

PRIMARY SCHOOLS
HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATIONS 2013

ENGLISH		
YEAR 4	Reading Comprehension, Language and Writing	TIME 1h 15 min

Name: _____

TOTAL

Class: _____

60



A. Reading Comprehension.**(20 marks)****Read the following passage carefully.****The Little Match Seller**

It was terribly cold and nearly dark and the snow was falling fast. A poor little girl, with bare feet, roamed through the streets. She had on a pair of slippers when she left home, but they were not of much use. They were very large, because they had belonged to her mother, and the girl had lost them while running across the street to avoid two carriages that were rolling along at great speed. One of the slippers she could not find, and a boy seized the other and ran away with it. So the little girl went on with her bare feet, which were quite red and blue with the cold.

In an old bag she carried a number of matches. No one had bought any the whole day. Shivering with cold and hunger, she crept along. The snowflakes fell on her long, fair hair, which hung in curls on her shoulders.

Lights were shining from every window, and there was a delicious smell of roast goose, for it was New Year's eve. In a corner, between two houses, she sank down and huddled herself together. She had drawn her feet under her, but she could not keep off the cold and she dared not go home, for she had sold no matches. Her father would certainly beat her. Besides, it was almost as cold at home as here, for they had only the roof to cover them, through which the wind howled, although the largest holes had been stopped up with straw and rags.

Her hands were almost frozen with the cold. Perhaps a burning match might be some good, if she could draw it from the bundle and strike it against the wall, just to warm her fingers.

(Adapted from *The Little Match Seller* by Hans Christian Andersen)



1. Tick ✓ to show the correct answer.

i. At what time of the year did the story take place?

(1 mark)

a)	on New Year's Day	a)
b)	on New Year's Eve	b)
c)	on Christmas Day	c)
d)	on Easter Sunday	d)

ii. How was the weather?

(1 mark)

a)	very cold and snowing	a)
b)	foggy	b)
c)	windy	c)
d)	warm and sunny	d)

2. Tick ✓ to show whether each sentence is True or False. (4 x ½ =2 marks)

		True	False
a)	The little girl was wearing thick boots.		
b)	The girl kept the matches in an old box.		
c)	The girl did not sell any matches.		
d)	The girl was feeling very cold.		

3. Answer the following questions.

a) Why were the girl's slippers very large?

(2 mark)

b) How did she lose her slippers?

(2 marks)

c) What was the girl trying to sell?

(2 marks)

d) How did the girl know it was New Year's Eve?

(2 marks)

e) Why was the girl afraid to go home?

(2 marks)

f) How did the girl try to keep her feet warm?

(2 marks)

g) Why was the little girl's home very cold?

(2 marks)

h) How do you think the girl tried to warm her hands?

(2 marks)

B. Language

10 marks

B.1. What are they doing?

(5 marks)



The three friends



Ann



Jerry



My friend and I



Mummy

is	are
----	-----

drink	talk	play	read	jump
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Use the words above to describe what the persons in the pictures *are doing*.

a) The three friends_____.

b) Ann_____.

c) Jerry_____.

d) My friend and I_____.

e) Mummy _____.

B.2. Write True or False.

(5 marks)



A



B



C

D

- a) A is lighter than B. _____
- b) C is shorter than D. _____
- c) D is younger than C. _____
- d) B is smaller than A. _____
- e) C is older than D. _____

C. Writing

30 marks

C.1. Imagine this is your dog. Continue the sentences.

(5 marks)



- a) My dog's name is _____.
- b) My dog's fur is _____.
- c) My dog likes to eat _____.
- d) It sleeps _____.
- e) I love my dog because _____.

C.2. Read the poem and fill in the missing words from the list below.

Remember the word chosen has to rhyme with the word above it.

(5 marks)

box	underwear	broom	say	games
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I taught my cat to clean my room

I taught my cat to clean my **room**,
to use a bucket, brush and _____,
to dust my clock and picture **frames**,
and pick up all my toys and _____.

He puts my pants and shirts **away**,
and makes my bed, and I would _____
it seems to me it's only **fair**
he puts away my _____.

In fact, I think he's got it made.
I'm not as happy with our trade.
He may pick up my shoes and **socks**,
but I clean out his litter _____.

Kenn Nesbitt



C.3. Composition

20 marks

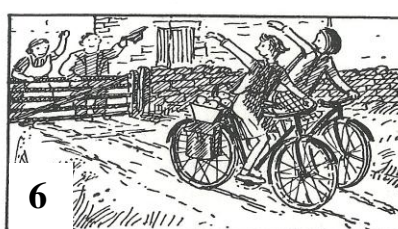
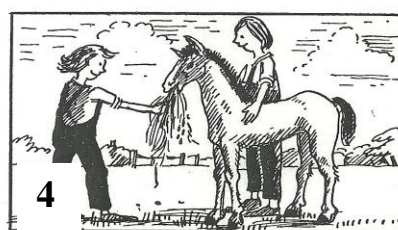
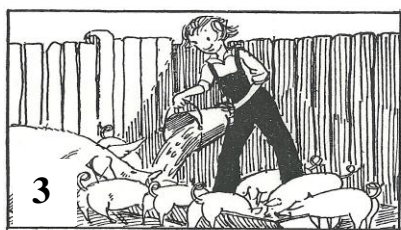
In **not less than 90 words** write **10 sentences** or a **paragraph** on **ONE** of the following:

1. Picture Composition: **A day on Grandpa and Grandma's farm**

Look at the pictures carefully. Write about how Amy and Mariah spent their day on their grandparents' farm.

The following words and phrases may help you:

milk the cows, shed, corn, chickens, pig sty, hay, foal, pick apples, wave



2. **A day in a dog's life**

Imagine you are a dog. Write how you spend your day.

3. **My favourite season**

Which season do you like best? Why? Describe how you spend your time during your favourite season.

4. **I was alone at home watching television. Suddenly, I saw a big rat running across the sitting room floor.** Continue the story.

Title Number: _____

Plan your writing in the space below.

