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THERESA NUZZO SCHOOL MARSA  
Half-Yearly Exams 2019 - 2020

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**GRADE 5 ENGLISH**  
**READING COMPREHENSION**

Wednesday, 19th February, 2020

Time: 50 minutes

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Register Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Marks

(max. 30 marks)

**GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 1**

Look at these notices on the Local Council noticeboard:

(6 marks)

**A performance of  
BLACK BEAUTY  
is showing at Central Theatre.**

Every day at 6:30 p.m.  
An extra performance  
on Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets available for €3 online on  
www.ticketmaster.com. Kids under 12  
go free but they still have to book.

**Until Saturday 29th February, 2020.**

**ITEMS FOR SALE THIS WEEK  
AT THE LOCAL COUNCIL**

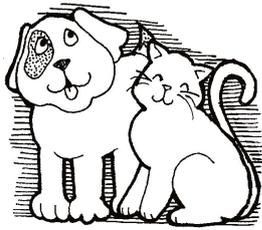
- Wardrobe. Good condition. White oak wood. €250. Call 34298382 to see the item.
- A set of 20 old books including some classics like all the series of **The Chronicles of Narnia**. €10 all the books. Can't be sold separately. Apply at the offices of the local council to see between 6 and 8 p.m.

**PET DAY**

St Christopher's School are organizing a pet day. These are the details:

**Day:** Friday, 13th March, 2020.  
**Time:** From 8:00 till 9:00 a.m.

Parents are to accompany the students with their pets to school and then take the pets with them at 9:00 a.m. Blessing of the animals and a prayer will be said at 8:30 a.m.



**ART COMPETITION**

The Art and Design Club is organizing an **ART COMPETITION** called:

**HOME**

Everyone can submit his own drawing or painting to be judged by an expert panel. All items will be displayed at a later date after the winner is announced on **Saturday, 14th March, 2020.**

Three categories:

CATEGORY A: Children 7-12 years.  
CATEGORY B: Young adults 13-20 years.  
CATEGORY C: Adults (21 years and older).

More details and application form from the Local Council until Saturday, 7th March.

A. Match the days or time to the event. The first one is done for you as an example.

(½ mark each)

TIME OR DAY		EVENT	
1	Saturday 29th February, 2020.	2	You can see the books to buy.
2	Between 6 and 8 p.m.	4	Blessing of the animals.
3	Friday, 13th March, 2020.	5	Applications for ART COMPETITION end.
4	At 8:30 a.m.	1	Last performance of BLACK BEAUTY.
5	Saturday, 7th March, 2020.	3	Pet Day at St Christopher's School.

B. Give short answers.

(½ mark each)

1. How much is the wardrobe selling for? €250
2. At what time does the Pet Day activity end? 9:00 a.m.
3. How many categories are there in the Art Competition? 3
4. How much do kids pay to see the performance Black Beauty? Nothing
5. What is the title of the Art Competition? Home
6. How many performances of Black Beauty are there on Sunday? 2
7. How many old books are on sale? 20
8. If you were to enter the Art Competition, which category would you be in?

Category A

**GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 2****SECTION 1**

(10 marks)

**FAYIM'S INCREDIBLE JOURNEY**

This text is based on a true story. Fayim and his family are forced out of their home because of war. They have to make a terrifying journey across the mountains of Afghanistan to get to safety. (paragraph 1)

By the time they reached the horse trading post, Fayim was exhausted. Dazed, he stared at the crowds. Everyone seemed to be shouting at the tops of their voices.

(paragraph 2)

Suddenly Baby stopped, rolling his eyes in terror, and refused to budge. Fayim looked round, just in time to see his father and brothers disappear into the crowd.

(paragraph 3)

“Dad! Abdul! Khalid!” he yelled. But it was no use. They couldn’t hear him. Fayim but both arms round Baby’s neck, too tired to go on. For the first time since he left home, he began to cry. This was a terrible place. He wished they had never come.

(paragraph 4)

“Hey, kid! What’s the matter?”

Fayim looked up to see a boy not much older than himself. He wiped away his tears on the back of his sleeve. “I — I’ve lost my family,” he said. “And my donkey’s sick. He has sore feet.” (paragraph 5)

“You’d better take him over there.” The boy jerked his head towards a small crowd gathered round a parked van. “The vet comes specially to cure sick animals. He’ll soon put your donkey right.”



“Thanks!” Fayim pulled Baby towards the van. (paragraph 6)

A. Underline the correct answer. (½ mark each)

1. Fayim's family stopped at the (restaurant, camp, horse trading post).
2. There were (no, a lot of, few) people.
3. (A boy, a girl, a man) spoke to Fayim.
4. Baby was the (vet's, donkey's, boy's) name.

B. Tick: True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG) (½ mark each)

		T	F	NIG
1	Fayim was very tired.	✓		
2	The boy who spoke to Fayim was called Ahmed.			✓
3	Fayim was lost.	✓		
4	Fayim thought that the place was very nice.		✓	
5	The boy told Fayim how to cure the donkey.		✓	
6	There was a vet at the post.	✓		

C. Answer these questions (1 mark each)

1. In which country is this story set?

**Afghanistan.**

2. Why were the people in the crowd shouting?

**They were trying to sell their horses/animals.**

3. What were Fayim's brothers called?

**Abdul and Khalid**

4. What was wrong with the donkey?

**It was sick and had sore feet. (Both reasons have to be given for the mark.)**

5. Give ONE reason why Fayim was crying.

**He thought the place was terrible; he was lost; his donkey was sick.**

## FAYIM'S INCREDIBLE JOURNEY (*continued*)

The vet was a tall man in a white coat. He picked up Baby's sore feet and looked at them closely. Then he gave Fayim a small pot of ointment and showed him how to put it on. (paragraph 7)

"Fayim! What do you think you're doing?"

Fayim jumped at the sound of his father's angry voice. "Oh, Dad— this man is an animal doctor. He's given me some stuff to put on Baby's feet." (paragraph 8)

"Are you mad? You know we can't afford to pay for medicines." His father looked very worried. "Give it back to him. Tell him you don't want it." (paragraph 9)

"It's free," said a man in a grey turban. "You don't have to pay."

"Free?" His father looked stunned. "But how... ?"

"This is an animal clinic," the man explained. "The vet comes every day to treat the horses." (paragraph 10)

His father shook his head wonderingly.

"Perhaps he would treat ours, too? Some of them are very weak."

Fayim caught his sleeve. "Dad, you're not angry with me, are you?"

His father shook his head. "No, son. I'm not angry. You've looked after Baby well. I'm proud of you." (paragraph 11)

"But are you going to sell him?" Fayim asked, anxiously.

"Sell him? Of course not. Baby is our future. He'll be almost all we have to start again, once we've sold the horses."

His father smiled. "Khalid has gone to the camp to find your mother and sisters. Soon we shall all be together again." (paragraph 12)

Fayim felt so happy he gave Baby a hug. "We did it!" he whispered in the little donkey's ear. "We're only young but we walked over the mountains. And now we're going to make a new start, Baby. You and me!" (paragraph 13)



**D. Tick: True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG)**

(½ mark each)

		T	F	NIG
1	The vet examined Baby's sore feet carefully.	✓		
2	The vet was around 40 years old.			✓
3	Fayim paid some money for the ointment.		✓	
4	The vet's service was free.	✓		
5	Fayim's family were very rich.		✓	
6	Fayim's family owned some horses.	✓		
7	Dad was not going to sell the donkey.	✓		
8	Fayim had three sisters.			✓

**E. Underline the best answer from the brackets.**

(½ mark each)

- The ointment that the vet gave to Fayim was in a (jar, pot, case).
- The vet (told, showed, explained) to Fayim how to put the ointment on Baby's feet.
- Fayim's dad told him to (give back, keep, pay for) the medicine.
- The vet comes to the post (every month, every week, daily).
- (Some, All, Many) of the horses were very weak.
- Fayim's dad thought that the donkey was very (precious, old, worthless).

**F. Answer these questions:**

(½ mark each)

- What was the vet wearing?

A white coat

- How do you know that Fayim's family were poor? Give ONE reason.

They did not have money for the medicine. They had to sell their horses. Dad said that Baby was their only possession once they have sold the horses.

**NOW, ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT BOTH SECTIONS**

**G. How did they feel? Pick one word from the box and put it in the FEELING’S column. Use each word ONCE. One is done for you as an example. (½ mark each)**

surprised—upset—worried—exhausted—happy—anxious—angry—proud—afraid

1	How did Fayim feel ...	FEELING
a	... when they reached the horse trading post?	exhausted
b	... when his father and brothers went away?	afraid
c	... when he was crying?	upset
d	... when he asked his father if he were to sell Baby?	anxious
e	... when his father told him that he’s not going to sell Baby?	happy

2	How did Fayim’s dad feel ...	FEELING
a	... when he discovered that Fayim took Baby to the vet?	angry
b	... when he knew that Fayim got some medicine from the vet?	worried
c	... when he realised that the vet service was for free?	surprised
d	... when he told Fayim that he took care of Baby well?	proud

**H. Answer this questions (2 marks)**

1. For the first time since he left home, he began to cry. This was a terrible place. He wished they had never come. (paragraph 4)

Do you think it was important for Fayim’s family to move away from home? Why do you think so?

It was important because they were fleeing the war. It was dangerous for them to stay at home because they could be killed/injured in war.

*Do not accept: because he did not like the place; because he was crying; because the place was terrible.*

**END OF THE READING COMPREHENSION PAPER**