

PRACTICE TEST 3

Comprehension

Read the instructions carefully.

- Do not begin the test or open the booklet until told to do so.
- Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.
- You may write your answers in pen or pencil.
- You may make notes next to the extracts or on a separate sheet of paper.
- If you make a mistake, cross it out and write the new answer clearly.
- You will have 40 minutes to complete the test. It is advisable to spend the first few minutes reading through the extracts before answering any questions.

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Name: _____

DATE		
SCORE OUT OF 50		
PERCENTAGE (%)		

Read the extract, then answer the questions that follow.

Hawk Roosting

I sit in the top of the wood, my eyes closed.
Inaction, no falsifying dream
Between my hooked head and hooked feet:
5 Or in sleep rehearse perfect kills and eat.
The convenience of the high trees!
The air's buoyancy and the sun's ray
Are of advantage to me;
And the earth's face upward for my inspection.
10 My feet are locked upon the rough bark.
It took the whole of Creation
To produce my foot, my each feather:
Now I hold Creation in my foot
Or fly up, and revolve it slowly –
15 I kill where I please because it is all mine.
There is no sophistry in my body:
My manners are tearing off heads –
The allotment of death.
For the one path of my flight is direct
20 Through the bones of the living.
No arguments assert my right:
The sun is behind me.
Nothing has changed since I began.
My eye has permitted no change.
25 I am going to keep things like this.
Ted Hughes

1 Why is the text called 'Hawk Roosting'?

1

2 Give a synonym for each of these words as they are used in the text.

a rehearse (line 5) _____ b bark (line 10) _____

2

3 What style of text is this? Explain your answer.

4

4 Who is the narrator? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

2

5 Why do you think the writer has written the text from this viewpoint?

2

6 Explain the following phrases as used in the text:

a 'The convenience of the high trees!' (line 6)

2

b 'The air's buoyancy' (line 7)

2

c 'Now I hold Creation in my foot' (line 13)

4

d 'There is no sophistry in my body:' (line 16)

2

7 '... the earth's face upward...'. What literary technique is this phrase an example of?

1

8 According to the text, what makes hawks successful hunters?

8

9 What is the hawk's attitude? Explain your answer with reference to the text.

8

10 'Hawks are nothing more than vicious killers and should be eradicated.'
Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

12