



St. Thomas More College
Primary Schools
Half Yearly Examinations
ENGLISH
Reading Comprehension Paper

Year 6

February 2018

Time 50mins

Name: _____

Class: _____



Total : 30 marks

Look closely at the movie poster of Home Alone 2.

ESCAPED



WARNING: These Criminals are armed and clumsy.

BE ON THE LOOK OUT

Harry Lyme and Marv Murchins, the bumbling burglars captured by courageous eight-year old Kevin McCallister have staged a daring escape from a Chicago prison and are believed to be heading toward New York City

HOME ALONE 2

Complete the sentences. Do not use the same word/s twice. All the information you need is in the movie poster.

(½ mark each)

1. This is a poster for the movie _____.
2. In the movie poster you can see two _____.
3. _____ Lyme and Marv _____ are the bumbling _____ captured by a courageous boy.
4. The two men have _____ from a _____ prison and seem to be on their way to _____.
5. The two men were caught by _____ McCallister, who is _____ years old.
6. It is believed that the two men are _____ and _____.

Read the following text which is divided into two sections. Then, answer the questions that follow each section.

Section 1

One Cool Job

What do you want to be when you grow up? A teacher? A doctor? An astronaut? How about an ice-cream taster?

Yes, there really is a job where you can get paid to taste ice-cream. Just ask John Harrison, an “Official Taste Tester” at Dreyer’s and Eddy’s Ice-Cream for the past 21 years. Testing helps manufacturers to be sure of a product’s quality. During his career Harrison has been responsible for approving over 200 million gallons of the sweet creamy dessert—as well as for developing over 75 flavours.

Harrison hadn’t always wanted to be in the ice-cream business. As a kid, he’d wanted to be a fire-fighter or a police officer, among other careers.

But ice-cream runs in his family. “It was like I fell into a batch of ice-



cream,” he says, chuckling. Four generations of Harrisons have been “in” ice-cream, including his great-grandfather, who owned two ice-cream parlours in New York City in the 1880s; his father, who owned a dairy-ingredients factory in Georgia;

and his uncle, who owned an ice-cream factory in Tennessee. At his uncle's factory, Harrison "tasted and ate" his way through high school and college as he learned how to make ice-cream. He likes to joke that ice-cream is so much a part of his life that his blood "runs 16 % butterfat."

Some people think that it would be easy to do this job; after all, you just have to like ice-cream, right? No—there's more to the job than that, says Harrison, who has a degree in chemistry. He points out that a dairy or food-science degree would be very useful to someone wanting a career in this "cool" field.

In a typical morning on the job, Harrison tastes and evaluates 60 ice-cream samples—three each from the 20 flavour batches produced the previous day. Starting with vanilla and working up to stronger flavours like mint chocolate-chip, he slices open each container. Then he lets the ice-cream warm up to about 12 degrees Celsius. The temperature in the storage freezer is -20 degrees Celsius. Most people eat ice-cream at between 0 and 5 degrees. But cold ice-cream can numb the taste buds. Harrison explains, "You get more flavour from warmer ice-cream, which is why some kids like to stir it, creating ice-cream soup."

Questions on Section 1**11 marks****1. Fill in the following sentences using numbers only. (4 marks)**

- a) John Harrison has been working in this field for _____ years.
- b) John Harrison has developed _____ flavours.
- c) During a normal work day, Harrison tastes _____ samples of ice-cream, _____ each from the 20 flavour batches produced the day before.

2. True, False or No Information Given? Tick (✓) the correct box. (3 marks)

		True	False	NIG
a.	An ice-cream taster is a job that exists.			
b.	John Harrison wanted to work as a fire-fighter.			
c.	Harrison's grandfather owned two ice-cream parlours.			
d.	Harrison's uncle likes strawberry ice-cream.			
e.	After opening the ice-cream containers, Harrison leaves the ice-cream to warm up to 12 degrees Celsius.			
f.	Harrison suggests that you get more flavour from cold ice-cream.			

3. Why is John Harrison’s job as an “Official Taste Tester” important?

(1 mark)

4. Who has influenced Harrison in his job choice?

(1 mark)

5. Find word/s from the passage that mean the same as:

(2 marks)

a) Taking care of _____

b) Laughing _____

d) Opposite of **difficult** _____

e) Usual _____

SECTION 2

While the ice-cream warms up, Harrison looks over the samples and



grades each one on its appearance.

“Tasting begins with the eyes,” he explains. He checks to see if the ice-cream is attractive and asks himself, “Does the product have the colour expected from that flavour?” If there are added goodies

in the ice-cream, such as fruit, chocolate chips, nuts or fudge ribbons, he makes sure that they are evenly spread throughout and that the sample doesn’t have too much or too little of the added ingredients.

Next it’s time to taste! With his gold-plated spoon, which he uses to avoid the aftertaste plastic or wood can give, Harrison skims the top of the sample, where it’s warmest. Then he turns the spoon upside down and plops the spoonful onto his tongue.



“I’ve developed a way of tasting called the Three S’s,” he says. “First, I *swirl* the ice-cream very quickly around in my mouth, completely coating my taste buds. Then I *smack* my mouth several times very fast to warm up the ice-cream even more and to add air, to release the maximum flavour.”

While swirling and smacking, he tastes for balance between the cream, the

natural flavours and the sweetening ingredients. He checks to be sure that the ice-cream texture is smooth and creamy, not icy or gummy.

You might expect *swallow* to be the third ‘S’ in his tasting method but it’s not. “We eat for nutrition,” Harrison says. “Swallowing isn’t necessary to taste ice-cream.” After about three to five seconds of swirling and smacking, he demonstrates the third ‘S’ —he *spits* out the sample into a bucket. “That’s the worst part of my job,” he sighs, “spitting out the ice-cream.”

But that doesn’t mean he never eats ice-cream. Harrison swallows one bite of each new flavour, to test the aftertaste. At home and “off-duty,” he eats whatever flavours he chooses—and more than just one bite! Vanilla is his favourite. He enjoys making his own ice-cream and swirling goodies into it. “We’re all kids when it comes to ice-cream,” he says.

Both at work and in leisure time, Harrison is always on the lookout for new flavour ideas that might succeed commercially. The most popular flavour he has developed so far is cookies and cream. Continuing to think up new ideas, try out new flavours and test samples from so many batches of ice-cream each day keeps Harrison busy but happy— working at one cool job!

(Written by Danielle S. Hammelef and taken from Hightlightkids.com)

Questions on Section 2

9 marks

6. Why does Harrison use a gold-plated spoon to taste the ice-cream?

(2 marks)

7. Mention the Three S's involved in the process of tasting ice-cream.

(1 mark)

8. Underline the correct answer.

(1 mark)

a) 'is always on the **lookout**'

The word **lookout** in this phrase means (staring, ignoring,
paying attention).

b) 'Continuing to **think up**'

The phrase **think up** means (invent, say, prevent).

9. What does Harrison enjoy doing when he is not working?

2 marks

10. Does Harrison enjoy doing his job? Give a reason from the text which shows this. (1 mark)

11. Would you try out Harrison's job? Why or why not? (2 marks)

Questions on the two sections (4 marks)

12. In not more than 30 words, describe the job of an ice-cream taster. (2 marks)

13. Underline the correct answer. Then continue the sentence. (2 marks)

I can read this text (in a story book, in a newspaper article, online).

I know this because _____
