



Set B: Test 5

There are **6 questions** in this test.

Give yourself **10 minutes** to read the text and answer the questions.

A local primary school is considering using tablet computers in all classrooms from next year. The following text has been written by a teacher at the school.

Should we use tablet computers in the classroom?

The use of tablet computers (or simply 'tablets') in the classroom has become an increasingly popular option in many primary schools across the country, including many in our local area. It is important that we consider this opportunity, but we must also be aware of the drawbacks.

On the one hand, there are many positives to using tablets in the classroom. Firstly, tablets could improve productivity during the school day. Because of their familiarity with computers and mobile phones, many of our students can type faster than they can write by hand; therefore, using tablets in the classroom could reduce the time it takes for them to complete tasks. Additionally, there are endless tablet functions which could provide interesting teaching activities. For example, we could play interactive games to teach maths, or make simple animations to show how magnets behave. Alternatively, students could take photos outdoors and then use them as prompts for writing tasks.

However, we must also consider the potential problems with introducing tablets to our classrooms. Some students may become distracted by their tablets, and play with the device instead of focusing on their work. Another issue is that, whilst many students can use tablets already, many of our teachers are not as competent and would need to be trained. We may also have problems with the tablets breaking, which would be both frustrating and expensive to fix. This is in addition to the cost of buying the tablets in the first place.

Overall, despite these potential downsides, it seems that using tablets in the classroom would be a wonderful opportunity for students and teachers at our school. There are costs involved, but it would almost certainly prove to be a worthwhile investment.

1. What phrase is the word *tablets* short for?

.....

1 mark

2. According to the author, why might using tablets in the classroom be a good idea? Tick **two** reasons.

They could help students to use mobile phones.

☐

They could help some students to work more quickly.

☐

They could provide new teaching methods.

☐

They could distract students from their work.

☐

They could improve students' handwriting.

☐

2 marks

3. *Additionally, there are endless tablet functions which could provide interesting teaching activities.*

Which word in this sentence suggests that there are many ways in which tablets can be used in the classroom?

.....

1 mark

4. ...many of our teachers are not as *competent* and would need to be trained.

What does the word *competent* mean in this sentence?

Tick **one** box.

enthusiastic ☐

capable ☐

happy ☐

uncertain ☐

1 mark

5. What does the author say would be *frustrating* about using tablets?

.....

1 mark

6. Using your own words, summarise what the author thinks about using tablets in the classroom.

.....

.....

.....

2 marks

END OF TEST

/ 8



Set B: Test 6

There are **7 questions** in this test.

Give yourself **10 minutes** to read the text and answer the questions.

When Pigs Fly

A medieval court. The KING sits on his throne on a raised platform, centre, surveying the room. LORDS and LADIES are seated around the perimeter. A PAGE stands below, facing him. Behind the PAGE stands JEREMY.

PAGE: Your Excellency, the final visitor today is Mr Jeremy Dumpling, representing the kingdom's pig farmers. *(To Jeremy)* You may approach His Highness.

JEREMY: *(stepping forward nervously, then kneeling)* Your Royal Highness, I have, erm... Well I have come here today to draw your attention to what may, or might, be considered as something of a national inconvenience.

KING: *(yawning)* Yes, yes, go on then. What exactly is the nature of this 'inconvenience'?

JEREMY: Well, Your Wonderfulness, it's about the pigs, you see.

KING: I had guessed as much. What exactly is the problem with these pigs?

JEREMY: Well, Your Majesty, for the past few months, very mysteriously and without warning, the pigs in the kingdom have, one by one, quite independently...

PAGE: Spit it out, man!

JEREMY: The pigs have started flying.

(The court is silent for a moment, then KING, PAGE, LORDS and LADIES erupt into raucous laughter.)

JEREMY: *(struggling to be heard over the din)* I beg your pardon, Sire, but I really am quite serious!

KING: *(catching his breath)* Pigs flying! My good man, you cannot possibly be sincere! You are quite the comedian, Mr Dumpling. Do be sure to contact my Head of Staff about joining our delightful troupe of court jesters. Until then, good day to you. Page, you may escort Mr Dumpling from the castle.

(The PAGE helps Jeremy up and starts walking him briskly away.)

JEREMY: *(wriggling free)* Sire! Sire, if you would just let me show you!

KING: *(firmly)* Young man, you are trying my patience. Shall I call my guards?

JEREMY: If you would just allow me to show you one pig, Your Joyfulness...

KING: Fine. I will permit you to show me one pig, Mr Dumpling. One pig, and one pig only.

1. Which of the following is **not** present in the King's court?
Tick **one** box.

A page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeremy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pigs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lords and ladies	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

2. What is the *national inconvenience* that Jeremy mentions in the text?

.....

1 mark

3. Which stage direction shows the reader that the king is bored?

.....

1 mark

4. Why is the king *catching his breath*?

.....

.....

1 mark

5. **Find** and **copy** one name that Jeremy uses to address the king.

.....

1 mark

6. Write the numbers 1 to 5 in the boxes to put these events from the script into the right order. The first one has been done for you.

Jeremy tells the king that the pigs are flying.

The page introduces Jeremy to the king.

The king suggests that Jeremy joins the court jesters.

The page starts to escort Jeremy out of the room.

Jeremy kneels in front of the king.

1 mark

7. What do you think might happen next in the play?
Mention **two** things.

.....

.....

.....

.....

2 marks

END OF TEST

/ 8