

**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