

EXERCISE 3

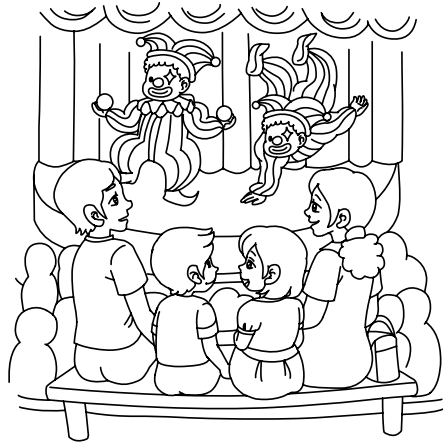
Text Type
Blog Entry

Marks:
/13

Read this blog entry carefully.

An Amazing Circus Show

My family and I went to the Superstar Circus last weekend. We went to the last show at nine o'clock. The horses performed first. These animals were well trained by a young man dressed in green with a long, cracking whip. The horses **pranced** around when the band started to play. Everyone was amazed!



The young acrobats were up next. They were mostly girls in their teens. They performed amazing feats on two-legged chairs and a unicycle. The most hair-raising feat was performed by a fifteen-year-old girl. She rode a bicycle on a tightrope. Its wheels barely balanced on the thin rope. As she attempted to cycle from one end to the other, she almost lost her balance twice. The crowd broke into a huge applause when she finally finished her performance!

The next act was just as exciting. A huge elephant stepped cautiously on its trainer before walking over him. The audience responded with loud applause once again. It was indeed a thrilling act!

The clowns entertained the audience during the **interval**. They played tricks on each other and even on some of the people in the crowd. We had a hearty laugh as they finished their act with a funny song and dance.

After the interval came the wild animals. The lions would sit, roll over and roar on command. The trainer was so close to the fierce animals that we **squirmed** in our seats.

The show ended with a group of clever chimpanzees showing off their arithmetic skills. It was already eleven o'clock when we left the circus. We were thrilled by the experience of watching a great, live show! It was indeed a show not to be missed!

Posted on 2nd August, 20:45

Choose the best answer and write its number in the boxes.

- 1 The acrobats were between _____ years old. [1 mark]
- (1) eight and twelve
 - (2) thirteen and nineteen
 - (3) twenty and twenty-five
 - (4) thirty and forty
-

- 2 The audience was _____ when they saw the trainer being so close to the lions. [1 mark]
- (1) bored
 - (2) nervous
 - (3) depressed
 - (4) excited
-



TIP!

What did the audience do when it saw the lions?



Vocabulary Booster



prance (v.) : to move with high steps

interval (n.) : a period of time between two events

squirm (v.) : to move around with small twisting movements

3 In the last act, the chimpanzees could _____. [1 mark]

- (1) dance
- (2) sing
- (3) do sums
- (4) tell time

☐

4 The phrase 'live show' in the last paragraph suggests that _____. [1 mark]

- (1) the circus had animals
- (2) the circus was near a zoo
- (3) the circus showed video clips of animal performances
- (4) the animals and people performed in front of an audience

☐

5 This blog entry was probably written by _____. [1 mark]

- (1) the horse trainer
- (2) the owner of the circus
- (3) one of the audience who had watched the circus perform
- (4) one of the acrobats

☐

Fill in the blanks.

[2 marks]

6 Find the words from the blog entry that have the following meanings.

- (1) break = _____
- (2) tried = _____

What did the audience watch in the circus show? Put the sentences in the correct order. Fill in the blanks with the correct numbers.

[6 marks]

- 7
- (1) The acrobats performed feats on a unicycle.
 - (2) The lions sat and rolled over.
 - (3) The huge elephant stepped on its trainer.
 - (4) The horses pranced around.
 - (5) The chimpanzees made calculations.
 - (6) The clowns played tricks.

_____ → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____

EXERCISE 10

Text Type

Story

Marks:

/15

Read this story carefully.

Basic

Catching the Thief in the Field

There was once a rich farmer who owned a big, fine corn field. While **strolling** in his field one day, he noticed that someone had stolen his corn. He was so angry that he stormed home and called his three sons, Michael, George and John. 'There was a thief in my field last night and he stole much of my corn. I'll reward the one who catches the thief,' he said.



The first night, Michael kept watch as he was the eldest. He took with him a sword as well as some food and drinks. He settled down under a tree. Soon, he fell asleep. When he woke up the next day, he realised the corn had been stolen again.



That evening, it was George's turn to keep watch. He took along a pistol and a wooden club. However, he, too, fell asleep. The next morning, he found that the thief had struck again.

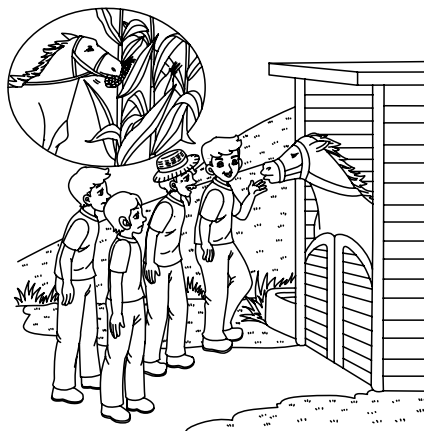
It was John's turn on the third night. He took neither sword nor pistol with him. He brought along only a piece of rope. Along the way, he gathered some thorns to make a ring. He placed the ring of thorns around his neck.

Every time he started to nod off, the thorns **pricked** his chin. In this way, he was able to stay awake.

Towards midnight, John heard the sound of hoofs in the corn field. Quietly, he threw the thorns aside and crept forward. He saw a magnificent wild horse eating the corn. Using his rope, he caught it without much difficulty and led it to the stable.

Early next morning, his brothers woke him up from his bed. They laughed and **poked fun at him**. 'A fine guard **you** are!' they teased. 'You did not even stick to your post!'

John smiled and took his father and brothers to the stable where the horse stood. John's father was delighted! That morning, they took the horse to the market and sold it at a good price. Their father gave the money to John as a reward.



Choose the best answer and write its number in the boxes.

- 1 The farmer discovered that his corn was missing when _____. [1 mark]

(1) he called his three sons	(3) he awoke the next morning	<input style="border: 1px dashed blue; width: 40px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>
(2) he settled down under a tree	(4) he took a walk in his field	

- 2 Why was Michael chosen to take the first watch? [1 mark]

(1) He had a sword.	<input style="border: 1px dashed blue; width: 40px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>
(2) He was the eldest son.	
(3) He wanted the reward for himself.	
(4) He had enough food to last through the watch.	

Vocabulary Booster



stroll (v.) : to walk somewhere in a slow relaxed way

prick (v.) : to give someone an unpleasant feeling on the skin; to be like a needle poking the skin

poke fun at somebody (idiom) : to say unkind words about someone so that others laugh at him

- 3 Why did John not fall asleep during his watch? [1 mark]
- (1) The thorns kept him awake.
 (2) He was not sleepy at all.
 (3) The sound of hoofs disturbed him.
 (4) His post in the field was uncomfortable.

☐

- 4 Who does 'you' in the sixth paragraph refer to? [1 mark]
- (1) Michael
 (2) George
 (3) John
 (4) the farmer

☐

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- 5 Why did John's brothers laugh at John the next morning? [2 marks]
- _____
- _____

- 6 Why did John's father sell the horse? [2 marks]
- _____
- _____



TIP!

What did the horse do?

Fill in each blank with **ONE** word.

[7 marks]

- 7 One day, a farmer found that someone had stolen his (1) _____. He asked his sons to catch the (2) _____. Therefore, his three sons kept watch in the field. Michael took a (3) _____ with him while George took along a club and a (4) _____ for their turns at watch. When it was John's turn, he only brought a piece of rope and made a ring of (5) _____. Finally, John caught the thief successfully because he did not fall (6) _____ during his watch. The farmer gave money to him as a (7) _____

EXERCISE 28

Text Type

Information Report

Marks:

/18

Read this information report carefully.

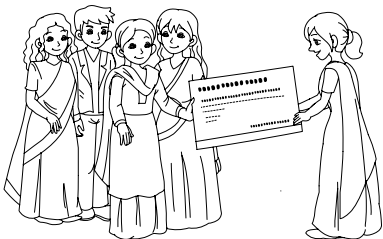
Charity Organisations

Charity organisations are responsible for most of the help to the poor. Each organisation caters to a different group of people.

The Red Cross is a well-known organisation that has centres in countries all over the world. It had its beginnings in a small Italian town in 1859. A fierce battle was taking place then, and more than forty thousand people were wounded. The medical services of the army were inadequate. The situation horrified a Swiss businessman who then, wrote a book describing the dreadful situation. His book was the stimulus for the setting up of charity organisations.



Today, charity organisations imitate the workings of the Red Cross. They carry out fundraising activities to help uneducated children or victims of natural disasters. Both the young and old contribute willingly to these organisations. In fact, if there were no charity organisations, millions of people around the world would **perish** because of poverty or natural disasters.



In India, a **compassionate** woman started PUSS (Palli Unnayan Seva Samiti). She has helped hundreds of children receive a proper education with the support of social workers and teachers. Without her help, the literacy rate in India would be much lower than what it is today.

Charity organisations are crucial today. They cannot function without the **benevolent** people who run these organisations.

Vocabulary Booster



perish (v.) : to die

compassionate (adj.) : showing sympathy for people who are suffering

benevolent (adj.) : kind, helpful, generous

Choose the best answer and write its number in the boxes.

- 1 The first centre of the Red Cross was in _____. [1 mark]
(1) India
(2) Italy
(3) Singapore
(4) Switzerland
- 2 The Red Cross was first set up to help _____. [1 mark]
(1) injured soldiers
(2) sick children
(3) children with no education
(4) victims of natural disasters
- 3 What was the 'book' in the second paragraph about? [1 mark]
(1) how the rich can help the poor
(2) sick children
(3) people suffering in a war
(4) different charity organisations
- 4 Charity organisations obtain their funds through _____. [1 mark]
(1) donations
(2) victims
(3) the government
(4) the Red Cross
- 5 According to the passage, India is facing the problem of _____. [1 mark]
(1) natural disasters
(2) children with no homes
(3) poor and hungry children
(4) large numbers of uneducated children

Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Write 'T' or 'F' in the blanks. [4 marks]

- 6 PUSS was established by a businessman. _____
- 7 Different charity organisations help different groups of people. _____

- 8 There was a drought in Italy in 1859. _____
- 9 Only children are allowed to raise funds for charity organisations. _____

Give short answers.

- 10 Based on the information report, name four kinds of people that are helped by charity organisations. [4 marks]

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____



TIP!

Pay attention to the people mentioned in the whole information report.

- 11 What does 'They' in the last paragraph refer to? [1 mark]

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- 12 Why are charity organisations important? [2 marks]

- 13 Apart from the needy mentioned in the information report, what other groups of people need our help? [2 marks]

EXERCISE 29

Text Type
Diary Entry

Marks:
/22

Read this diary entry carefully.

Skippy and I

20th March, Tuesday

Warm

Dear Diary,

This afternoon, Skippy and I made our way to the shop. Around us, was awakening once again. The birds were singing and the flowers were beginning to bloom. I was glad that the cold dreary winter was finally over.

We passed a stall selling hot dogs. The tempting smell of grilled sausages floated through the air and made my stomach growl. I hurried away from it or else I would give in to temptation. I tugged at Skippy's lead and it returned to my side. Around the corner, we met the friendly Mr Reef and his dog, Max. It **jeered** at Skippy for being on a lead. Skippy **retaliated** by giving Max one of its fiercest growls. Mr Reef smiled warmly at us and hurriedly apologised for Max's behaviour.

When we reached the shop, I secured Skippy to a post outside. It whined pitifully as I walked off. In the shop, I headed straight for the shelves at the back and reached for the brown packets that I had to buy for my mother. I picked up a small yellow packet on my way to the cashier.

Outside, Skippy was up to its usual **antics**. It must have known. 'After lunch,' I said as I smiled at it. 'Let's go. Mother is waiting. I can almost smell the aroma from the kitchen.'

There was quickness in its step and it pulled at its lead. Laughing, I began running and Skippy skipped along beside me.

Vocabulary Booster



jeer (v.) : to say rude things to someone to show that you do not respect him

retaliate (v.) : to do harm to a person because he has done the same thing to you

antics (n.) : funny, unusual or annoying behaviour

Give short answers.

1 Why did the writer like spring? Give two reasons for your answer. [2 marks]

(1) _____

(2) _____

2 Which sentence from the diary entry tells us that the writer was probably feeling hungry? [1 mark]

3 What two things did Skippy do to tell the writer that it wanted to go home earlier? [2 marks]

(1) _____

(2) _____

Fill in each blank with **ONE** word.

[4 marks]

4 _____ had ended because nature was awakening again.

5 Mr. Reef was a _____ person who smiled warmly at the writer.

6 Skippy _____ when the writer entered the shop.

7 The writer bought _____ from the shop.

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

8 What animal was Skippy? How do you know? [2 marks]

9 Was Skippy angry with Max? Why? [2 marks]

10

What was probably the small yellow packet that the writer bought? [2 marks]



TIP!

How did Skippy behave when it saw the yellow packet?

11

What were Skippy and the writer going to do when they reached home? [2 marks]

What did the writer see that day? Put the things in the correct order. [5 marks]

Fill in the blanks with the correct numbers.

12

- (1) Mum's food
- (2) Hot dogs
- (3) Mr Reef and Max
- (4) Brown packets
- (5) Birds and flowers

_____ → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____