



Catholic Junior College
JC2 Preliminary Examination
Higher 1

GENERAL PAPER

8881/01

Paper 1

20 August 2024

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name and class on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid on your work.

Answer **one** question.

Note that up to **20** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

Answer **one** question.

Answers should be between 500 and 800 words in length.

- 1 'There is no such thing as sustainable fashion.' Discuss.
- 2 To what extent do you agree that the joy of learning is essential in your society?
- 3 Since individuals can hardly influence political decisions, is there any point in being aware of current affairs today?
- 4 Should artificial intelligence be feared or embraced?
- 5 Examine the claim that too much value is placed on beauty today.
- 6 'The government should never interfere with people's private lives.' To what extent is this true of your society?
- 7 Consider the view that social media cannot fully alleviate feelings of loneliness in young people.
- 8 Is success more important than integrity in today's world?

END OF PAPER

Passage 1. Christine Rosen writes about Man's relationship with pets.

- 1 In October 2018, a woman was forcibly removed from the plane before takeoff. The reason? Airline personnel noticed that the "emotional support animal" she had brought on board in a pet carrier was in fact a squirrel— a pet that was not allowed aboard under the airline's policies but one she refused to relinquish. Defiantly she exclaimed, "You're not taking my squirrel! You will not take my baby from me!" 5
- 2 As the ballad of the therapy squirrel suggests, something significant has changed in our relationship with our pets. Pets are now endowed with new rights and privileges and emotional lives pet owners claim for them. The impulse to treat our pets as beloved children and companions is not new. Romans buried their dogs in human cemeteries and talked about them like children. But the scale and scope of our pet obsessions have vastly increased since Roman times. 10
- 3 Until the mid-nineteenth century, the standards for what defined a pet were straightforward, and rarely sentimental. Today, the term companion animal is preferable to the label pet since the latter fails to respect an animal's dignity. The title of guardian or carer is adopted rather than the more commonly used owner, which implies that the pet is a slave. This concern for animals' dignity and rights has coincided with a sharp increase in the availability of commodities and services aimed at those same animals. There are now countless pet obedience training services, pet insurance companies, as well as pet toy companies. 15
- 4 On social media, pets and their owners pursue followers and 'Likes' with a fervor even the most determined reality-TV star would admire. Contemporary films also offer stories in which master and pet roles are reversed, with pets firmly guiding the lives of their flawed human companions. The recently released movie Alpha gives the origin story of the dog human relationship the full Hollywood treatment, showing a callow boy who grows into a man only with the aid of a wolf. Likewise, in the 2017 movie A Dog's Purpose, the soul of a single dog is repeatedly reincarnated in a different time and place, always displaying an unerring instinct to do right and save the humans around him, often at the cost of his own life. 20 25
- 5 But our changing feelings about our pets are most starkly revealed by our consumer choices: how much and for what we are now willing to spend to make our pets happy and healthy. For wealthy pet owners who can afford it, there are services that will pick up dogs and take them for weekly three-hour hikes in the countryside, even as those lucky dogs' owners toil away in cubicles to pay for it. When pet owners leave their pets behind for a few days, they can now lodge them at resorts complete with an à la carte menu, a bed with a memory-foam mattress and Ralph Lauren sheets. Pets can be taken to the hotel in a Ferrari or Rolls-Royce. Others offer their guests pampering spa treatments with amenities that even include bottled water, gourmet meals cooked by a chef on site, tuck-in and story-time services. For cash-poor pet owners who cannot afford spa days and guided hikes for their animals, the reigning assumption is that humans should adapt to and accommodate the needs of their pets rather than the other way around, with the language of parenthood invoked to shame pet owners who might skimp on their responsibility to do so. 30 35
- 6 Animals once constituted the first circle of what surrounded man. We lived with and among animals, relying on them to survive. Today, people have elevated animals to a more privileged place in the household with pet keeping taking on outsized significance. As greater prosperity encourages more spending on pets, we would do well to reconsider the place of domesticated animals in our lives. 40

Passage 2. Jessica Pierce writes about the case against pets.

- 1 Conventional wisdom is that people are happy when they have animal companions. Animals are happy because ... well, we do not ever really ask this question. If we did, we might not like the answer.
- 2 In buying and selling animals, and in using them for our own gratification, we are treating them as objects, not as living beings with inherent value. When an animal is a product, it becomes difficult for us to appreciate the experiential world of the animal from their own perspective. We think about how our pets make us feel, not how our keeping them as pets makes them feel. 5
- 3 Scientific literature leaves no doubt about the anguish pets experience. Physical confinement, social isolation, and chronic exposure to stress can lead to physiological damage, which can increase the risk of chronic disease, and shorten lifespans. The psychological anguish of captivity manifests in certain harmful behaviors called stereotypies – repetitive movements or sounds, like a ferret pacing back and forth in her cage, or a dog obsessively chasing his tail. 10
- 4 Ethically, keeping pets is not so different from consuming meat: you have taken the life of an individual animal, and you have chosen to participate in an industry that imposes suffering on living beings. A large commercial puppy or kitty mill or a warehouse full of snakes, geckos and other small critters waiting to be shipped to pet stores is not so different from a gruesome factory farm. 15
- 5 Moreover, the billions spent on pet products every year mostly undermine animal welfare. Some pet spending goes toward welfare promoting goods, such as veterinary care. The lion's share, however, is on products like junk food, shock collars, bark deterrents, cages, and tanks. The marketing of these products with catchy labels like 'hamster hotel' can make them seem benign. But imagine spending your whole life in a space not much larger than your body, with no meaningful work, no meaningful social interactions, and no way to engage in behavioural patterns for which you have evolved over millennia? It would be torture. 20
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Passage 3. Kenny Torrella writes about the ethics of pet keeping.

- 1 Ideally, keeping a companion animal is a good thing that enriches both of your lives, bringing nothing but benefits to both parties. I cannot find fault with someone who adopts an animal from a shelter and provides care throughout the animal's life. The internet is awash in this feel-good content starring some of the 250 million animals. It all reinforces the inherent goodness of the ancient human-animal bond and lets us believe that where there are pets — whom most owners consider to be family members - there is joy, love, play, and hope. 5
- 2 Yet, there are shadows that lie beneath the sunny narrative of pet ownership. Things like physical abuse, puppy mills and dog fighting. Beyond such extremes, there are common forms of everyday neglect and cruelty that even well-meaning pet owners may have a lot to answer for: punitive training, prolonged captivity and extreme confinement, mutilations (declawing, ear and tail docking). Add to the bill lack of exercise and socialization, boredom, and even abandonment. All this is possible because, unlike children, pets are not really family members — they are property without legal rights and few laws to protect them. Even the most responsible pet owners, which I would count myself among, are bound to fail to meet the needs of their animals due to other responsibilities and the inherent challenges of keeping a dog or cat in a world made for humans. 10
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- 3 We may see ourselves as the best of animal lovers, but we very well could be inflicting suffering on our pets every day.

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CATHOLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE
 JC2 Preliminary Examination 2024
 General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
 Higher 1

CANDIDATE
 NAME

CLASS

GENERAL PAPER

Paper 2

8881/02

20 August 2024

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name and class on all the work you hand in.
 Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
 Do not use paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer all questions.

Note that up to 15 marks out of 50 will be awarded for your use of language.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
 At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

For Examiner's Use		
Content	Short-Answer Questions	/11
	Summary	/8
	New Item Type Question	/4
	Application Question	/12
Language		/15
Total		/50

Your answers should be:

- written **in your own words as far as possible**. Where you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it.
- written in **continuous prose**.

From Passage 1

1 Why has the author placed inverted commas around the phrase 'emotional support animal' (line 2)?

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.....[2]

2 In paragraph 2, how does the author express her belief that something significant has changed in our relationship with pets?

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.....[3]

3 In paragraph 4, explain the author's purpose in referring to the movies 'Alpha' and 'A Dog's Purpose'.

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.....[2]

[Turn over]

4 In paragraph 5, what are the two dimensions of responsibilities that humans owe to their pets?

For Examiner's Use

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5 What is the author suggesting when she says that 'animals once constituted the first circle of what surrounded man' (line 40)?

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.....[2]

[Turn over]

From all the passages

For Examiner's Use

7 In Passage 1, the writer says that "humans should adapt to and accommodate the needs of their pets rather than the other way around." (lines 37-38)

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to undermine this statement. Justify your answer.

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8 In Passage 2, the writer says that we treat animals as "objects, not as living beings with inherent value." (line 5)

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to support this statement. Justify your answer.

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2024 JC2 Prelim Exam
Paper 2 Suggested Answer Scheme

From Passage 1

Q1. Why has the author placed inverted commas around the phrase 'emotional support animal' (line 2)? [2m]

From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
In October 2018, a woman was forcibly removed from the plane before takeoff. The reason? Airline personnel noticed that the "emotional support animal" she had brought on board in a pet carrier was in fact a squirrel—a pet that was not allowed aboard under the airline's policies but one she refused to relinquish. Defiantly she exclaimed, "You're not taking my squirrel! You will not take my baby from me!"	<p>[Function]</p> <p>(a1) the term is not used in the conventional sense</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b1) to express bemusement/derision/doubt/ disapproval/ disbelief/ absurd/ sceptical/ sarcastic/cynical/ mocking</p> <p>DNA: emphasise / expectation</p>
	<p>[Context]</p> <p>(a2) as a squirrel is an unconventional/ strange/ unusual/ (inappropriate choice of animal to be brought on board) for the purpose of preserving one's psychological well-being</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b2) about the practice of relying on an animal to preserve one's psychological well-being (mental health?) rather than a human person</p> <p>(A1 + A2 = 2m, B1 + B2 = 2m, B1 + A2 = 2m)</p>

Q2. In paragraph 2, how does the author express her belief that something significant has changed in our relationship with pets? [3m]

From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
As the ballad of the therapy squirrel suggests, something significant has changed in our relationship with our pets. Pets are (b1) <u>now endowed with new rights and privileges</u> (b2) <u>and emotional lives pet owners claim for them</u> . The impulse to treat our pets as beloved children and companions is not new. Romans buried their dogs in human cemeteries and talked about them like children. But the (b3) <u>scale and scope of our pet obsessions have vastly increased</u> since Roman times.	<p>[Function]</p> <p>(a1) By comparing past and present attitudes towards pets to show how</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(a2) making a comparison between how pets were treated by the Romans with how pets are treated today, to show how</p> <p>[Context] (any 2 out of 3)</p> <p>(b1) pets are now accorded/provided with/granted/given more/unprecedented entitlements / liberties / luxuries</p> <p>(b2) and are now perceived/projected/ believed/presumed to have their own significant experiences / feelings</p> <p>(b3) as well as how we now have a much greater OR more varied degree of preoccupation/fixation on animals as compared to the past.</p> <p>DNA: addiction</p>

Q3. In paragraph 4, explain the author's purpose in referring to the movies 'Alpha' and 'A Dog's Purpose'. [2m]

From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
Contemporary films also offer stories in which (b) master and pet roles are reversed , (c) with pets firmly guiding the lives of their flawed human companions . The recently released movie <i>Alpha</i> gives the origin story of the dog-human relationship the full Hollywood treatment, showing a callow boy who grows into a man only with the aid of a wolf. Likewise, in the 2017 movie <i>A Dog's Purpose</i> , the soul of a single dog is repeatedly reincarnated in a different time and place, always displaying an unerring instinct to do right and save the humans around him, often at the cost of his own life.	<p>[Function]</p> <p>(a) The author offers stories/ examples that illustrate/ demonstrate/ provide anecdotal evidence</p> <p>[Context] (Either 'b' or 'c')</p> <p>(b) where the position/ obligations/ duties/ function of owner and pet have been interchanged/swapped OR doing what the other was supposed /expected to</p> <p>(c) with pets providing assistance / direction / leading their weak/ imperfect/inadequate human partner/friend/counterparts</p>

Q4. In paragraph 5, what are the two dimensions of responsibilities that humans owe to their pets? [2m]

From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
But our changing feelings about our pets are most starkly revealed by our consumer choices: how much and for what we are now willing to spend to make our pets (a) happy and (b) healthy .	<p>(a) ensure that their pets are content / activities that they enjoy</p> <p>(b) ensure that their pets are in good physical condition / well-being is taken care of</p> <p>BOD: Welfare (not clear if it's 'a' or 'b')</p> <p>DNA for a: Pampered / comfortable / luxury</p> <p>DNA for b: Necessities / essentials</p>

Q5. What is the author suggesting when he says that 'animals once constituted the first circle of what surrounded man' (line 40)? [2m]

From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
Animals once constituted the first circle of what surrounded man. We (a) lived with and among animals , (b) relying on them to survive . Today, people have elevated animals to a more privileged place in the household with pet keeping taking on outsized significance. As greater prosperity encourages more spending on pets, we would do well to reconsider the place of domesticated animals in our lives.	<p>(a) People previously lived in close proximity / lived amidst / lived alongside / co-exist with animals</p> <p>Bod: stayed with / companion</p> <p>DNA: been around / along with / friend / peer</p> <p>(b) They depended on animals to sustain their lives</p> <p>DNA: thrive</p> <p>DNA: animals are used for food</p> <p>DNA: dependent (must show exclusivity)</p>

From Passage 2

Summarise how pet ownership is harmful to animals. Write your summary in no more than 120 words. [8m]

Pt	From the Passage	Suggested Paraphrase
From Para 2		
a.	using them for our own gratification	exploiting/ utilising them for our personal enjoyment/ satisfaction / pleasure
b.	treating them as objects , not as living beings with inherent value	regarding / perceiving / seeing them as items / commodities / things not as creatures with intrinsic / innate worth / sentient creatures DNA: Significance / purpose
c.	difficult for us to appreciate the experiential world of the animal from their own perspective	hard for us to understand/value/ relate to what they go through / their viewpoint / feelings / emotions
From Para 3		
d.	d1: not how our keeping them as pets makes them feel OR, d2: We think about how our pets make us feel	d1: Ignore / disregard / dismiss their feelings OR, d2: as we only consider our emotions
e.	anguish pets experience, there is also psychological anguish	and not about the agony/suffering/torment/distress pets undergo (must capture intensity) DNA: Despondent / depression
f.	physical confinement [para 5] imagine your whole life in a space not much larger than your body	while their spaces / movements are constrained / limited / restricted / containment
g.	social isolation [para 5] no meaningful social interactions]	alienated/ separated DNA: detachment
h.	chronic exposure to stress	prolonged exposure to traumatic events OR subjected to extended trauma/ anxiety/ pressure/ overwhelmed
i.	can lead to physiological damage	resulting in physical/biological wear and tear / bodily injuries
j.	increase the risk of chronic disease	heightening/ greater danger of long-term/ prolonged illnesses/ sicknesses/ ailments
k.	shorten lifespans	reducing longevity OR premature / early deaths
l.	there is also psychological anguish such as harmful behaviours called stereotypes	mental agony/ suffering resulting in dangerous/ destructive habits/actions BOD: hurtful DNA: unhealthy (intensity)

From Para 4		
m.	Ethically , keeping pets is not so different from consuming meat	morally questionable
n.	[inferred point] taken the life of an individual animal	removed the autonomy/agency/freedom of the pet destroy their lives DNA: kill (wrong context)
o.	and you have chosen to participate in an industry that imposes suffering on living beings	knowingly supporting an enterprise / the business (of) that inflicts torment on living creatures Accepted lift: industry
Para 5		
p.	Moreover, the billions spent on pet products every year mostly undermines animal welfare	the exorbitant/excessive sums spent annually on pet products compromise their well-being
q.	The marketing of these products with catchy labels like 'hamster hotel' can make them seem benign . <i>[Inferred from Examples: products like junk food, shock collars, bark deterrents, cages, and tanks, 'hamster hotel']</i>	commodities that appear harmless ultimately bring pain / suffering to them
	no meaningful work	not productively engaged BOD: purposeful life / purposeful actions / sense of purpose
	and no way to engage in <u>behavioral patterns</u> for which you have evolved over millennia ?	prevented from exercising their natural instincts /behaviours

Marks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Points	1-2	3-4	5	6	7	8	9	10+

From all the passages

7. In Passage 1, the writer says that "humans should **adapt to** and **accommodate the needs** of their pets rather than the other way around" (lines 37-38).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to undermine this statement. Justify your answer. [2]

From passage 3	Suggested paraphrase of passage 3	Justification
Even the most responsible pet owners, which I would count myself among, are would count fail to meet the needs of their animals due to other responsibilities and the inherent challenges of keeping a dog or cat in a world made for humans	(a1) Pet owners will inevitably be unable to satisfy the requirements / demands / necessities to take proper care / attend to their pets DNA: May be unable (d1) Pet owners are busy with the many tasks that they have (as they have other obligations that demand their attention)	(a2) proving that <u>although</u> humans are obligated to take care of their pets, it is ultimately impossible to do so/ may prove difficult (d2) therefore may not be able to adjust their lifestyles to care for the pets as they have their own work to complete
keeping a companion animal is a good thing that enriches both of your lives, bringing nothing but benefits to both parties .	(b1) Pet ownership offers ONLY benefits/ does not disadvantage either pets or their owners	(B2) <u>contrary to the claim</u> that people must / are obligated to sacrifice/ adjust / modify their lives to satisfy / cater to their pets <i>as not one party is disadvantaged</i>
Things like physical abuse , puppy mills and dog fighting. Beyond such extremes, there are common forms of everyday	(c1) Animals are subjected to severe mistreatment/ torture/ pain by human hands	(C2) <u>rather than</u> caring for our pets, we are instead abusing our pets

<p>neglect and cruelty that even well-meaning pet owners may have a lot to answer for: punitive training, prolonged captivity and extreme confinement, mutilations (declawing, ear and tail docking)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>...but we very well could be inflicting suffering on our pets every day.</p>		
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8. In Passage 2, the writer writes that we treat animals as “objects, not as living beings with inherent value.” (line 5) Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to support this statement. Justify your answer. [2]

From Passage 3	Suggested paraphrase of passage 3	Justification
<p>they are property without legal rights and few laws to protect them</p>	<p>(A1) Pets are seen as the possession of their pet owners / not treated as living beings and</p> <p>BOD: entities</p> <p>(C1) are <u>not legislatively protected / there are hardly any laws / civil liberties that safeguard pets / pets are not entitled to laws that defend / keep them safe</u></p> <p>Accepted lift: Laws, legal rights Allow: rules and regulations / codified / official / enshrined DNA: privileges</p>	<p>(A2) reinforcing the claim that they can be owned / merely seen as things / assets / not sentient</p> <p>(C2) And therefore their lives are deemed to be of no innate worth</p> <p><i>(no thought / consideration was given for the protection of their well-being such that they are not given any judicial consideration / protection because they are not deemed to have innate worth.)</i></p>
<p>Things like physical abuse, puppy mills and dog fighting. Beyond such extremes, there are common forms of everyday neglect and cruelty that even well-meaning pet owners may have a lot to answer for: punitive training, prolonged captivity and extreme confinement, mutilations (declawing, ear and tail docking)</p>	<p>(B1) Animals are subjected to severe mistreatment/ torture/ pain and suffering</p>	<p>(B2) we accept / allow / enable such mistreatment of animals</p> <p>+ reinforcing the claim / because we believe that they are not seen as living things worthy of respect</p>