

# Hillcrest High School

Grade 11

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE P1**

**MAY/JUNE 2024**

**MARKS:** 70

**TIME:** 2 Hours

**EXAMINER:** Miss S. Boyce

**MODERATOR:** Mrs N. Atkinson

## INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Read and follow ALL instructions carefully.
2. This paper consists of THREE sections:
  - SECTION A: Comprehension (30 marks)
  - SECTION B: Summary (10 marks)
  - SECTION C: Language (30 marks)You are required to answer questions from all three sections.
3. Use your time carefully. Suggested time management:
  - Section A: approximately 50 minutes
  - Section B: approximately 30 minutes
  - Section C: approximately 40 minutes
4. Draw a 2cm wide margin on the right-hand side of each page of your answer booklet.
5. Leave a line after each answer.
6. Answer ALL questions.
7. Rule off after each section.
8. Number each answer exactly as the question paper is numbered.
9. Pay special attention to spelling and sentence construction
10. It is in your own interests to write and present your work neatly.

**SECTION A: COMPREHENSION**

**QUESTION 1:**

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

**TEXT A**

**Why Every Teenager Needs a Cat**

1 There are lots of us - typical animal-loving kids - who ceaselessly pester their parents for a pet: pitching presentations on the advantages of a furry friend, promising to undertake responsibilities way beyond our capabilities, randomly dropping the benefits of animal ownership into conversations. Yes, I did all of those things. I can now say that having a cat has been nothing short of what I imagined it to be. It was only once I'd adopted my new feline companion, Sebastian, that I truly recognized the unanticipated ways that he benefitted me, particularly as a teenager.

2 The teenage years are an undeniably difficult time with endless exams catapulted on us and not enough time for much else. Statistics have shown that 61% of teens say they feel a lot of pressure to get good grades ([www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org)). In the 18-24 age bracket, 60% of young people have felt so stressed by the pressure to succeed that they have felt overwhelmed or unable to cope and almost six out of ten young people said they have become stressed because of a fear of making mistakes ([www.mentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk)).

3 These are worryingly high statistics that clearly need to be addressed. On a personal level, having a cat has helped alleviate daily stressors - just petting or playing with my cat relaxes me and helps take my mind off what is bothering me.

4 I was not surprised to learn that stroking a cat releases oxytocin (a hormone that can induce anti-stress-like effects) and that the sound of a cat's purr can calm nerves and lower blood pressure. I'm not saying that animal companionship is the sole answer to our problems, or that it will fully resolve them, but there is a chance it could make a difference.

5 On a related note, he's a good friend. For many young people, it's difficult steering their way through the discord and disputes of friendship issues and the consequential feelings of loneliness. Having a cat means benefitting from a loyal, understanding companion by your side - animals are always willing to listen even when your other friends are ghosting. Although their purrs and meows can't give any advice on the situation at hand, cats won't judge or argue, which is sometimes all you need when you're feeling hurt.

6 Although cats are independent animals, they still require considerable care and attention. Feeding needs to be scheduled and monitored and food types tailored to your cat's health and breed requirements. Playtimes and grooming must also be consistently sustained on a daily basis to prevent health problems and boredom.

7 Cats depend on you just as much as you enjoy their companionship - feline friendship is a two-way street. With hectic teenage lives, reciprocating their love means making enough time to spend with them amongst our numerous commitments.

8 An important lesson Baz has taught me is the value of being organized. I've learned to schedule his responsibilities alongside my own which has helped me to develop this vital life skill. Thanks to him, I've found the demands of school and extra-curricular activities less stressful and easier to manage overall.

9 Finally, Sebastian is like having a live 'funny cats' YouTube video to enjoy 24/7. Hilarious videos of whimsical and energetic cats have taken over the internet and there's a reason why. With the heaviness of teenage life these days, young people use these videos to relieve stress.

10 Their humorous nature releases endorphins which boost our mood and essentially make us happier. As comical as these videos may be, watching your own cat's mischief can be even more entertaining.

- 11 Sebastian has stolen treats, fallen off fences, and destroyed toys to pieces; his absurd behaviour has given me massive laughs when I have most needed some light-hearted distractions.
- My younger self envisaged animal ownership on its most basic levels: petting, playing, and feeding. Now that I'm older, I understand the deeper and more complex ways in which Sebastian has enhanced my life. Those who are dubious will say "he's just a cat." But to me, he's a dependable friend that I will always remember as a wonderful part of my teenage years.
- Adapted from <https://www.theteenmagazine.com/why-every-teenager-needs-a-cat>

### TEXT B



Source: <https://za.pinterest.com/pin/i-create-comics-about-my-dog-that-most-dog-owners-will-relate-to--716494621958685253/>

**Questions:**

**REFER TO TEXT A**

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 1**

- 1.1 Explain how the writer makes the reader feel included in this paragraph. (2)
- 1.2 List two things that the writer promised his parents to convince them to get him a cat. (2)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 2**

- 1.3 Discuss the writer's attitude towards exams in this paragraph. Be sure to make specific reference to the diction used. (3)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 4**

- 1.4 Discuss, in your own words, two potential benefits to owning a cat. (2)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 5**

- 1.5 Explain what the term "ghosting" means in context. (1)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 6 and 7**

- 1.6 Critically discuss why the writer describes his relationship with his cat as a "two-way street". (3)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 8**

- 1.7 Explain, in your own words, how the writer's cat has helped him become more organised. (2)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 9**

- 1.8 What does the writer mean when he describes "the heaviness of teenage life"? (2)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 10**

- 1.9 Critically discuss how the writer's cat helps boost his mood. (3)

**REFER TO PARAGRAPH 11**

- 1.10 Discuss how the writer's attitude towards his cat has changed as he has aged. (3)

**REFER TO TEXT B**

- 1.11 Explain why the dog chooses to wake up his owner. (1)
- 1.12 How does the owner's response to the dog change throughout the cartoon. Be sure to reference the visuals and the text in your response. (3)

**REFER TO BOTH TEXTS A AND B**

- 1.13 To what extent does TEXT B reinforce the message of TEXT A? Be sure to refer to both texts in your response. (3)

**TOTAL SECTION A: 30 MARKS**

## **SECTION B: SUMMARY**

### **QUESTION 2: SUMMARISING IN YOUR OWN WORDS**

Text C provides insight into the positive impact that owning a pet can have on your life. Summarise, in your own words, **the physical and mental health benefits of owning a pet.**

#### **Instructions:**

1. You must write a fluent paragraph.
2. Your summary should include 7 points.
2. Your summary should be no longer than 90 words in length.
3. Use **YOUR OWN WORDS** as far as possible.
4. Indicate your word count accurately at the end of the summary.

#### **TEXT C:**

##### **How pets can improve your lifestyle**

Owning a pet offers a wealth of health benefits that extend beyond mere companionship. Firstly, pets encourage physical activity, particularly dogs, as they require regular walks and playtime, which in turn promotes cardiovascular health, weight management, and overall fitness.

In addition, the presence of pets has been linked to reduced stress levels, triggering the release of oxytocin, dopamine, and serotonin, neurotransmitters associated with relaxation and pleasure. This effect can lead to lower blood pressure and decreased risk of heart disease.

Pets also provide companionship, especially for individuals living alone, fostering a sense of belonging and reducing feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Interactions with pets can help enhance socialisation, as pet owners often connect with others during walks or pet-related activities, promoting a sense of community and emotional well-being. The unconditional love and support offered by pets bolsters mental health, providing comfort and companionship during times of distress or emotional upheaval.

Caring for a pet instils a sense of purpose and routine, which can improve self-esteem and mental resilience.

Exposure to pet dander and microbes can strengthen the immune system, reducing the risk of allergies and asthma, particularly in children who grow up with pets.

Finally, the playful behaviour and affectionate nature of pets can elevate mood and reduce feelings of anxiety and depression, contributing to overall emotional well-being.

Owning a pet is associated with numerous health benefits, including increased physical activity, reduced stress levels, enhanced socialization, improved mental health, strengthened immune system, and elevated mood. These benefits highlight the profound impact that pets can have on our physical and emotional well-being, making them invaluable companions in our lives.

Adapted from an article posted online at: <https://www.helpguide.org/articles/mental-health/mood-boosting-power-of-dogs.htm#:~:text=Pets%2C%20especially%20dogs%20and%20cats,valuable%20companionship%20for%20older%20adults.>

**TOTAL SECTION B: 10 MARKS**

**SECTION C: TEXTUAL INTERPRETATION**

**QUESTION 3: ADVERTISING**

**TEXT D**

**GREAT BARGAINS ON  
PRE-OWNED PETS**

**September 1-30**

**Dogs: \$25 Down\*  
0% Financing  
No Payments!** 

**Cats: \$10 Down\*  
0% Financing  
No Payments!** 

**Cats over 3 years old are FREE!**

**Features:**

- All makes and models
- Standard 4-paw drive
- 100,000 purr or tail-wag warranty
- Value increases over time

**Multi-Point Inspection:**

- Vaccinated
- Spayed or neutered
- Microchipped

\*4 months or older, excluding specially priced dogs.

**All Adopters Receive a FREE NHS License Plate Frame!** 

**Nevada HUMANE SOCIETY**

2825 Longley Lane, Reno • 775-856-2000 • NevadaHumaneSociety.org

Source: <https://www.treehugger.com/creative-ads-that-will-make-you-want-to-adopt-a-pet-4863730>

\*4 months or older, excluding specially priced dogs.

All Adopters receive a FREE NHS License Plate Frame!

**QUESTIONS – TEXT D:**

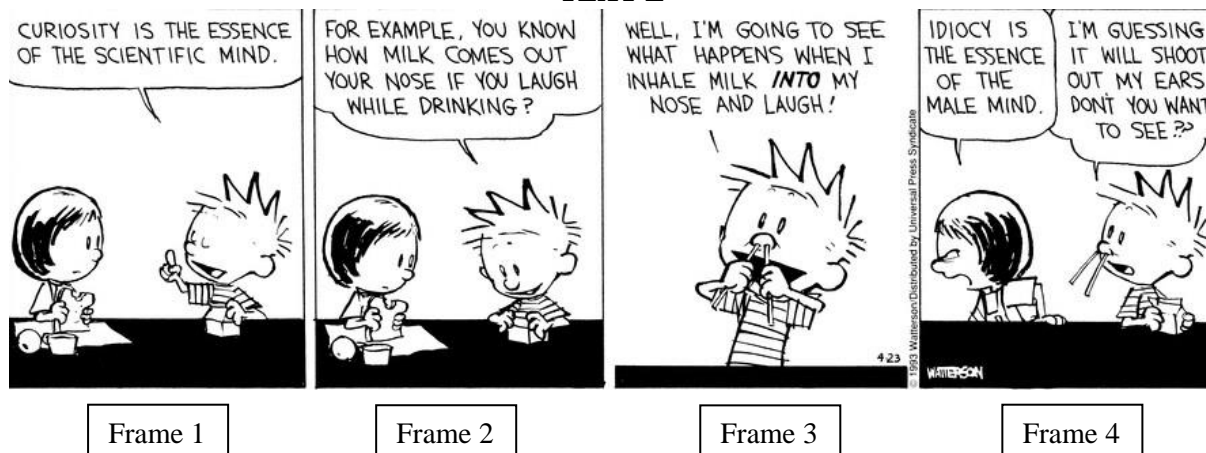
- 3.1 Discuss why the advertiser has made use of the word “pre-owned” in an advert about animals. (2)
- 3.2 What is the purpose of this advertisement? (1)
- 3.3 Explain what the phrase “All makes and models” means in the context of the advertisement. (2)
- 3.4 Discuss the overall effectiveness of the advertisement. Be sure to reference both the text and the visual in your response. (3)
- 3.5 Identify the part of speech of the underlined word:  
‘All Adopters Receive a FREE...’ (1)
- 3.6 What is the function of the hyphen in “pre-owned”? (1)

**[10]**

**SECTION C: CARTOON ANALYSIS**

**QUESTION 4:**

**TEXT E**

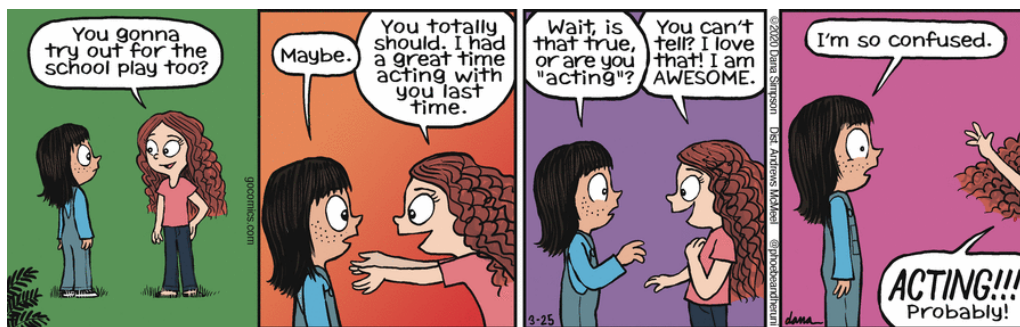


Source: [https://www.cracked.com/article\\_34980\\_7-moments-of-philosophical-genius-in-calvin-hobbes.html](https://www.cracked.com/article_34980_7-moments-of-philosophical-genius-in-calvin-hobbes.html)

**QUESTIONS TEXT E:**

- 4.1 Refer to FRAME 2 and 4.  
Explain how the young girl’s attitude towards Calvin changes in the cartoon.  
Be sure to refer to the visual and text in your response. (3)
- 4.2 Discuss how humour is created in FRAME 4, in the context of the cartoon as a whole. (3)

**TEXT F**



Source: <https://www.gocomics.com/phoebe-and-her-unicorn/2020/03/25>

**QUESTIONS TEXT F:**

- 4.3 Refer to FRAME 1  
Rewrite the girl’s question in grammatically correct English. (1)
- 4.4 Refer to FRAME 2  
Rewrite the two sentences “You totally should. I had a great time acting with you last time.” as one complex sentence. (1)
- 4.5 Refer to FRAME 4  
How is the girl’s confusion shown in her body language and facial expression? (2)

**SECTION C: EDITING SKILLS**  
**QUESTION 5:**

The following text may contain deliberate errors.

**TEXT F**

**Adopting from an animal shelter or rescue organisation**

- 1 Organisations and shelters deal with an incredible reflux of pets as people are constantly abandoning pets. Unsterilised pets left to breed often mean owners end up with too many mouths to feed and then need the help of a welfare to rehome animals. Organisations also care for animals who were taken away from previous owners due to neglect or abuse. When you adopt from a rescue organisation, you is therefore saving a life.
- 2 You can help break the cycle of pet overpopulation. Pets adopted from shelters/ rescues are always sterilised, which means no unwanted babies can be born. There is so much intentional and unintentional breeding as well as abandonment (for various reasons) happening that there are even breed-specific rescues/ welfares like Boston Terriers, Poodles and Pit bulls.
- 3 Mass breeding facilities can be put out of business if more people decided to adopt from shelters or rescues. This includes cruel ‘puppy mill’ setups as well as ‘backyard breeders’ and sidewalk puppy sellers. Here dogs are treated as money making machines and the females used as breeding machines. Animals are often forced to live in filthy environments and neglected. Tiny pups may be separated too early from their abused mothers to be sold for cash meaning puppies are often sick and they and the mother recieve no medical care. It is a cruel business focused on profit with no care taken for the wellbeing of the animals.
- 4 An adoption fee at a shelter or rescue will always be less than purchasing a pet through a breeder (professional or backyard). Most rescues in South Africa have an adoption fee ranging between R700 and R1 000 (including sterilisation). Many wonder why this fee is so high or why there is a fee at all, and the reasons are simple: They have spent time and money on rescuing, feeding, vetting and sterilising the animal. Most animal welfares struggle financially, so the adoption fee is a means they can use to survive and continue helping animals.
- 5 People are creatures of habit and routine and tend to follow trends. By adapting to the ‘adopt don’t shop’ culture, more and more people will see what wonderful companion animals are available at shelters for adoption.

Adapted from: <https://www.four-paws.org.za/our-stories/publications-guides/adopt-dont-shop>

**QUESTIONS:**

- 5.1. Identify and correct the malapropism in paragraph 1. (1)
- 5.2. Identify and correct the concord error in paragraph 1. Rewrite your corrected sentence. (1)
- 5.3.1 What part of speech is “unwanted” (paragraph 2)? (1)
- 5.3.2 Explain how you could create an antonym for “unwanted” using the original word. (2)
- 5.4. Provide the adverbial form of “cruel” (paragraph 3). (1)

- 5.5. Identify and correct the spelling error in paragraph 3. (1)
- 5.6.1 Identify the function of the brackets used in paragraph 4 in: “(professional or backyard)”. (1)
- 5.6.2 Provide one alternate punctuation mark that shares this function. (1)
- 5.7 Identify and correct the redundancy in paragraph 5. Rewrite your corrected sentence. (1)

**SUB-TOTAL SECTION C: 10 MARKS**

**TOTAL SECTION C: 30 MARKS**

**GRAND TOTAL: 70 MARKS**