



**AHMAD IBRAHIM SECONDARY SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2021**

**SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS / 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC**

Name:	Class:	Register No.:
Name of English Teacher :		

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**1128 / 02**

Paper 2 Comprehension

**24 Aug 2021**

**1 hour 50 minutes**

INSERT

Additional Materials: Question Booklets




This paper consists of **4** printed pages.


**[Turn over**


## Section A

### Text 1

Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1 – 4 in the Question Booklet.




<http://coastalanimalrescue.org/>


[AVAILABLE PETS](#)
[SUCCESS STORIES](#)
[RESOURCES](#)
[EVENTS](#)
[SPONSORS](#)
[CONTACT](#)
[DONATE](#)







Find your new best buddy.

[GET STARTED](#)

[Adopt a Pet](#)
[Donate](#)
[Events](#)

Homeless animals are an ongoing problem in society. Most people are unaware of the number of animals that are euthanised every year. Many of these animals are lost because there are too few people willing or able to adopt a rescue animal. Additionally, many animals when surrendered, need emergency and serious medical care. Unfortunately for these animals, they often die due to insufficient resources.

While there are many non-profit groups in our community that rescue and re-home dogs and cats, they lack the funds and facilities to treat injured or ill pets until they are well enough to be placed up for adoption. That is why Atlantic Animal Hospital established the Coastal Animal Rescue Effort apart from rescue organisations. The mission of C.A.R.E is to treat these needy animals, restore their health, and find them loving new homes. You can help C.A.R.E. fulfill its mission by adopting a pet through this website.

 <b>Available Pets</b>	 <b>Success Stories</b>	 <b>Resources</b>	 <b>Events</b>
<p>Your new family member is just a click away.</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE</a></p>	<p>We look to place needy pets in your homes. Click here to see previously adopted CARE pets.</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE</a></p>	<p>Click here for Adoption applications, donation and sponsorship information and other pet rescue resources.</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE</a></p>	<p>Want to help? Click here for upcoming events and fundraising opportunities.</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE</a></p>

(Information and images extracted from: <http://coastalanimalrescue.org/>)

## Section B

## Text 2

The text below is about a young boy who goes sponge diving in the reef under the watch of his grandfather. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5 – 15 in the Question Booklet – Sections A & B.

- 1 Richard, who in his day had been a famous sponge-diver, brought his grandson, Jimmy for a first visit to the treasure-ledge of the reef. Lune-green and amber, a strip of fading sky glowed across the trail of the vanished sun as they reached their destination. Then, over sea and sky, strode the sudden violet hues of the tropics. As the full moon of midsummer climbed toward the zenith, its light made a broad causeway across the horizon clear to the dark reef which lurked in the shimmering water. Inked black against the moon-path, showed the lean shape of their canoe. Richard's eyes lit up as he could clearly see the perfect diving spot. 5
- 2 "This is it," said Richard, suddenly. "You will need good lungs and a brave heart," he went on, "as death hides and waits here," and he paused for a moment. Jimmy's answer was to stand poised like a red-bronze statue of speed, at the bow seat. 10
- 3 "Forget not to look up at me, and, if I signal; come back to me fast," Richard finished sadly. The young man gave a brief nod and, filling his lungs until his chest stood out like a square box, dived high into the air, striking the water clean as the point of a dropped knife.
- 4 Into his lithe body rushed and pulsed the power and energy of the great swinging sea as he swam through the air-clear water. In thirty seconds, he was a hundred feet down, where the pressure of seventy pounds to the square inch would have numbed and crippled an ordinary swimmer, but meant nothing to his steel-strong body. With a great throb of delight, he saw a soft, golden-brown tuft of silk sponge hidden beneath the living branches. The silk sponge is to sponge-divers what the silver fox is to trappers on land. 15
- 5 With a quick stroke, Jimmy reached the moving branches which had to be parted carefully lest they close and hide. Before he parted them, he headed up and saw his grandfather beckoning frantically for him to return. Yet nowhere in the nearby water could he see anything unusual. Still, his grandfather's face contorted with earnestness. 20
- 6 He hesitated. A dive away lay a fortune. It might well be that never again could he find that exact spot. So he dove down, following the clue of the waving silken end. As he grasped a soft mass, he cautiously pulled out a silk-sponge, worth more than its weight in gold. 25
- 7 As he shot toward the surface, he caught sight of brilliant little fish returning from deep water. Close behind it, dim at first, but growing more and more distinct as it came, showed a sinister shape – the dreaded tiger-shark of deep water. He was half-way to the surface before its cold deadly eyes caught sight of his ascending body. With a rush like a torpedo-boat, the thirty-foot shark shot toward the straining, speeding figure. As he rose, he saw his grandfather mouthing the word "Hurry!" with every line on his tense face set in agony of pleading. 30
- 8 Only the fact that a shark has to be on its back to bring into play its seven rows of saw-edged teeth saved the boy's life. The tiny tick of time which the fish took in turning enabled the old man, with a tremendous heave of his powerful arms, to drag Jimmy over the canoe just as the fatal jaws snapped shut below him. For a long minute, the sea-tiger circled the canoe with hungry speed. Then, seeing that his prey had escaped, he swam away. 35
- 9 Jimmy grinned cheerfully after his disappearing foe and without a word, handed Richard the clump of sponge which, throughout his almost dead-heat with death, he had clutched tightly in his left hand. 40
- 10 "Not twice in a long lifetime," said his grandfather, "have I seen a finer silk-sponge".

(Adapted from an extract from "The Reef" by Samuel Scoville, Jr)

[Turn over

## Section C

### Text 3

The text below highlights the social and academic benefits of team sports. Read it carefully and answer Questions 16 – 22 in the Question Booklet – Section C.

- 1 Team sports are so much more than their physical benefits. This is especially so when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Studies have shown a direct correlation between physical activity and academic performance. This might have to do with the increased cognitive ability that comes from playing sports. Physical activity naturally increases blood flow to the brain and activates endorphins – chemicals that are released when you exercise. Endorphins can impact your mood and work performance, meaning athletes may be more willing to and capable of tackling that next big problem. 5
- 2 Team sports are also an excellent source of soft skills development, as they allow athletes to grow within a supportive environment. Soft skills are personal attributes that allow people to build positive social relationships. They are critical in fostering a cohesive bond among team players and building a strong team. 10
- 3 Teamwork is all about collaborating with others to reach a common goal. The diverse pairing of personalities and scenarios will help an athlete become adaptable, persistent, and patient. Team sports also teach a sense of group and individual responsibility. Being on a team with a dozen or more of your peers is an excellent way to recognise the individual talents each person brings to the table. Working with teammates teaches athletes important life skills such as to respect one another, act in unselfish ways, make good decisions on behalf of the team, and not cut corners. While it might not be as obvious as sitting down and discussing a group project, team sports take a lot of communication – both spoken and unspoken. Communication skills are key in maintaining a functioning sports team, whether it is listening to a locker room pep talk, picking up on non-verbal cues given by other players, or expressing a thought during a post-game debrief. 15 20
- 4 Sports plays also happen fast, and athletes develop the skills needed to make effective snap decisions. Whether it is a basketball player deciding to shoot or a soccer player realising his best move is to pass to a teammate for the assist, athletes learn critical decision-making skills that will benefit them during and after game time. Any athlete who has played in a championship game knows the meaning of pressure. Failure to manage anxiety at a crucial moment can lead to a catastrophic drop in performance and this can cause athletes to choke under pressure. Hence, athletes need to learn to cope with the exacting demands under high-pressure situations and rise to the challenge. This ability to function under pressure translates to a person who is better at making deadlines and working in stressful situations in the future. 25 30
- 5 In addition, the time commitment required by athletes can be comparable to that of a full-time job. Think of all the different commitments an athlete needs to juggle: competitions, strength and conditioning, team meetings, sports physiotherapy – and these are just the sports-related obligations! Necessity demands that athletes learn valuable time management skills that organise chaos, otherwise they would never be able to keep up with both academics and sport. Not only that, team sports are also said to bolster the five C's: competence, confidence, connections, character, and care. At the heart of this is self-esteem – an increased sense of self as a result of better social interactions, stronger relationships, and higher academic performance. 35
- 6 Team sports provide athletes with a natural community. Youth who play sports tend to have higher levels of social support, and the sense of community created with teammates, coaches, and family members incubates the perfect setting for critical self-esteem development. In the end, the opportunity to participate in team sports provides athletes with valuable skills that will take them beyond the field, pitch, and court. 40

(Adapted from "The Social And Academic Benefits Of Sports" by Paige Maslen)

**End of Insert**