



Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Membership Examination

June 2012

Veterinary Behaviour

Paper 1

Perusal time: **Fifteen (15)** minutes

Time allowed: **Two (2)** hours after perusal

Answer your choice of any **FOUR (4)** questions from the six questions **ONLY**
Answer at least **one (1)** question from each of the three sections (A, B and C)

All six questions are of equal value

Answer **FOUR** questions each worth 25 markstotal 100 marks

Paper 1: Veterinary Behaviour

Answer four (4) from the six questions only.

Answer at least one (1) question from each of the three sections (A, B and C).

Section A

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section A.

1. For the following medications; list in point form, the mode of action, behavioural indications, potential side effects and contraindications:
 - a) diazepam (*9 marks*)
 - b) propranolol (*8 marks*)
 - c) acepromazine. (*8 marks*)

2. Describe and discuss the influence of the hypothalamus in behaviour. Include the stress response in your answer. (*25 marks*)

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Section B

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section B.

3. Define and explain **each** of the following terms as used in animal behaviour; include an example to demonstrate each answer:
 - a) secondary reinforcers (7 marks)
 - b) salience (6 marks)
 - c) Premack's principle (6 marks)
 - d) sensitisation. (6 marks)

4. Compare and contrast positive punishment and negative punishment. In your answer include a definition of the terms as well as the benefits, application and pitfalls. Use an example to demonstrate your answer. (25 marks)

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Section C

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section C.

5. Answer **all** subparts of this question:
- a) Describe the vomeronasal organ and its relevance to behaviour in horses. *(9 marks)*
 - b) Describe vision in birds. *(8 marks)*
 - c) Describe olfaction in dogs. *(8 marks)*
6. Describe and discuss the social structure of:
- a) groups of brumbies living in central Australia *(12½ marks)*
 - b) a group of semi-feral undesexed cats on a farm. *(12½ marks)*

End of paper



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Paper 2

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Time allowed: **Two (2)** hours after perusal

Answer your choice of any **FOUR (4)** questions from the six questions **ONLY**

Answer at least **one (1)** question from each of the three sections (A, B and C).

All six questions are of equal value

Answer **FOUR** questions each worth 25 marks total 100 marks

Paper 2: Veterinary Behaviour

Answer four (4) from the six questions only.

Answer at least one (1) question from each of the three sections (A, B and C).

Section A

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section A.

1. A 14-year-old male neutered Cocker spaniel is presented to your clinic by its owner. In the last four months he has been waking in the middle of the night, vocalising and keeping the owners awake. The owners have tried bringing him into the bedroom at night, but this has made no difference to the vocalisation. On further questioning, the owners also mention that he is less affectionate with them and is occasionally urinating in the house, despite being previously well house-trained.
 - a) List the differential diagnoses you would consider in this case. *(9 marks)*
 - b) You decide to treat this patient for the behavioural problem you determined as the most likely diagnosis in part a). List **four (4)** behavioural medications you would consider prescribing to treat this dog. For each medication describe the expected benefits to the patient. *(8 marks)*
 - c) Describe other management strategies you would recommend. *(8 marks)*

2. Recently your client adopted a two-year-old female desexed Australian spotted mist cat from a shelter. Yesterday the cat bit her eight-year-old son on the hand and he required treatment with antibiotics. The client has presented the cat to your clinic for a behaviour consultation.
 - a) List the questions you will ask the owner in order to assist you in making a diagnosis. *(9 marks)*
 - b) List your differential diagnoses for the biting behaviour. *(8 marks)*
 - c) You diagnose fear aggression in this cat. Outline the recommendations you would make to the owners for treatment of their cat. *(8 marks)*

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Section B

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section B.

3. You are designing a new abattoir to process cattle in northern Australia. Discuss features of the facility that you would include to ensure a high standard of welfare, safety and productivity. *(25 marks)*

4. Answer **all** subparts of this question:
 - a) Define what is meant by the term 'stereotypy'. Discuss the reasons why a stereotypy may develop. *(10 marks)*
 - b) For each stereotypy include a brief list of appropriate management strategies. *(15 marks)*

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Section C

You must answer at least one (1) question from Section C.

5. Describe, in detail, appropriate environmental enrichment for the following species:
- a) ferret (*12½ marks*)
 - b) cockatiel. (*12½ marks*)
6. Answer **all** parts of this question:
- a) You are called to investigate complaints about the welfare of a group of kangaroos at a private zoo. Discuss factors you should consider to determine if there is a welfare problem. (*15 marks*)
 - b) You have been asked to train an Australian fur seal at a zoo to open its mouth to allow a thorough examination of its oral cavity. Discuss the benefits and pitfalls of this type of training. (*10 marks*)

End of paper