OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST

VETSAMPLE01

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.

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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 17 July 2018.

You are a veterinarian at a private veterinary clinic. Lulu is a long-term patient of yours.

Date admitted:	23 July 2018
Owner:	Mrs Martina Schmidt
Patient:	'Lulu' – 18-year-old poodle cross, spayed female
Care	unpredictable behaviour – anxious & can bite when frightened
DOB:	April 2000

History:

18 Jun 2011	Vaccination given (C5). Owner reports dog 'slowing down' e.g. sleeping ++, with moderate cough (frequent ↑ worse), energy -- ← arrow shorter walks. Clinical examination – cardiopulmonary auscultation suggests provisional diagnosis: congestive heart failure (CHF). Recommended tests to confirm: haemogram, biochemical profile, urinalysis (U/A), thoracic X-rays, ECG.
23 Jun 2011	Haemogram, biochemical profile, U/A, thoracic X-rays, ECG. Test results confirm provisional diagnosis: ++CHF. Treatment: medication – Frusemide 2mg/kg 2x/day initially; benazepril hydrochloride (1/2 tab daily), pimobendan 0.5 mg/kg 2x/day. Also gentle exercise, good diet, maintain healthy weight.
25 Aug 2012	Dog well, bright & alert. Coat glossy. Body weight (BW): 10kg. Vaccination given (C5). CHF treatment continuing.
03 Aug 2013	Bright & alert. BW: 9.5kg. Heart rate: 90bpm. Managing 1-hour walk daily. Good muscle tone. Vaccination (C5). Continue CHF treatment regime.
10 Jul 2014	Dog well, responsive. BW 9.5kg. CHF treatment ongoing. Vaccination (C5). Heart rate: 88bpm.
26 May 2015	Check-up. Bright & responsive. Heart rate: 85bpm. Lungs clear. Muscle tone good. Heartworm prevention. Vaccination (C5).
24 Jun 2017	Bright & alert. BW: 9.0kg. Vaccination (C5). Heart rate 80bpm. Lungs clear.

10 Jul 2018 Owner reports Lulu seems depressed, sleeping more, slow sitting down & reluctant to get up, ↓ interaction with family & other dogs, 'shivering', periodic retching, drinking ↑, urinating ↑ & urinary incontinence. Coat dull. BW: 8.5kg. Heart rate: 81bpm.
Vaccination (C5). Provisional diagnosis: chronic renal insufficiency/chronic renal failure. Recommended tests: U/A, haemogram, biochemical profile. Owner doesn't want dog euthanased.

17 Jul 2018 Tests: U/A, haemogram, biochemical profile; observation.
Clinical findings: provisional diagnosis confirmed: ++chronic renal insufficiency (CRI); ++CHF; osteoarthritis (OA).

Care notes: For CRI – low protein diet (commercial or homemade – recipes available) to reduce load on kidneys. Fresh water daily.
For CHF – daily walk, adequate (varied) diet.
For OA – warm bedding & sleeping place, ? dog coat (for warmth), daily exercise (not too long/difficult).

Medications: For CHF: Frusemide 2mg/kg 2x/day; benazepril hydrochloride – ½ tab daily (ongoing); pimobendan 0.5 mg/kg 2x/day.
For OA: cartrophen injection – 1x/wk for 4 wks, then mthly (ongoing); chondroitin sulfate (Cosequin DS) – one capsule daily, sprinkled over food.
For urinary incontinence: phenylpropanolamine (Propalin Syrup) – 0.25ml 2x/day on food (calibrated syringe provided to measure dosage).

Writing Task:

Write a letter to the dog's owner outlining your diagnosis of Lulu's illnesses and appropriate instructions for care at home. Address your letter to: Mrs M Schmidt, 21 High Street, 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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VETSAMPLE01

Occupational English Test

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

Mrs M Schmidt
21 High St
Newtown

17 July 2018

Dear Mrs Schmidt

Re: Lulu: female poodle cross, aged 19 years

The results of the tests performed yesterday confirm that Lulu has chronic renal insufficiency and osteoarthritis. This accounts for the reduction in Lulu's energy recently after our successful management of her heart condition.

To address the renal insufficiency, Lulu should have access to fresh water every day and should be given a low protein diet to reduce the load on her kidneys. We can recommend suitable commercial food for Lulu or provide recipes for homemade food. Her urinary incontinence can be treated with 0.25 ml of Propalin syrup twice a day on food.

In terms of medications, Lulu's heart condition will continue to benefit from the prescribed doses of frusemide and pimobendan as well as her regular half tablet of benazepril hydrochloride and a varied diet. Please note that her daily walks, which will also help with her heart, should not be too long or difficult because of her arthritis. Lulu needs a warm place to sleep, appropriate bedding, and possibly a dog coat to help ease this condition. To treat the arthritis, a series of cartrophen injections once a week for four weeks, and then monthly, along with one Cosequin DS capsule daily sprinkled over her food, has been prescribed.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Veterinarian