10.3 Subject and Object: 10-minute Pack

about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Otter Watch

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Ben had waited all term for the trip to Elmridge Nature Reserve. The coach dropped the class beside a narrow gravel path, and a warm breeze drifted across the marsh. Mr Dovey, the reserve warden, led the group towards a low wooden hide beside the river. Inside the hide, everyone crouched down and stayed silent. The reeds swayed gently in the breeze. Suddenly, a sleek brown shape slipped into the water. The excited young otter caught a wriggling fish and dragged it onto a flat stone. Priya lifted her binoculars and studied the otter's whiskers. The heron speared a silver fish with a single, sudden strike. Jamal and Aisha counted four ducklings paddling behind their mother. Nobody wanted to leave when Mr Dovey finally called time.

1 The subject of a sentence is the person or thing that does the action of the verb. Tick the subject in each sentence below.

(a) The playful otter dived into the water. **(1)**

- ☐ A) playful
- ☐ B) otter
- ☐ C) dived

(b) Molly photographed the ducklings. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Molly
- ☐ B) photographed
- ☐ C) ducklings

(c) The old hide creaked in the wind. **(1)**

- ☐ A) old
- ☐ B) hide
- ☐ C) creaked

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(d) Two herons landed on the bank. **(1)**

- [ ] A) Two
- [ ] B) herons
- [ ] C) landed

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2 Each sentence below wrongly uses a subject pronoun where an object pronoun is needed, or an object pronoun where a subject pronoun is needed. Correct each sentence by rewriting it correctly.

(a) Me and Priya watched the otters. **(1)**

(b) Him and the warden checked the hide. **(1)**

(c) The guide gave the map to Jamal and I. **(1)**

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3 The paragraph below has three errors: the subject and object have been swapped in one sentence, an object pronoun has been used where a subject pronoun is needed, and one sentence is missing its object. Find and correct the three errors.

The guide led the group into the hide. The reeds pointed at the guide, and everyone crouched down low. Us waited patiently in the silence, and after a few minutes the otter caught.

(3)

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4 Write two sentences of your own about the nature reserve.

(a) Write one sentence in which 'the marsh' is the subject of the sentence. **(1)**

(b) Write one sentence in which 'the marsh' is the object of the sentence. **(1)**

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5 Explain why swapping the subject and object of a sentence does not always create a sentence that makes sense. Use the example 'The otter caught the fish' to support your answer.

(2)

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Mark scheme · 10.3 Subject and Object: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) B ticked (otter) cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) otter**

(b) A ticked (Molly) cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **A) Molly**

(c) B ticked (hide) cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **B) hide**

(d) B ticked (herons) cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **B) herons**

Question 2

(a) Priya and I watched the otters. (subject pronoun I used in place of Me) cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **Priya and I watched the otters.**

(b) He and the warden checked the hide. (subject pronoun He used in place of Him) cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **He and the warden checked the hide.**

(c) The guide gave the map to Jamal and me. (object pronoun me used in place of I) cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **The guide gave the map to Jamal and me.**

Question 3

The guide pointed at the reeds. (subject and object swapped back correctly) cao — **B1**

We used in place of Us (subject pronoun corrected) cao — **B1**

a suitable object added after caught, e.g. a fish or a silver fish (oe) — **B1**

Answer: **The guide led the group into the hide. The guide pointed at the reeds, and everyone crouched down low. We waited patiently in the silence, and after a few minutes the otter caught a fish.**

Question 4

(a) the marsh (or a suitable expanded noun phrase built around it) correctly used as the subject, and the sentence makes sense — **B1**

(a) Answer: **Example: The marsh flooded after the heavy rain.**

(b) the marsh (or a suitable expanded noun phrase built around it) correctly used as the object, and the sentence makes sense — **B1**

(b) Answer: **Example: The warden protects the marsh.**

Question 5

identifies that swapping produces 'The fish caught the otter', which is grammatically correct but describes something that could not really happen — **B1**

identifies that this is because meaning depends on which noun can logically perform the action, not just on grammar (oe) — **B1**

Answer: **Swapping gives 'The fish caught the otter', which is grammatically correct but does not make sense in real life, because a fish cannot catch an otter; grammar alone does not guarantee that a sentence's meaning is sensible.**

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