SECTION 2

Comprehension

Task 5 - Poetry	Carefully read the poem below and answer questions 26 to 32 using complete sentences.

The Donkey

I saw a donkey
One day old,
His head was too big
For his neck to hold;
His legs were shaky
And long and loose,
They rocked and staggered
And weren't much use.
He tried to gambol*
And frisk a bit,
But he wasn't sure
Of the trick of it.
His queer little coat
Was soft and grey
And curled at his neck
In a lovely way.
His face was wistful
And left no doubt
That he felt life needed
Some thinking out.
So he blundered round
In venturous quest
And then lay flat
On the ground to rest.
He looked so little
And weak and slim
I prayed the world
Might be good to him.

Gertrude Hinds

* gambol — skipping about

26. How old was the donkey at the beginning of the poem? (1 mark)

27. Give **two** words to describe the appearance of the donkey in the poem. (2 marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

28. Which sense does the poet mainly appeal to in the poem? Write a line to support your answer. (2 marks)

Sense: _____

Line: _____

29. Explain why the donkey laid flat on the ground. (2 marks)

30. "But he wasn't sure of the trick of it" (lines 11 to 12), what does that line tell about the donkey? (2 marks)

31. Write a line from the poem that shows that the donkey could not walk well. (2 marks)

32. Quote the lines in the poem that suggests that the poet cared about the donkey. (2 marks)

TOTAL: (13 MARKS) 13

LIVEWORKSHEETS