GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Exam - Dogs (Year 9)

TEST PAPER

1 hour 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer all questions in Section A.

Select one title to use for your writing in Section B.

Write your answers on a separate sheet.

You are advised to spend your time as follows:

Section A	- about 10 minutes reading
	- about 50 minutes answering the questions
Section B	- about 10 minutes planning
	- about 35 minutes writing

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Section A (Reading): 40 marks

Section B (Writing): 20 marks

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

I think I'm in love

This summer India Knight got a puppy. Cats are all very well, she says, but if you want to be a better person, get a dog

It would be ridiculous to speak of dogs "having a moment" — they're living creatures, not a designer handbag. Nevertheless, after years of cat domination, dogs are suddenly everywhere: at Ralph Lauren and Gucci (both brands now have a pet section), at John Lewis, which boasts a new pet department, in apps such as Doggity, which lists dog-friendly pubs and restaurants, and even in O2's current ad campaign, with its strapline: Be More Dog.

Dogs are also having a moment in my house. Last June, after months of deliberation — and I really wouldn't advise anyone to get a dog on the spur of the moment — we went to Sheffield to collect our puppy, Brodie (from a proper, Kennel Club-registered breeder. Never obtain a dog from Gumtree or a pet shop; google "puppy farming" if you don't know why). It was passionate love at first, well, second — we'd picked him from the litter several weeks beforehand — sight.

I was not always a dog person, even when I had a dog before. Looking after dogs properly takes a lot of time, and it's not necessarily time you have if you also have small children. But I've always been more dog than cat. All of the things that people admire in cats — their aloofness, their fickleness, the fact that they like you well enough but can basically take you or leave you — are traits I don't find very likeable. Dogs, on the other hand, are enthusiasts. They love everything. They love walks. They love grass. They love leaves. They love sticks. They love running and jumping and eating and having naps. They are the most extraordinary life-enhancers. They're also brilliant companions, and I say that as someone who lives with five other people. They don't merely tolerate being stroked or petted: dog trainers will tell you that, for dogs, being patted or cuddled is even better than a delicious edible treat. They just love you and want to be happy with you. It's extraordinarily touching. I think dogs make you a better person.

I used to laugh hysterically at people who said that having a dog was a bit like having a small child, but, actually, if you do it properly, it sort of is. A couple of months ago, my partner and I were away for the weekend, sans Brodie. We were having an idyllic time, which didn't stop me from wondering out loud what Brodie was doing. "Playing, probably," my partner said, looking wistful. And then we became aghast and said: "Good grief, what have we become?" Dog people, is the answer. We are dog people, and it's a complete joy.

(The Sunday Times 17 November 2013
http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/style/homes_and_gardens/pets/article1339234.ece)

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Pet Cruelties

"Get out of the way, dog, or I'll give you a kick." These very words I have heard over and over again from the mouths of people on such occasions towards the very animal that at other times they would fondle and make very much of indeed. And I've seen the dog, after one wistful look at the well-loved face, creep away out of sight and throw himself down in a corner with a big sigh, and a big cold lump at his heart.

Never, I pray you, be cross with your poor dog, or scold him if he does not deserve it, just because you happen to be peevish. For no friend in the world can love you better, and certainly none will be so faithful to you... Others may turn from you, others may be angry with you for faults you have committed, he will never believe you in the wrong; you are always in his eyes the beloved mistress that can do no wrong, and, if you are in grief, he will share and try to lick away your tears. Short–alas! too short–are the lives of our poor dogs at the best. If, then, our hearts be not as hard as stones, we should feel it to be our duty to make them as happy as possible while they do live.

Dogs and cats are both jealous of the attentions paid by a master or mistress to other animals, therefore, in your favourite's presence you ought not to make too much of another animal, for he or she will think about it, and be unhappy over it for days together. What I wish you, dear reader, to believe and remember is this: one does not do one's whole duty towards a domestic pet by simply supplying it with food, drink and shelter. Because animals have minds. Dogs especially will not and cannot be happy unless they have a good deal of your society. You may take a dog or a cat into the room with you and let it lie beside you while you are at work because, while lying there at your feet, or near you, the animal is at all events easy in his mind because you are with him. A dog or cat thinks a very great deal about the absent mistress. This is why he is so excited when you return home after an absence of some duration. He has been thinking about you all the time; you have been in his mind by day and in his dreams at night. He may have imagined that you would never, never return. That evil had befallen you; some danger happened to you which, had he been with you, he could have warded off, or, worst thought of all, he may have imagined that you had forgotten him. And so when you do return, your faithful dog will take leave of his senses entirely for a time, and simply go wild with fun and joy.

You never should leave a pet animal when going from home without a kind word, even if it be but a bird. For even a bird right soon knows the meaning of those little words, "Good-bye, Dickie, accompanied by the kindly nod and smile.

Always see before you leave the house that your favourite has a good supply of food and water. The sufferings of poor dumb animals for want of water are sometimes so great that it quite harrows one's feelings to think of them.

(The Girl's Own Paper, 1884http://www.victorianvoices.net/ARTICULES/GOP/Pets/1884-Pet-Cruelties.pdf)

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

SECTION A : 40 marks

Answer **all** the following questions.

'Pet Cruelties' is an article taken from 'The Girl's Own Paper'.

The passage, 'I think I'm in love…' is an article produced by India Knight.

Read the article by India Knight.

A1. Name the dog app that is mentioned in the article? [1]

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A2. Name one place where you should never get a dog from. [1]

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A3. Write down two qualities that some people like about cats? [2]

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A4. Look at paragraph three. Explain what India Knight means when she says dogs are, 'enthusiasts'.

[2]

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A5. In the final paragraph, India Knight mentions that her partner is looking, 'wistful'. What do you think the writer means when she uses this phrase? [2]

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A6. India Knight tells us that she has become a 'dog person'. How does she persuade the reader that she loves having a pet dog?

[10]

Quote	How does this persuade you that she likes having a dog?	Techniques used (if any)

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Now read the article, 'Pet Cruelties'.

A7. Look at the first paragraph. How does a dog behave when it has been told off by its owner? [2]

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A8. In the second paragraph the writer uses the word, 'peevish'. What does this word mean? Read the whole paragraph to help you work out the meaning of this word. [1]

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A9. Give 5 reasons why the writer thinks that dog owners should be kind to their pets. [5]

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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A10. According to these two writers, how can owning a dog improve the life of its owner?
[4]

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A11. Both of these texts are about owning a dog. Compare what the writers say about what makes a poor dog owner. [10]

Information from text 1	Information from text 2	Differences or similarities

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SECTION B : 20 marks

Answer Question B1

In this section you will be assessed for the quality of your writing skills.

For this question, 12 marks are awarded for content and organisation; 8 marks are awarded for sentence structure, punctuation and spelling.

Think about the purpose and audience for your writing.

You should aim to write about 300-400 words for this task.

B1. 'For no friend in the world can love you better, and certainly none will be so faithful to you...'

You have been asked to write an article for a teenage magazine about friendship.

You may wish to choose to give advice, share stories, entertain your readers or any other ideas you can think of.

Remember to write in full sentences. Do not use abbreviations, text language or slang.

Write your article. [20]

The space below can be used to plan your work.

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