

## FORM A – Typed text

### Bee – keeping

One day last year we saw a lot of bees going in and out of some old boxes behind our garage.

My friend once sat on a bee and got stung on the bottom, so I was a bit scared of them. But I know a lady who keeps bees, and I asked her if she would take them away. However she thought that I should learn to keep them myself.

She told me what I needed and what clothes to buy. There was a special jacket, which included a hat and veil, and some thick leather gloves. Then she showed how the bees build their comb on frames in the hive, and she taught me how to handle them.

We used a smoker to puff out smoke which calms them down. Then we lifted off the roof of the hive and looked at the frames where the queen was laying her eggs. When we spotted her, we marked her with a dab of white marker ink on her body. We made certain that she was in the bottom box of frames and put a wire mesh called a queen excluder, on top of that box. This keeps her from laying eggs in the boxes above, where the other bees store honey.

[ 212 words ]

## FORM A – Handwritten text

### My Dog, Bill

My dog Bill is very old , but he still likes to play football. We go out into the garden, and Bill tries to get the ball away from me and run off with it.

On Sunday he was 13, so we wanted to give him a birthday treat. My brother Tom said that we should leave him out in the front garden, where he could bite the postman. However, my mum said "No. That was a really stupid suggestion," as Bill was in enough trouble already from chasing the neighbour's cat.

In the end we decided to take him to the park which he always enjoys because he can chase the pigeons and play with other dogs.

On that day, there was this really posh poodle dressed up in a tartan jacket. You could see that Bill thought she was terrific. He couldn't take his eyes off her and kept bouncing around in front of her as if he was a puppy.

She was having absolutely nothing to do with him and walked away with her nose in the air. Poor Bill. To make up for his disappointment, we bought him one of those artificial bones that dogs love to chew.

[ 201 words ]

## FORM B – Typed text

### Biking

My name is Ben and I live in the country. If I want to see my mate Joe, I have to ride my bike, because he lives 2 miles away on a farm.

They have a quad bike there for looking after the sheep, and we are allowed to ride it all round the place. We have made a track over a hill, through a wood and down the side of a field to the farmyard. At the end, there is this really sharp bend between a combine harvester and a derelict tractor, where it is very bumpy and I usually fall off.

Yesterday I completed the course in 4 minutes 20 seconds, which is a record. I almost fell off at the last corner, but I managed to hold on to the handlebars, run beside the quad bike for a few paces and jump on again. It was like you see the bobsleigh teams do on TV.

Normally if you let go of the throttle, the bike just stops. However last week when Joe came off, it jammed open and the bike went at full speed into some hay bales. Luckily it wasn't damaged and we didn't let on to his dad what had happened.

[ 206 words ]

## FORM B – Handwritten text

### The Lock

Sam was 14 and he knew it all.

When the family went on the river in a long boat, Sam told them what to do, even Mum and Dad. He told Rose and Jamie not to fall in the water, and Mum how to push off the boat. He even told Dad where to steer.

When they got to the first lock, Sam knew how to work it. They tied up just below it, while Sam and Mum opened the gates and Dad took the boat into the lock. Then they closed the sluices on the lower gates and opened the upper ones.

Sam showed Rose how to wind up the sluices with the big handle on the top of each gate. He stepped back to watch her and lost his balance on the narrow footway, falling backwards into the lock with a tremendous splash. Dad fished him out with the boat hook. He was filthy, wet and furious, but everyone else just laughed including the lock keeper, and people from two cruisers.

[ 190 words ]