



St. Anselm's College

English Entrance Examination

Sample Paper 1

This examination lasts **60 minutes**

There are two sections to this examination:

Section A: Reading

Section B: Writing

Spend about 25 minutes writing in each section.

Each section is worth 25 marks

Section A: Reading *Read the following passage written in the 1990s by a man who was filming in Africa for a BBC series "Dawn to Dusk". Answer all the questions.*

The extract is from a book about great leaders from history.

1) Whatever I might have expected, my first glimpse of the chimps was just as exciting as everybody had predicted it would be. It was an hour or more since we had started to hike up the steep valley, and my shirt was sodden from the exertion. As we topped the rise we found ourselves at the edge of the clearing in the woodland. Our guide pointed ahead to where Freud lay watching our approach.

2) Freud is twenty-five years old, and is currently the alpha male chimp of the Kasakela community. He lay totally relaxed, with one foot crossed over his leg and one arm cupped behind his head. It was uncanny. But perhaps the most startling revelation came when I looked into his eyes. It was like meeting the gaze of another human being – questioning, expressive, inquiring. Freud's eyes were the colour of hazel-nuts and glistened with a familiar knowingness. They were quite different from the eyes of any other animal I had seen.

3) I had only just started to get over the excitement of seeing Freud, when Fifi, his mother, appeared accompanied by her two youngest offspring, Faustino and Ferdinand. Fifi lay down in the grass next to Freud who began to groom her. Suddenly, little Ferdinand walked towards me and grabbed me by the hand, tugging at it. This contact totally entranced me because it underlined that we humans are just as much a part of the natural world as the chimpanzees are.

4) I couldn't believe how lucky we had been to encounter such a large group of chimpanzees so quickly, and to find them in relatively open habitat. By the end of that first day, I had watched the chimps grooming, feeding, playing, mating and displaying. The fact that we had good light to film in had been the icing on the cake. But we all knew how suddenly things could change, and so for the first few days we

tried to spend as much time as possible with the chimps, locating them early in the morning and keeping track of their whereabouts until nightfall.

5) Sunrise was often shrouded by cloud cover and it was usually only later in the morning that the sun emerged. After a quick wash in the lake, a slice of pawpaw and a plate of fried eggs, it was time to pack the equipment into rucksacks and share them out among ourselves. Fortunately I had been kitted out with a pair of hockey shoes intended for use on astroturf. The soles looked like a multi-studded monster or rubberized caterpillar, designed to keep someone from slipping on wet surfaces.

6) The daily routine of the chimpanzees begins with an early rise just before first light, followed by bouts of displaying by the males and periods of grooming. Sometimes individuals wander off in search of food immediately after they have left their nests. The middle of the day is siesta time and is often relatively quiet with the chimps resting up in the trees – some sitting, others reclining along branches with the youngsters or playing with one another. For a while, sometimes an hour or more, an air of peace prevails.

7) On occasion members of the community move off on their own, but during our stay there were often twenty or thirty chimps within a few metres of each other. The relaxed pattern of grooming and feeding continued well into the evening; then some time between 7 and 8 p.m. they all climbed into the trees and made their nests.

8) We soon found that chimpanzees are highly mobile and can travel widely in their search for suitable sources of food. They are primarily fruit-eaters though they also feed seasonally on young leaves, which are rich in protein, as well as killing and eating monkeys, young bushpig and insects.

Section A: Reading

Answer the following questions in sentences. Refer to the extract about the chimpanzees for your answers. The mark allocated is placed after each question. The mark will guide you by indicating how many points you should make.

1. How did the man feel about seeing the chimps? (1)

2. How did the man's clothes show the effort he made to reach them?
.....(1)

3. Where precisely did he and his companions find the chimpanzees?.....
.....(3)

4. Who is the chimpanzees' leader?.....(1)

5. What expression in paragraph 2 explains that this chimp is the leader?
.....(1)

6. Write 3 **adjectives** from paragraph 2 that describe the way this chimp looks at the
writer.....(3)

7. Name the relatives of the chimpanzee leader.
.....(3)

8. In paragraph 4, the writer uses the expression - "the icing on the cake." Explain what is meant by this
.....(2)

9. In paragraph 5, which **2 similes** describe part of the man's shoes?

a)and

b).....(2)

b) Suggest what the similes tell us about the shoes.....
.....(1)

10. How is the routine of the chimpanzees like the routine of humans?
.....
.....
.....(3)

11. What food do the chimpanzees prefer?(1)

12. Which **adverb** in paragraph 8 means "extensively"?.....(1)

13. What do the following underlined words from the passage mean?

a) "predicted" (paragraph 1)(1/2)

b) "exertion" (paragraph 1)(1/2)

c) "habitat" (paragraph 4)(1/2)

d) “mobile” (paragraph 8)(1/2)

(Total – 25 marks)

Section B: Writing

*Spend 5 – 10 minutes planning your essay. We must see evidence of you planning your paragraphs and organising your ideas into these paragraphs. Then spend about **20 minutes** completing your essay.*

Think

- *how to start your story,*
- *how to keep it interesting*
- *how to conclude it.*

*Write about **one** of the following tasks.*

EITHER:

Africa is a popular destination for safari holidays. You win a safari trip of a lifetime: describe the experience of your most exciting day out travelling in a land rover with local nature experts guiding you.

OR:

Imagine you are a young chimpanzee in the wild, living with your family in a community of chimpanzees. Describe your home, family and what activities you get up to.

(Total – 25 marks)