



# **Examination for the Enlistment of Soldiers in the Armed Forces of Malta Specimen Paper 2023**

**Subject: English**

**Time: 09.00 – 10.30 (One hour and a half)**

## **Instructions to candidates:**

- **This examination paper consists of THREE sections: A, B and C. Read each text carefully and then answer ALL the questions for each text (there is a total of 50 questions).**
- **Each question contains four possible answers, but only ONE is correct.**
- **Enter your answers on the Answer Sheet provided. Mark ONLY the correct answer by using a pencil.**


**e.g., If answer C is selected, fill in the appropriate circle as shown below.**

50.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input checked="" type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D
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- **Each question carries two (2) marks.**

## SECTION A

Read the text carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 1 to 15) that follow:




The  
**Wildlife**  
Trusts

TITLE

### Provide enough water

Provide a shallow dish of water for thirsty birds, mammals and even insects. Placing a small stone in the centre will help any insects that may fall in!



#### Subheading A

Birds need water to bathe to keep their feathers in good condition, so top up the bird bath regularly with fresh, clean water

Picture C

### Top up your bird feeders

Keep bird feeders topped up and scatter some food, like soaked raisins\* and apple chunks, on the floor for thrushes and other animals


Picture D

### Provide enough cover from the sun

Provide logs, stone slabs, rockeries and tall grass, which provide cover for frogs, toads and newts seeking shelter from the sun

### Top up your pond

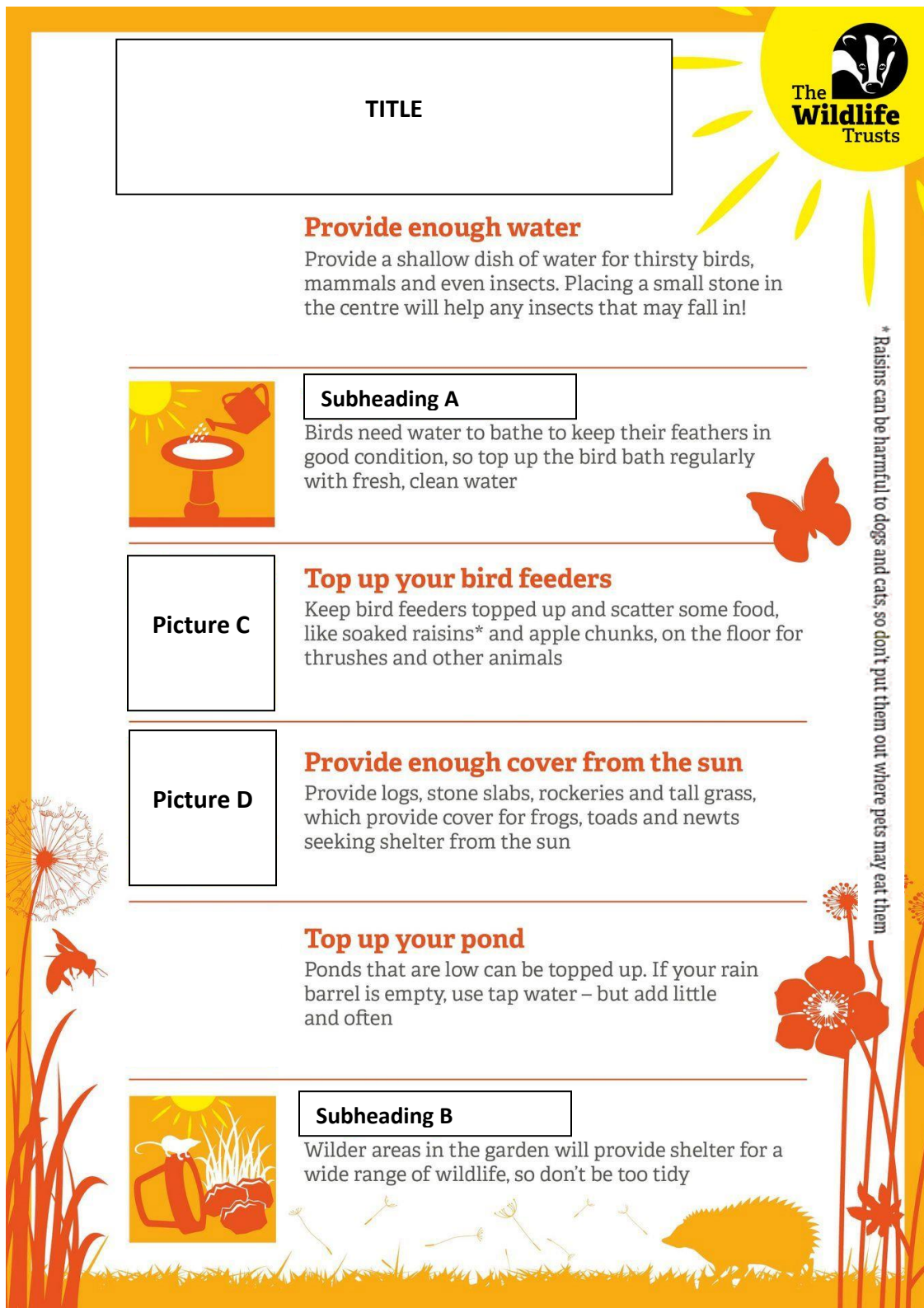
Ponds that are low can be topped up. If your rain barrel is empty, use tap water – but add little and often



#### Subheading B

Wilder areas in the garden will provide shelter for a wide range of wildlife, so don't be too tidy

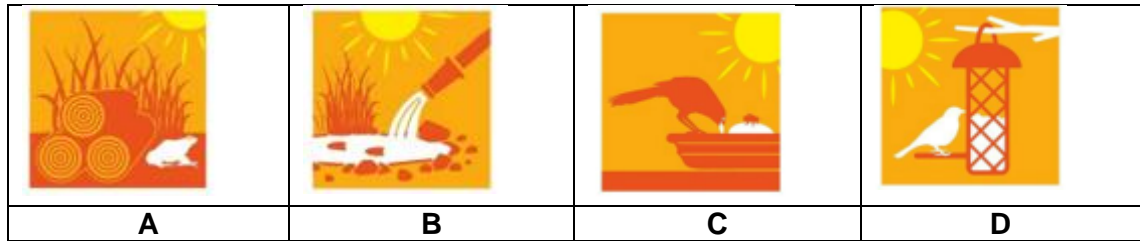
\* Raisins can be harmful to dogs and cats, so don't put them out where pets may eat them



Questions:

1. What is the best title for this text?
  - a) Helping pets in winter
  - b) Farm animals in summer
  - c) Wildlife in hot weather
  - d) Trusting Wildlife in the heat
  
2. This text
  - a) Narrates a story
  - b) Gives directions
  - c) Describes a place
  - d) Gives instructions
  
3. This text is
  - a) a poster
  - b) a brochure
  - c) an article
  - d) an advert
  
4. Water needs to be put in a dish which is
  - a) wide
  - b) heatproof
  - c) deep
  - d) flat
  
5. The small stone in the centre of the dish
  - a) Makes the insects drown
  - b) Helps the insects stay afloat
  - c) Helps keep the water from overflowing
  - d) Helps keep the water fresh
  
6. The most appropriate sentence for subheading A is
  - a) Add more water to your pond
  - b) Add more water to your bird bath
  - c) Water your plants daily and frequently
  - d) Feed your birds and clean their cages
  
7. Birds need to wash to
  - a) Keep their beaks clean
  - b) Stay hydrated
  - c) Keep their feathers healthy
  - d) Keep their feet wet
  
8. **Top up** means to
  - a) add
  - b) fill
  - c) remove
  - d) clean
  
9. Raisins are good for
  - a) all animals
  - b) birds
  - c) dogs
  - d) cats

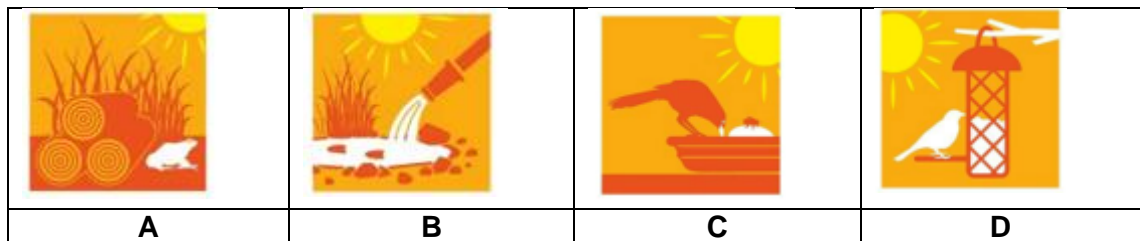
10. Picture C is missing. Circle the best one.



11. Thrushes are

- a. fruits
- b. ponds
- c. birds
- d. cows

12. Picture D is missing. Circle the best one.



13. Logs are helpful because they

- a) protect animals from their prey
- b) protect animals from the heat
- c) provide animals with a home
- d) provide animals with food

14. Choose the correct word for the blank. People should \_\_\_\_\_ top up their ponds with tap water.

- a) never
- b) rarely
- c) frequently
- d) always

15. The most appropriate sentence for subheading B is

- a) Stay messy
- b) Add water
- c) Keep mice away
- d) Cut the grass

15 x 2 marks = **30 marks**

## SECTION B

Read the text carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 16 to 30) that follow:

Henrietta Jones owned a garage in London. When she expanded it to include a car sales department, she decided to employ a new salesperson. She advertised the post and received several applications for it. One of them was outstanding. It included excellent references from the applicant's previous employers. They all stated that he was the best salesperson they had ever employed.

Henrietta was puzzled. Although she had expanded her garage, it was still rather small. She wondered why such an outstanding salesperson should want to work there. Henrietta invited the applicant to attend an interview. At the interview, she asked him why he wanted the post. He replied that his wife's parents lived in London and they wanted to live near them. Delighted to have a man with such good references, Henrietta gave him the job on the spot.

The next day, Dr Jim Bruce drove up to the garage in his small car. The new salesperson came out and started to talk to him. After a few minutes, the salesperson persuaded Jim to buy a large new car. He went on to tell him that such a powerful car would be excellent for pulling a caravan. The new salesperson explained thoroughly how convenient a caravan was for holidays and that it would be more affordable than staying in a hotel. When Jim drove away, he not only had a new car and a caravan but also a small boat. Henrietta Jones was obviously delighted. She congratulated her new salesperson. "Well done!" she said. "How did you manage to sell Dr Bruce a caravan, and a boat as well as a new car?" "Well, madam," the salesperson replied. "It wasn't easy. You see, he only came in to buy some petrol."

### Questions:

16. What is the best title for this text?
  - a) Henrietta buys a new car
  - b) Dr Bruce's new job
  - c) Henrietta's new salesperson
  - d) Henrietta fights Dr Bruce
  
17. The garage belonged to
  - a) Ms Jones
  - b) The new salesperson
  - c) Dr Bruce
  - d) Jim
  
18. Henrietta Jones advertised for a new salesperson because
  - a) her salesperson had left
  - b) her business had grown
  - c) she lived in London
  - d) she wanted to reduce her workload
  
19. After advertising the job, Henrietta
  - a) did not receive any applications
  - b) received only one application
  - c) received few applications
  - d) received a lot of applications

20. One of the applicants was
- a) unfriendly
  - b) outgoing
  - c) brilliant
  - d) quiet
21. Henrietta was confused because she did not
- a) like the applicant's attitude
  - b) understand why the applicant wanted the job
  - c) think the applicant was right for the job
  - d) feel that the applicant was being honest
22. The reason why the new salesperson wanted the job was because
- a) it pays well
  - b) of its good working conditions
  - c) the family lived nearby
  - d) it was easy to do
23. The new salesperson who was chosen
- a) had never worked before
  - b) was praised by other employers
  - c) had lived in London before
  - d) was going to get married
24. **On the spot** means
- a) immediately
  - b) it is spotted
  - c) after a lot of thought
  - d) in the garage
25. At the beginning of the text, Dr Bruce owned
- a) a caravan
  - b) the garage
  - c) a boat
  - d) a tiny car
26. According to the new salesperson, a caravan is
- a) more powerful than a car
  - b) cheaper than a hotel
  - c) faster than a boat
  - d) better for families
27. On the second day, the new salesperson
- a) found it impossible to sell a car
  - b) found it easy to sell a boat
  - c) managed to sell more than one item
  - d) did not manage to sell anything

28. At the end, the owner of the garage was
- a) angry at her new salesperson
  - b) upset with her new salesperson
  - c) somewhat happy with her new salesperson
  - d) proud of her new salesperson
29. Dr Bruce went to the garage just to buy
- a) a caravan
  - b) a car
  - c) a boat
  - d) petrol
30. This text
- a) narrates a story
  - b) gives directions
  - c) gives instructions
  - d) describes a place

15 x 2 marks = **30 marks**

## SECTION C

Read the text carefully and then answer ALL the questions (from 31 to 50) that follow:



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Workers digging a well on the outskirts of the city of Xi'an, China, in 1974 struck upon one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in the world: a life-size clay soldier poised for battle.

The diggers notified Chinese authorities, **who** dispatched government archaeologists to the site. After digging some more, they found not one, but thousands of clay soldiers, each with unique facial expressions and positioned according to rank. And though largely grey today, patches of paint hint at once brightly coloured clothes. Further excavations have revealed swords, arrow tips, and other weapons, many in pristine condition.



The soldiers are in trenchlike, underground corridors. In some of the corridors, clay horses are aligned four abreast; behind them are wooden chariots. According to archaeologists, the terra-cotta army, as it is known, is part of an elaborate mausoleum, an impressive building housing tombs, created to accompany the first emperor of China into the afterlife.

Ying Zheng took the throne in 246 B.C. at the age of 13. By 221 B.C. he had unified a collection of warring kingdoms and took the name of Qin Shi Huang Di—the First Emperor of Qin. According to writings of **court historian** Siam Qian during the following Han dynasty, Qin ordered the mausoleum's construction shortly after taking the throne. More than 700,000 laborers worked on the project, which was halted in 209 B.C. amid uprisings, a year after Qin's death.

To date, four pits have been partially excavated. Three are filled with the terra-cotta soldiers, horse-drawn chariots, and weapons. The fourth pit is empty, a testament to the original unfinished construction. Archaeologists estimate the pits may contain as many as 8,000 figures, but the total may never be known.

Qin's tomb itself remains unexcavated, though historians suggest even greater treasures including models of palaces, pavilions and offices as well as fine vessels, precious stones and rarities. Historians add that the tomb contains replicas of the area's rivers and streams made with mercury flowing to the sea through hills and mountains of bronze. Precious stones such as pearls are said to represent the sun, moon, and other stars. Modern tests on the tomb mound have revealed unusually high concentrations of mercury, lending credence to at least some of the historical account.

“But further excavations of the tomb itself are on hold, at least for now,” one of the historians announced.

*Adapted from <https://www.nationalgeographic.com>*



## Questions:

31. This text is about
- Archaeologists and historians
  - Ying Zheng and his death
  - Chinese authorities
  - The terra-cotta army
32. This online text would be found under the tab
- Animals
  - Environment
  - History
  - Science
33. On this website, you cannot
- Subscribe to be a member
  - Buy items
  - Contact the writers
  - Look for particular articles
34. The aim of this text is to
- narrate
  - inform
  - persuade
  - advertise
35. Which one of the following is an opinion?
- ...digging a well on the outskirts of the city of Xi'an
  - ... in 1974
  - ...one of the greatest archaeological discoveries
  - The diggers notified Chinese authorities...
36. Who found the archaeological site?
- Diggers who knew about the site
  - Chinese authorities
  - Diggers of a well
  - Chinese soldiers
37. Where is the archaeological site?
- Outside a city
  - Inside a city
  - Near the city
  - Far away from the city
38. What did the diggers find first?
- Precious jewels
  - One clay soldier
  - Multiple clay soldiers
  - A miniature soldier

39. The word **who** (in bold and underlined in the text) refers to:
- Diggers
  - government archaeologists
  - clay soldiers
  - Chinese authorities
40. All the clay soldiers were
- The same
  - Different
  - Facing each other
  - On horseback
41. Originally, the clay soldiers' clothes
- had swords and weapons
  - were grey and dull
  - were colourful
  - were all in patches
42. ...**many in pristine condition**. **Pristine** means
- Dirty
  - Poor
  - Good
  - Excellent
43. The writer of this article thinks that this terra-cotta army is
- Disappointing
  - Boring
  - Exciting
  - Funny
44. Ying Zheng
- was a historian
  - was an emperor
  - was a soldier
  - led an army
45. Who is the court historian?
- Siam Qian
  - Qin Shi Huang Di
  - Ying Zheng
  - Xi'an
46. How many people helped create the terracotta army?
- 13
  - 246
  - 8,000
  - 700,000

47. Historians \_\_\_\_\_ that Qin's tomb is filled with precious stones.
- do not believe
  - think
  - know for a fact
  - confirmed
48. They \_\_\_\_\_ Qin's tomb.
- have already dug
  - are digging
  - might dig
  - will never dig
49. One of the historians announced that
- Further excavations of the tomb itself are on hold, at least for now
  - Further excavations of the tomb itself were on hold, at least for the time being
  - Further excavations of the tomb itself will be on hold, at least for now
  - Further excavations of the tomb itself had been on hold, at least for then
50. Which one of the following best summarises the text?
- The terra-cotta army discovered in 1974 is part of an elaborate mausoleum created to accompany the first emperor of China into the afterlife. Historians suggest that the four pits excavated include unique soldiers, chariots and weapons. Further excavations are on hold particularly Qin's tomb.
  - In 246 B.C., Ying Zheng ascended to the throne and assumed the name Qin Shi Huang Di. He directed the construction of the mausoleum, which was halted in 209 B.C. Archaeologists believe the pits might hold up to 8,000 figures. Although the tomb has not been explored, historians believe it contains models of palaces, pavilions, offices, excellent objects, rare stones, and rarities.
  - The terra-cotta army, discovered in 1974, is part of an elaborate mausoleum created to accompany the first emperor of China into the afterlife. It is composed of thousands of clay soldiers, swords, arrow tips, and other weapons.
  - The terra-cotta army is part of an elaborate mausoleum created to accompany the first emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang Di. It was built with 700,000 laborers and may contain up to 8,000 figures, but the total may never be known.

20 x 2 marks = **40 marks**

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