



Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

Membership Examination

June 2016

Veterinary Behaviour Paper 1

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

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

Answer **ALL FOUR (4)** questions

Answer **FOUR** questions each worth 30 markstotal 120 marks

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Paper 1: Veterinary Behaviour

Answer all four (4) questions

1. Answer **all** parts of this question:

- a) Define aggression. (2 marks)
- b) Name **four (4)** different anatomical areas of the brain involved in aggression and discuss the role **each** plays in aggressive behaviour. (8 marks)
- c) Discuss the role of different monoamine neurotransmitters in aggression. (8 marks)
- d) Define affective and predatory aggression and explain the differences between them. In your answer include relevant anatomic areas and neurophysiological control. (6 marks)
- e) Discuss the role of different hormones in aggression. (6 marks)

2. Answer **all** parts of this question:

- a) Discuss urine marking behaviour in cats. (8 marks)
- b) Discuss the differences in ingestive behaviour between intensively farmed versus feral pigs. (6 marks)
- c) Describe mating behaviour in dogs. (8 marks)
- d) Describe perinatal behaviour in female rats. (8 marks)

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3. Answer **all** parts of this question:

- a) Describe **three (3)** behavioural strategies for thermoregulation. In your answer, give an example using a different species for **each** strategy. (6 marks)
- b) Compare the visual ability of a horse relative to the visual ability of its rider. (10 marks)
- c) List methods of predator avoidance in birds. (8 marks)
- d) Describe behavioural indications of agitation in alpacas. (6 marks)

4. Answer **all** parts of this question:

- a) Define what is meant by the training method known as flooding. Give **two (2)** examples, using a different species for **each**, in your answer. (6 marks)
- b) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of flooding as a training method for animals. (8 marks)
- c) Discuss the requirements for flooding to be successful. (8 marks)
- d) Define habituation and desensitisation. Explain the difference between these two processes using examples. (8 marks)

End of paper



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Paper 2

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Answer **ALL FOUR (4)** questions

Answer **FOUR** questions each worth 30 markstotal 120 marks

Paper 2: Veterinary Behaviour

Answer all four (4) questions

1. A seven-year-old entire male German shepherd dog presented to you for veterinary attention as he had chewed the end of his tail. The dog had been observed by the owners to spin and grab at his tail since he was six months of age. The owner initially found this to be amusing. Since moving house four months ago the tail chasing had become worse, to the point where the dog's owners find it difficult to distract him.

Answer **all** parts of this question:

- a) List questions relevant to the tail chasing that the owners should be asked while you are obtaining a history. (8 marks)
 - b) List differential diagnoses for tail chasing that should be considered in this case. (6 marks)
 - c) You diagnose the tail chasing as a compulsive disorder. List **four (4)** behavioural medications, **each** from a different medication class that could be appropriately prescribed to treat this dog. Briefly explain the mode of action of **each** medication listed. (8 marks)
 - d) Describe management strategies that could help reduce this dog's compulsive tail chasing. (8 marks)
2. Answer **both** parts of this question:

- a) A client is planning to adopt a three-year-old desexed female domestic short hair cat from the local shelter. She already has an eight-year-old desexed male Burmese cat at home. Discuss appropriate recommendations to facilitate introduction of the two cats. (20 marks)
- b) A client brings in a new pet rabbit. The client lives in an apartment and asks your advice on the best way to train the rabbit to use a litter tray. Describe the steps that the client should take to house-train their rabbit. (10 marks)

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3. Answer **both** parts of this question:

- a) You are invited to give a presentation to the staff of a saleyard on the topic of best practice cattle handling. The owners are hoping that further education of their staff will improve efficiency, safety and the welfare standards of the facility. Discuss appropriate handling recommendations to achieve these goals. *(20 marks)*

- b) One month following your presentation, you are provided with video footage of cattle being moved through the saleyard. Explain how welfare of the cattle can be assessed from this footage. *(10 marks)*

4. Answer **both** parts of this question:

- a) You are asked to design a pest management program for non-native predators in a forested area of South-Western Victoria which is known to contain an isolated population of rare tiger quolls, a cat-sized marsupial carnivore. Discuss the key components of this program. *(15 marks)*

- b) In the context of canine social behaviour, discuss how the concept of 'dominance' can affect the human-animal bond. *(15marks)*

End of paper