

... utilitarian galleries, just as
... the colossal mock rocks of the Mappin Terraces, and the witty
*jeu d'esprit** of the Penguin Pool. All sorts of new shapes are now going
up, equally diverse, from Sir Hugh Casson's concrete elephant house to
Lord Snowdon's aviary, which turns out to be far more robust than it looked
in the model. It would be a pity if the Zoo ever became too uniform,
because it makes such a good match for nature's craziness. The whole thing
could float off down the Thames as Noah's Ark and the Tower of Babel
combined. Some of the oddest effects occur from outside the Zoo, in
Regent's Park itself. By day, a mountain goat high up on the terraces
where you least expect it. At night, a terrifying set of squeals and snuffles
to liven up a walk home to Swiss Cottage.

It may be a silly thing to say, but the Zoo is one of the most under-used
amenities in London. It seems to be regarded as a place to bring the kids
and not much more. In fact it would be a good place to get to know someone,
to talk over all but the most hard-headed business, or simply to drown one's
indignation at human imbecility in the antics of the rest of Nature's jokes.
After all, it costs no more than the price of a scotch and soda, which is a
more usual remedy. And if the baboons and the sea-lions don't work, you
can always have the scotch and soda anyway, in the Zoo's bar. London offers
unlimited opportunities for pleasure, but so many of them drive you slap up
against man's pettiness—a fashionable play, for example, or a meal in the
King's Road. It is good to have a place which takes the mickey out of
architecture, the animal world, and its human visitors simultaneously.

* Nairn, from *Nairn's London*, p. 103, copyright © Ian Nairn, 1966, reprinted by permission
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jeu d'esprit — joke. [Ed.]

(Answers to the following three questions are on pp. 196-7.)

- Q.1 What does the author like about the Zoo? Answer in about 50 words. marks 14
- Q.2 Give the meaning of the following words from the first paragraph as they are used in the passage: marks 8
- utilitarian robust
- diverse uniform
- Q.3 In your own words, explain the three examples given by the author in paragraph 2 of using the Zoo other than 'as a place to bring the kids'. 18

Passage 9

total 40

Moorings

In a salt ring of moonlight
The dinghy nods at nothing.
It paws the bright water
And scatters its own shadow
In a false net of light.
A ruined chain lies reptile,
Tied to the ground by grasses.
Two oars, wet with sweet water
Filched from the air, are slanted
From a wrecked lobster creel.
The cork that can't be travels—
Nose of a dog otter.
It's piped at, screamed at, sworn at
By elegant oyster catcher
On furious red legs.
With a sort of idle swaying
The tide breathes in. Harsh seaweed
Uncrackles to its kissing;
The skin of the water glistens;
Rich fat swims on the brine.
And all night in his stable
The dinghy paws bright water,
Restless steeplechaser
Longing to clear the hurdles
That ring the point of Stoer.

Norman MacCaig, from *A Round of Applause*, copyright © Norman MacCaig, 1962, reprinted by permission of Chatto and Windus Ltd.

Now answer these questions. (Our answers are on pp. 197-8.)

- 1 Explain the comparisons suggested by two of the following: marks 4
- reptile* (line 6) *Filched* (line 9) *breathes in* (line 17)
- 2 What is the effect of the third or middle stanza on the poem as a whole? 6

Passage 6

total 40

Engineering training

We have included the following passage as a reminder that comprehension is a skill required in many different occupations. The engineering apprentice who fails to grasp its meaning could be at a serious disadvantage.

The procedure is that at the end of the first year course of training a choice is made of one or more Stage II modules on the combined basis of the firm's need and the trainee's aptitude. Training in the chosen module will proceed in accordance with the appropriate training specification and to the standards prescribed by the skill specification. During the training the work carried out will normally consist of items of production which have been carefully selected by the training staff in consultation with the production departments to give the range of training prescribed. Close attention must be given to such matters as accuracy, finish, time and safe working practice, and periodic testing in accordance with the prescribed standards must be carried out.

Module training may take place on or off the job but in all cases it will be a requirement for recognition of approved training that the trainee is responsible to a supervisor who has been trained in the techniques of instruction manuals and testing procedures. The supervisor will be required to certify the entries of training in the trainee's log book and record the assessments carried out.

From *Training for Engineering Craftsmen, The Module System*, reprinted by permission of the Engineering Industry Training Board.

- | | <i>marks</i> |
|---|--------------|
| Q.1 What special term in this passage needs to be understood before the meaning of the passage as a whole can be fully grasped? | 2 |
| Q.2 What will a second year trainee's work consist of? | 5 |
| Q.3 When the training staff are choosing what work trainees should do, what do they have to keep in mind? | 4 |
| Q.4 Mention two things that a trainee will be expected to pay particular attention to during his second year? | 2 |
| Q.5 What is compulsory before a trainee's work in his second year can be officially recognized? | 3 |
| Q.6 In about 80 words describe what is required of a second year trainee. | 14 |
| | total 30 |

(Our answers are on p 195.)