Instructons

Read through your questions and then answer them.

Incorrect letter formation and spelling will lose you marks.

Answer all the questions.

Work neatly.

Enjoy!

Section A – Comprehension test – Read the text about snakes and then answer the questions that follow.

Snakes

Getting to Know

Say the word snake among a group of friends, and you'll probably see panic on at least a few faces. Learning about these legless reptiles can lessen the fear of them. Read about where snakes live, how they move and hunt, and their role in nature. Finally, learn how to stay safe around snakes.

Where do snakes live?

Snakes live on almost every continent, but mostly in warm climates. In places with cold winters, snakes stay underground and conserve energy until spring. They move and eat very little during cold months. This is because snakes, like other reptiles, need sunlight or another heat source to keep their bodies warm. Even during warmer months, it is common to find snakes napping on rocks in the sun. They may also rest under a warm rock or underground where a patch of soil has been warmed by sunlight.

How do snakes move around?

Snakes get around by using the muscles and scales of their long, limbless bodies. They propel themselves forward or sideways using their strong muscles. Their scales help them grip surfaces and also protect their bodies as they move over rough ground. All that motion wears out the scales, though, so snakes grow replacement scales. This is one reason that snakes shed their skin many times during their lives.
Write answers for the following questions.

1. Underline the correct meaning for the words.

   1. Climate:
   a) To stay close or near.
   b) The general weather conditions.
   c) To go up towards the top.

   2. Reptiles:
   a) An animal which uses the heat of the sun to keep warm.
   b) A country without a king.
   c) Very unpleasant.

   3. Napping:
   a) What a person or thing is called.
   b) A square of thick cloth.
   c) A short sleep during the day.

   4. Muscles:
   a) A fast growing plant.
   b) It tightens and relaxes to produce movement.
   c) A pattern of sounds.

2. Name any **two facts** about snakes. (Full sentences!)

3. Explain why snakes move and eat very little during cold months? (Answer in full sentences!)
4. Describe **two functions** of the snake’s scales. (4)

5. Why do snakes shed their skin? (2)

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**Total for Section A** /20

**Section B – Poem** – Read the poem about snakes and then answer the questions that follow.

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**A Snake Ate My Homework**

A snake ate all my homework, Ma’am, I swear to you, it’s true.

**It swallowed it with one big GULP. It didn’t even chew.**

**It slunk into the bathroom; poor Dad was in the tub.**

It drank the water, soap and all. It gurgled, GLUB, GLUB, GLUB.

My dad slipped-slided, gave a yelp, and wrapped up in a towel, but not before the snake escaped, so Dad joined in the prowl.

“There it goes!” my father called. “It’s heading toward the door!

**We have to catch that snake before it swallows anymore.”**

Suddenly, I thought of how I’d get my homework back.

I gathered the supplies I’d need to launch my sneak attack.

I grabbed a jar of pepper and a box fan from upstairs.

I aimed it at the snake and said, “I hope you said your prayers!”

I sprinkled pepper near the fan; it floated on the breeze.

It sprayed the snake right in the face — “Ah CHOO!” Wow! What a sneeze!

The sneeze was so gigantic that it knocked me to the ground, and everything came flying out; it scattered all around.

I found this on the neighbour’s lawn; I’m here at school on time.

So now my homework isn’t late. But, please, excuse the slime!
1. Name **two things** in the poem that the snake ate. (2)

2. Give a **synonym** for the word "yelp" in the poem. (1)

3. How many **beats** are in the following lines? (3)
   a. Line 2 = ___________ beats
   b. Line 3 = ___________ beats
   c. Line 8 = ___________ beats

4. Write down two words that **rhyme**. (2)

5. What would you do if you saw a snake eating your homework? (2)

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**ANIMALS**

G E S U O M H N W R B W C W L
X D A Q H J X Q O M L T H W J
B W S H N L H T P I C R A W M
Y W M E F F A R I G L K D O G
R C K R R R S Y K T H I P P O
J T O W I E F B X X L Q R J E
D R O T A G I L L A E B Z H X
T H N X P I C L F C R V Z S Z
V N H R S T H E T D R I B I Q
N Z A C S T Y X L W I N H F L
W U Q H K L J A E A U F A H F
V Q Q D P O Y K N V Q Z A T V
X M T L Q E T J Y E S Y R C H
T A C K Q C L K M O N K E Y R
P T S H W L Y E T D R A H T L

**ANSWERS**

CAT
DOG
BIRD
ELEPHANT
MOUSE
MONKEY
ALLIGATOR
HIPPO
SQUIRREL
GIRAFFE
FISH
TIGER
LION
Section C – Language

1. Find the **adverb** and **irregular verb** in the following sentence. Write down the answer below. \( \frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 1 \)

The boy swam quickly when he realised there was a snake in the water.

**Adverb:** ________________

**Irregular verb:** ________________

2. Write down the sentences. Fill in the **missing punctuation marks** and **capital letters**.

   1. watch out for the snake \( \frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 1 \)

   2. can snakes hurt you asked mira \( \frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3 \)

   3. I know my snakes well said gail \( \frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3 \)

3. Give the **antonyms** for the following words e.g. (fat - thin) \( \frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2 \)

   a.) above________________________

   b.) huge ________________________

   c.) strong ______________________

   d.) young ________________________

4. Rewrite the following sentence in the **past tense**. (Only change the underlined words.) \( \frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 1 \)

The snake swims in the waterhole. The snake finds food near the cave and it slowly goes up the hill.
5. Change the following singular words into plural.  
   (½ x 2 = 1)
   a. bush: __________________________
   b. monkey: __________________________

6. Underline the **adjectives** in the word bank and write a sentence with each to show the meaning of the word.  
   (3)
   dirty  Josh  beautiful  Jenny
   table  ball  big

Total for Section C ______ /15

Merry Christmas!  
And a happy new year!