



English

Year 7

MARCH EXAMINATION 2021

1 hr. 30 min

Additional Materials:

- Soft clean eraser
- Soft pencil (type B or HB recommended)

Read these instructions first

This paper contains 6 sections Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

Do **not** use staples, paper clips, and glue or correction fluid.

Any rough working should be done in the rough work booklet provided.

NAME:

DATE:

SCORE:

TOTAL MARKS:

[Turn over]

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION. (15 marks.)

Read passage below and answer the questions that follow.

California's Unlikely Warriors.

Over 100 years ago in America, Californian orchards were almost destroyed by a plague of thousands of tiny creatures called scale insects. These tiny sap-sucking bugs were attacking the orange trees and ruining all the fruit.

Scale insects had never been seen in America before. So where had they come from?

Eventually the invasion was traced to some acacia plants that had been shipped in from Australia.

The scale insects spread so quickly that unless something was done to get rid of them, the whole fruit industry in California would be ruined. The situation was so bad that Californian fruit growers were pulling up their fruit trees and burning them to destroy the pests. Soon, the takeover started to spread to other parts of America. Different kinds of pesticides were used to try to kill the insects but none of them worked.

By now thousands of orange trees were dying.

A professor from the Department of Agriculture, Charles V. Riley, suggested that the scale insects might be controlled by introducing other insects to feed on them. But no-one listened to him.

No-one had ever heard such a theory before! They thought it was a crazy idea and laughed at his suggestion. This made Mr. Riley more determined. He was sure that he was right.

He had heard that in Australia, scale insects were much less of a problem. So, why was this?

Why were the Australians not suffering the same damage to their trees and plants?

Mr. Riley predicted that the Australian scale insects must have a natural enemy that was reducing their numbers. Eventually he was able to persuade a researcher called Alfred Koebele to go to Australia to try to find out if this was the case.

In Australia, Mr. Koebele visited many of the trees that attracted scale insects and made a surprising discovery – a large number of small colorful beetles were living in them. They were ladybirds, and everywhere he found scale insects on the fruit trees of Australia, he found ladybirds feasting on them. Mr. Koebele scooped up as many of the little red and black creatures as he could and sent them back to California.

When the unlikely warriors were set free in one of the dying Californian orange groves, they cleared all the scale insects from the trees in just a few days. The original 350 ladybirds sent from Australia multiplied at such a staggering rate that by June that year over 10,000 were available to be distributed to fruit growers across California. The speed at which the pests were wiped out was astonishing. One grower, who had abandoned all hope for his young orange trees, was able to harvest two to three boxes of oranges from each tree by the end of the growing season.

So successful was the experiment that soon the Americans were breeding and distributing more and more ladybirds. Not only that, but before long other countries around the world also decided to import and breed Australian ladybirds.

Because of this remarkable result, we now know a lot more about these ladybirds.

We know that scale insects are their favourite food and that some ladybirds can eat large amounts in a day. Ladybirds also like to eat honeydew, nectar and pollen – but they still need insects to help them grow and breed.

Today, scientists are still studying ways of using insects to help control the pests and parasites that regularly destroy our plants and trees. As we learn about some of the damage that chemical pesticides can cause, it seems even more important to take care of small creatures that can help us protect our environment.

There is an old superstition which says that ladybirds bring you luck. They certainly brought good fortune to the fruit growers of California!

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS.

1. What is the name of the tiny creatures that almost destroyed Californian orchards? (1)

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2. What does the reader learn about the speed of the scale insects in line 6? (1)

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3. How bad was the situation for Californian fruit farmers? (2).

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4. Why did nobody listen to Charles V. Riley's suggestion? (2).

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5. Read paragraph five. What surprising discovery did Mr. Koebele make? (1).

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6. Who are the unlikely warriors according to the passage? (1).

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7. Find and copy three statements from the passage that show the extent to which Mr. Koebele's experiment was successful. (3).

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8. Describe how ladybirds eat. What is their favourite food? (2).

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9. Why should we take care of small creatures? (1).

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10. What does the old superstition say about ladybirds? (1).

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Grammar

2. (A) Underline the examples of dramatic language in the following sentences. (3mks)

- i.** The protester was trembling with rage as she approached the police.

- ii.** For a moment, the crowd was silent. Then their roars nearly brought the roof down.

- iii.** The circus performers delivered a jaw-dropping, nerve-shredding routine.

(B) Rewrite the following sentences by changing the vocabulary to make them more dramatic. (3mks)

(i) She struck the ball hard into the back of the net.

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(ii) Several trees are blocking the road after last night's storm

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(iii) The police chased the gang along the motorway at full speed.

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(C) For each rewritten sentence from Activity 2a, explain how your vocabulary choices have made it more dramatic. (3mks)

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

PRESENT TENSE

3. Rewrite each of these headlines in the present tense.

a. Teenager broke world record! (1mk)

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b. Dog saved owner from cow (1mk)

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c. Woman survived thirty-metre fall (1mk)

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4. Write a news article about the damage caused to a town by a hurricane. Think about what happened, when and where it happened and who was affected. Remember to include a dramatic headline, the details of what happened and some dramatic vocabulary (10mks)

Headline:
Main Text:

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Presenting and organising a letter

5. The letter below was intended to be a formal letter of complaint. Look through it carefully and circle any words or features that do not conform to the proper way of presenting a letter, or are missing entirely. In the margin, write notes indicating how you would correct the mistakes. (5 mks)

November

Hello Sir,

I was very disappointed with the chair that I ordered from your website.

It fell apart as soon as my cousin sat on it. Please give me my money back immediately.

Thanks,
Tom
22 Broke Lane
Oxford
OX4 4OX

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6. Checking spelling, punctuation and grammar

i. Look at the following sentences and circle the mistakes in each one. Then rewrite each sentence correctly.

a. They had never seen an elephant before, they were amazed. (1mk)

b. I could see he was bleeding, I ran over to help (1mk)

c. It was her first ever birthday party. She was so excited (1mk)

Verb suffixes

ii. Circle the verbs in the table below that are spelt incorrectly. (4mks)

flap	flapped	flapping
stomp	stompped	stompping
reload	reloadedd	reloadingg
chat	chatted	chatting

iii. Look at the following sentences. Each has one word underlined and some replacement words suggested in the box beneath the sentence. Rewrite each sentence, improving it by replacing the underlined word with one from the box. (3mks)

a. The storm outside was bad. (Violent, Loud, Ugly, Evil)

b. The tiger bared its big teeth and growled. (Shinny, White, Savage, Dirty)

c. She was tense with anger. (Sore. Mad. Anxious, Trembling)

iv. Look at the following task and read the student's response that follows.

Task: Imagine a story about a character who faces a situation in which they may die. Write an extract from this scene.

Response: We have been walking for three hours by the time the sun came up. We were happy because we had been walking for three hours and we liked the feel of the weight coming off our feet because now that our boots could no longer be heard the carm of the mountain was nice. Everything feels carm and nice and at peace
Then we heard a huge sound like a blender and high above us just below the peak, a huge bit

of the white separated from the mountain and seemed to fall and we were all really tired. “Avalanche!” someone said and we got back to our feet. It was obvious we wouldn’t make it. We stomped like elephants in mud. The avalanche got even more quicker. It was swept up more and more snow as it raced down the mountainside. then I triped and now I too was racing down the mountain on my chest

You are going to improve and extend this response. (8mks)

a. Underline any spelling or punctuation mistakes.

b. Underline any verbs that are in the wrong tense

c. Write *a short* story from the response given by the student

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