

WRITING SUB-TEST – TEST BOOKLET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You must write your answer for the Writing sub-test in the **Writing Answer Booklet**.

You must **NOT** remove OET material from the test room.

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: VETERINARY SCIENCE
TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

Assume that today's date is 10 February 2019.

You are a veterinarian at a private veterinary clinic that is open on Saturdays. Mrs Stella Alma has brought her dog, 'Grainger', to you for treatment because it is Saturday and her normal veterinary clinic is closed.

Patient: 'Grainger'
Owner: Mrs Stella Alma
Breed: Dachshund
Sex: Female
DOB: 22 May 2011
Weight: 5.5kg

History: Dry dog-food in morning, canned at night
1 other dog in household (female dachshund) Worming
Spay 23 Mar 2015
No known allergies/conditions

Vaccinations: Canine Adenovirus-2
Canine Parvovirus Distemper
Kennel cough
Canine Parvovirus Distemper
Kennel cough

10/02/19

Reason for presenting:

Dog seems depressed
Anorexia 5 days
Drinking and urinating a lot
Vomiting+++
Diarrhoea++
Lethargy
Weakness

On presentation: Very depressed

Approx 10% dehydrated
Slow deep respiration
Acetone breath
Lung sounds normal
Heart rate 110/min
Abdominal palpation negative

Clinical Pathology:

Available blood chemistry and urinalyses

Results:

PCV(%) 58 (37-55%)

Urea nitrogen 28mg/dL (10-28dL) Glucose 360mg/dL (65-118mg/dL) Protein 9.5g/dL (5.4-7.1g/dL)

Urinalysis:

SpG: 1.035;

Protein +++++

Glucose +++++

Ketones +++

Diagnosis:

Diabetic ketoacidosis

Possibility of electrolyte abnormalities Possibility of hypokalaemia

Treatment:

To stabilise prior to move to another hospital for intensive care. IV cephalic catheter. IV Fluids – 500ml in 1 hour; lactated Ringer's solution; regular insulin 2.5 units at 10.30am.

Discussed with owner re:

- long-term daily insulin treatment
- management requirements
- cost (owner says price not an issue)

Referral:

- Refer the animal for intensive care
- Request further blood electrolyte and blood gas analysis
- Attach blood chemistry and urinalysis results to referral

Writing Task:

Using the information in the case notes, write a letter of referral to Dr Barron at the Emergency Centre for intensive care. Address the letter to Dr Barron, Animal Emergency Centre, Newtown.

In your answer:

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**

The body of the letter should be approximately 180–200 words.

Any answers recorded here will not be marked.

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Occupational English Test**WRITING SUB-TEST: VETERINARY SCIENCE
SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER OF REFERRAL**

Dr Barron
Animal Emergency Centre
Newtown

10 February 2019

Dear Dr Barron

Re: 'Grainger', female dachshund

Mrs Alma's dachshund Grainger, a 7-year-old female who is 5.5 kg, presented today at my clinic. She was severely depressed, had slow respiration, was approximately 10% dehydrated and had acetone breath. Her symptoms are consistent with diabetic ketoacidosis, so I am sending her to you at the Emergency Centre for intensive care.

Grainger has been anorexic for the last five days, and been experiencing vomiting, diarrhoea, lethargy and weakness. She has also been drinking and urinating excessively. I have attached the urinalyses and available blood chemistry tests to this letter. The key findings are abnormally high PCV and elevated protein (4+), glucose 360mg/dL and urea nitrogen 28mg/dL.

In order to stabilise Grainger, an IV catheter was placed and a rapid administration of lactated Ringer's solution and regular insulin was delivered at 10:30 am today.

I discussed with the owner the requirements for long-term daily insulin treatment and the management requirements. I also addressed the cost of these treatments but the owner said that cost was not an issue. Grainger also requires further blood electrolyte and gas analysis, which we would appreciate if you could perform to confirm suspected electrolyte abnormalities and possible hypokalaemia.

Should you require further details, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Veterinarian