

The English School

Diagnostic Examination 2020

ENGLISH

Time Allowed: **1hr**

General Instructions:

1. Answer all questions
2. Write neatly
4. Check your work carefully at the end

Time Guidance:

Section A: Information Retrieval and Vocabulary (40 marks) – 20 mins

Section B: Usage (35 marks) – 20 mins

Section C: Writing Task (25 marks) – 20 mins

Good Luck!

Section A: Information Retrieval and Vocabulary

(40 marks)

Read the following adapted article from *The Guardian* 'Take a Last Look' about polar bears and answer the questions that follow.

Take a Last Look

They are one of our most beloved animals – but their world is melting away.

Polar bears are one of the most dangerous predators on planet earth. So why do we love them so much? Our fascination goes back a long way. For example Brumas, a polar bear who lived in London Zoo in the 1940s and in nine years attracted three million visitors. He was a celebrity.

I think we are fascinated with them because they remind us of our childhood – those warm and cuddly toy bears that were with us on dark nights when we couldn't sleep. And as humans, we make links to the way mothers behave with their cubs: teaching them, training them, slapping them, cuddling them.

But the polar bears' world is melting away.

For many months of the year, while they are mating and looking after their cubs, the bears do not eat. They live off the thick layer of fat that lies beneath their double layer of fur, which keeps out the cold of -40c or more. It's when this fat layer runs out that the bears are threatened with dying of starvation unless they can find food quickly.

When the ice forms, the polar bears walk out in search of seals. They are amazing on ice, when you consider they can weigh 600kg to 800kg and are up to two-and-a-half metres tall. Their feet are covered in fur, which helps them move fast and silently, without slipping.

But global warming means the ice is forming later. They have to adjust quickly to this late forming of ice. They might have to wait several weeks before they can get on the ice to find prey. To allow these bears to survive – and, of course, many other species – we must manage our planet.



Answer the questions that follow in complete sentences.

1. Who was Brumas? Find three facts about him.

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

(3 marks)

2. List 2 reasons why we are fascinated with polar bears.

a) _____

b) _____

(2 marks)

3. Write down four ways in which polar bears behave towards their cubs.

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

(4 marks)

4. a) What do polar bears live off for many months of the year?

(1 mark)

b) When do they need to start looking for food again?

(1 mark)

c) What animal do polar bears eat?

(1 mark)

5. Re-write the following sentences, correcting any grammatical, punctuation or spelling mistakes you find. There are 5 mistakes in total.

A polar Bear is a very heavy animal which had to walk in ice in order to find food. If there is no ice - they cannot search for food and therefor may die of starvation.

(5 marks)

6. How heavy are polar bears?

(1 mark)

7. Why can they move across ice without slipping?

(1 mark)

8.

a) What is threatening polar bears' survival?

(1 mark)

b) Explain why this affects them?

(2 marks)

9. Tick if the following statements are true or false, according to the passage.

Statement	True	False
The polar bears' world is falling apart.		
Burmas brought many visitors to London Zoo.		
The bears do not eat for many months in the year because they are too busy hunting and storing food.		
The fur of a polar bear is its main protection against the cold.		
When their fat layers run out, they have lots of time to find food.		
Without ice, polar bears are not able to find food.		

(6 marks)

9. Find the words in the text that match with words and phrases below. The first one has been done as an example.

favourite

beloved

hunter

interest

baby polar bear

act together

smacking

fading

food shortage

target

adapt

universal

stay alive

control

(12 marks)

Section B: Usage

(35 marks)

1. Write 5 sentences about the day you came to The English School for the entrance exams.

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

(5 marks)

2. Write a paragraph (about 50 words) about your first day at school after a long time away.

You may write about the following:

- The people you saw and how they behaved
- What the best moments were.



(8 marks)

3. Complete the following sentences with the correct pronoun from the ones listed below. Use each pronoun only once.

His **They** **You** **My** **Her**

- a) She will be going on holiday with _____ family.
- b) What time are _____ going tonight?
- c) My sister is not enjoying _____ day.
- d) I have been very upset about _____ pet's illness.
- e) _____ (plural) will be moving to England in the summer.

(5 marks)

4. Write the questions to these answers, as in the example.

Example: I'm fine thank you.

Answer: How are you?

- a) Simon is coming to the party.

- b) We have had very bad weather.

c) I am feeling ill.

d) It is 12 o'clock.

e) I am at the park.

(5 marks)

5. There is one mistake in each of these sentences. Find it and re-write the sentence correctly, as in the example.

Example: There books are on the shelf

Answer: Their books are on the shelf.

a) Were are you going?

b) I haven't some money in my wallet.

c) My eyes is brown in colour.

d) My grandparents house is in the mountains.

e) There enjoying their breakfast.

f) Why aren't you cut your hair?

g) Whose going to come with me tomorrow?

h) Her is the one to blame.

(8 marks)

6. Fill in the spaces by giving the opposite word to the one in brackets, as in the example.

Example: I can't swim here. The water is _____ (deep)

Answer: I can't swim here. The water is shallow.

a) Maria was very _____ with her sister. (rude)

b) The present you gave me was _____. (terrible)

c) I am usually _____ with my homework. (late)

d) She is _____ when I need help. (caring)

(4 marks)

Section C: Writing Task

(25 marks)



Write about a time when you visited a place with lots of animals.

Write around 200 words.

- Explain where it was and what you were doing there
- Describe what it was like
- Make sure you include your feelings.

- This is the end of the examination –