



## First Quarter Examination

Student's name: .....

Teacher's name: .....

Sex: Male  Female

Date: ...../...../.....

Class: ...../Grade: 4

Time allowance: 60 mn

### Reading

40

#### I. **Read the passage and complete the sentences below.**

**Tigers:** They're big, brave and scary, right? Well, not necessarily it seems, if we believe this story from a zoo in China.

The Chongqing Wild Animal Park has five rare adult white tigers. The original idea was to train them and make them tame enough to perform tricks for visitors, but it now seems that the process may have gone a bit too far.

According to one of their keepers, the tigers have started to lose their true nature because they've been cared for by humans and now have quite a comfortable lifestyle. Keepers have been trying to get them to follow their natural instincts by teaching them to hunt, but the results so far are not encouraging.

**The keeper says:** "It was quite funny really. The tigers were so scared of other live animals. They wouldn't go near them." In the end, the tigers did work up enough courage to approach a potential meal but only because it had passed out. The problem was, when it regained consciousness and started making noises, they immediately ran for cover.

So, how do you make a cowardly tiger brave again? In an attempt to toughen them up, the keepers are now not allowing them to stay in their heated cages for more than 12 hours a day. If this doesn't do the trick, the next plan is to put a wild tiger in with them to show them how things are supposed to be done. But perhaps you've already spotted the fault with this: what if the domesticated tigers are afraid of their wild cousin? "If all else fails", says their keeper, "we will just have to cut down their food till they have no choice but to find food for themselves."

#### 1. According to the writer, tigers are...

- probably less frightening than they seem.
- usually thought of as brave animals.
- easier to domesticate than expected.

#### 2. The Wild Animal Park wanted the tigers to...

- entertain visitors.
- return to the wild.
- appear more scary.

#### 3. The problem with the tigers is that they...

- have become dependent on people.
- were born and brought up in the zoo.

seem to be too difficult to train.

**4. The tigers went up to one animal because...**

it was less aggressive.

it had lost consciousness.

they had got used to it.

**5. The keepers are now trying to change the tigers' behaviour by...**

putting them with wild tigers.

making their cages less comfortable.

keeping them outside for longer.

**6. In the end, the zoo may have to...**

teach the tigers to hunt.

let the tigers go free.

feed the tigers less.

**II. Choose the best title for each paragraph.**

1. Studies say that people nowadays have more free time than ever before. Then why doesn't it feel that way? These days, our free time is usually spent watching television, using computers or communicating on our phones. Images and information are constantly flashing into our brains, so it's no wonder we don't feel as if we have really switched off. To really wind down and help us regain our energy levels, it is important to use our free time wisely

1. Why it's so hard	2. Make a difference
3. Get creative	4. Guard your time
5. Do what you want	6. Change your life
7. Set a date	8. Meet likeminded people
9. Plan ahead	10. Establish your goals

2. Think about what you want to achieve in your free time. Do you want to get fit, get creative or simply relax? Don't worry about what you ought to be doing, just think about what will make you feel more content.

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3. Plan when you are going to enjoy your free time, and treat it in the same way as anything else on your calendar. If something else more important comes along, you can choose whether or not to postpone it, but never cancel it!

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4. But don't go overboard. Many people worry too much about their free time activities. They want to do things that will impress their friends, look good on their résumés or help them get a better job. But free time isn't about that. It is about doing an activity for enjoyment's sake, so don't let outside pressures influence your choice.

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5. In many free time activities, we take the role of consumer. When we watch TV, play video games or read, we are only passively involved. Take on the role of producer for a change. Build a model, write a blog or make an animation film. You will use a different part of your brains and will feel more energised as a result.

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6. Once you're relaxed and energised, you can think about what you'd like to improve in your life. Want to get fit? Learn a skill? Improve your job prospects? There are plenty of groups, clubs and classes you can join that will set you on a completely new life path. So what are you waiting for? Get out there and enjoy yourself!

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**III. Read the web article and tick the notes. Choose the correct answer in each gap from the article.**

If Only They Could Talk Does your pet have a problem? In an advertisement on a website, an 'expert in animal communication' states that she can talk to animals, ask them their problems and what kind of assistance they would like from you, and report back to you. All animals and all kinds of problems are within her capabilities. An exact fee is not given, but you are discreetly encouraged to 'contact her for further information'. Until now, it has been generally believed that only humans possess language. Attempts were made in the 1960s to teach human speech to chimpanzees – two animals managed to communicate with humans in this way, but with limitations, and scientists later decided that they were not producing true language, but only responding to prompts. Recent scientific breakthroughs, however, may mean we have to question our assumptions about how animals communicate. Several scientists claim to have discovered that some animals use verbs, nouns and adjectives, just as we do. By studying the distress calls of some animal species and videotaping the animals as they made them, he was able to see what the animal was reacting to. He found that the cries told their fellows what kind of predator was approaching, and how fast it was moving. They could tell the difference between individual predators, using such information as their hunting habits, and if the threat was a man, they could to some extent describe his size and shape, the colour of his clothing, and even whether he was

carrying a gun. Different colonies of one species were found to have different dialects, which proved that the calls cannot be inborn, but must have been learned from previous generations. A psychologist has given further weight to these ideas by claiming to have discovered not just that some animals can communicate more complex ideas than previously thought, but also that some of this 'language' can be understood by other species. His team recorded monkeys' calls and found that, as in the other experiment, these changed according to the threat or opportunity approaching. When the team played back the calls to other monkeys, they understood the different meanings. More surprisingly still, it was found that other monkey species could differentiate between the calls, and so could certain species of birds. So perhaps the Internet 'expert' is right. If so, what could this mean for humanity? We have long regarded ourselves as unique amongst animals, and accepted that this confers rights upon us to rule over our fellow creatures. Must we reconsider our position? Only time will tell.

1. Our idea that we are the only ones on the planet to \_\_\_\_\_ may now be in doubt.

- possess a language
- species
- responding to prompts

2. Early experiments with human-animal communication suggested that the animals were simply \_\_\_\_\_

- responding to prompts
- threat or opportunity
- species

3. The animals' calls differentiated between a man with \_\_\_\_\_ and one without.

- a gun
- inborn
- responding to prompts

4. The claim that some animals can communicate across \_\_\_\_\_ is a particularly interesting finding.

- reconsider
- threat or opportunity
- species

5. These findings suggest that we may need to \_\_\_\_\_ how we treat other animals.

- reconsider
- a gun
- inborn