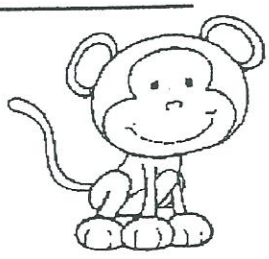
They do not have any money because _____

_____.

ii) What do the pelican and the monkey eat? (Par 3) (2 marks)

The pelican _____ _____ and the monkey _____

_____.



iii) Why is the giraffe different from other giraffes? (Par 3) **(2 marks)**

It is different from other giraffes because _____
_____.

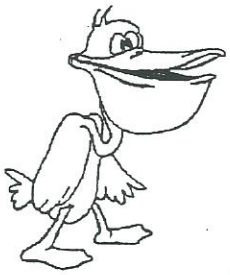
iv) What makes the monkey wobbly? Why? (Par 4) **(3 marks)**

_____
_____.

E. **Find words or phrases in the passage which mean the same as:**

(4x1 mark each=4 marks)

a) answer (par 2): _____
b) very hungry (par 3) : _____
c) fast (par 3): _____
d) not fresh (par 4): _____



_____

8. **Composition** **(25 marks)**

In not less than **90 words** write a composition on **ONE** of the following.

i) **You are at the playground with your friends. One of your friends falls from the swing. Continue the story to tell what happens afterwards.**

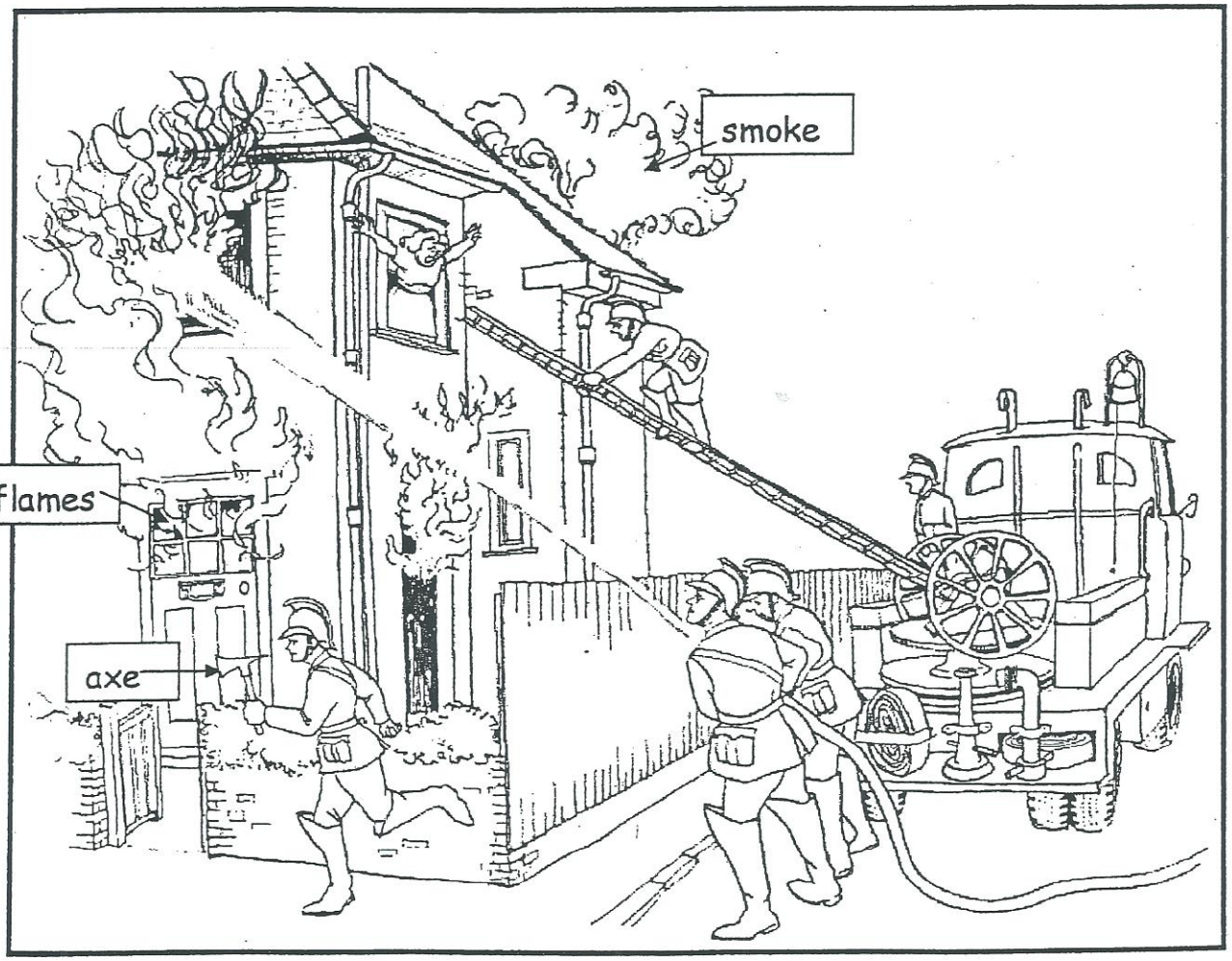
Is your friend hurt? What do you do?

ii) **I am a robin**

Imagine you are a robin. Write about your life.

iii) **What I like about my school.**

Write about the good things that happen at your school. What do you like most? Which are your favourite activities?

iv) **Picture Composition**

Look at the picture below. Write a story about what happened. How does the fire start? Who is called to help the woman? What do these people do? How does the story end?