3.1 SPaG Technical Accuracy: Test Pack

about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Rewrite the phrase 'the toys belonging to the children' using a possessive apostrophe.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 State the type of error in EACH of the following sentences (choose from: subject-verb agreement / tense shift / non-standard English).

(a) 'Each of the students have completed their assignment.' **(1)**

(b) 'She walked into the room and sees her friend waiting by the window.' **(1)**

(c) 'We was going to the shop later that afternoon.' **(1)**

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

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3 Write a short paragraph (approximately 100-130 words) for a school newsletter, informing students about a new recycling scheme.

Your paragraph must include: one complex sentence using a subordinating conjunction, one semicolon joining two independent clauses, one sentence using the passive voice, and one correctly used apostrophe (possessive or contraction). Underline each of these four features clearly in your answer.

(Total for Question 3 is 12 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.1 SPaG Technical Accuracy: Test Pack

Question 1

the children's toys (apostrophe placed before the 's', since 'children' is an irregular plural not already ending in 's'), cao **B1**

Answer: the children's toys

Question 2

(a) subject-verb agreement (the subject is the singular 'each', so it needs 'has', not 'have') (oe) **B1**

(a) Answer: subject-verb agreement

(b) tense shift (the sentence mixes the past tense 'walked' with the present tense 'sees') (oe) **B1**

(b) Answer: tense shift

(c) non-standard English (the subject 'we' requires 'were', not 'was'); also accept subject-verb agreement (oe) **B1**

(c) Answer: non-standard English

Question 3

Content and organisation (AO5)

Level 1 Simple, limited information about the scheme. Little sense of a register or organisation suited to a school newsletter. **1-2**

Level 2 Some relevant information about the scheme, with some attempt to match the register of a newsletter; ideas are mostly sequenced clearly. **3-4**

Level 3 Clear, well-organised and informative writing that is consistently matched to the register, audience and purpose of a school newsletter. **5-6**

Technical accuracy (range of features) (AO6)

Level 1 One or two of the four required features are present, and these may be used inaccurately. **1-2**

Level 2 Most of the four required features are present and mostly used accurately, with occasional errors. **3-4**

Level 3 All four required features are present, clearly marked and used accurately and effectively, alongside a controlled range of other sentence forms and accurate spelling throughout. **5-6**

Indicative content:

- Informative, appropriately upbeat tone suited to a school newsletter aimed at students
- A complex sentence uses a subordinating conjunction such as 'because', 'so that' or 'when'
- A semicolon joins two closely related independent clauses
- A sentence is constructed in the passive voice, e.g. bins being 'removed' or 'delivered' by staff
- A correctly used apostrophe shows either possession (e.g. 'the scheme's success') or a contraction
- A clear, practical closing sentence telling students what to do or where to find more information

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