

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 30 August 2019

You are a vet in an after hours clinic. 'Cherie', an eight-year-old female Bernese mountain dog, presents with constant salivating and gagging. Emergency surgery is performed.

28 Aug 2019

Time of presenting:

9.30pm

Owner: Mrs Kent

Animal: 'Cherie', an 8-year-old female neutered Bernese mountain dog (43kg)

History: Salivating ++

Retching/attempting to vomit (every 2–3 minutes) – non-productive, for the last 30 mins

V. restless, wandering, whining & panting

Standing with legs apart, head hanging down

Signs of pain

Distended abdomen

Clinical findings: Temp 40°C

Distended, tympanic abdomen

Gums pale, poor capillary refill

Signs of shock

Systolic blood pressure 90 mmHg (normal: 90-140 mmHg)

HR: 150-180, pulse: weak

Diagnosis: Right lateral abdominal radiograph performed, Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus (GDV) confirmed (gas distended stomach w. dorsal displacement of pylorus)

Circulatory shock secondary to GDV

Treatment: Pre-treatment bloods

Intravenous drip – shock fluid therapy

Pain relief: methadone 0.2mg/kg IV

Percutaneous decompression of stomach performed

GA administered

Surgery: gastric tube passed to relieve gas, stomach de-rotated

Assessed for viability of tissues (stomach spleen)

Performed gastropexy (stomach adhered to body wall in normal position)

Post-operative pain relief

Recovery uneventful

Advised Mrs Kent:

Urgent operation to relieve gas in stomach (or would be fatal). Suggested a gastropexy to help prevent 'bloat' recurring. Op. performed 11pm

'Cherie' under obs. for 24 hrs. Vitals – NAD

30 Aug 2019

Dog discharged to Mrs Kent's care. Return to regular local vet for post-op rev, removal of stitches & further treatment as required

Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter of transfer to the client's usual vet, Dr Grey, for a post-operative check and follow-up treatment. Address the letter to Dr Simon Grey, Bayside Veterinary Practice, 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.

BLANK

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: VETERINARY SCIENCE SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER OF REFERRAL

Dr Simon Grey
Bayside Veterinary Practice
Newtown

30 August 2019

Dear Dr Grey

I am writing to inform you of emergency treatment given to one of your regular patients, Mrs Kent's dog Cherie, and to request your follow-up treatment.

Cherie presented at our after hours clinic at 9.30pm on 28 August, with a history of salivating continuously and attempting to vomit every 2-3 minutes. She was restless, whining and panting. Her posture was stooped with her head hanging down and her legs were apart. There were signs of pain and her abdomen was distended.

Clinical examination revealed pale gums, temperature 40°C, weak pulse, heart rate 150-180 bpm and her systolic blood pressure was 90 mmHg. The stomach was distended and tympanic, Cherie was showing signs of circulatory shock. A diagnosis of Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus was confirmed on radiographs.

Cherie was stabilised with IV fluid therapy and pain relief. Percutaenous decompression of the stomach was performed and Cherie was taken to surgery. The stomach was derotated and a gastropexy was performed. Her recovery from anaesthesia was uneventful.

Cherie remained under observation for 24 hours and when vital signs returned to normal, Mrs Kent was able to take her home. I advised Mrs Kent to consult you for a post-operative check, removal of stitches and for further treatment when appropriate.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Veterinarian