

There are **7 questions** in this test.  
Give yourself **10 minutes** to read the text and answer the questions.

### Just Step on the Scales, Please

Amanda Andrews is the Head Zoo Keeper at Fixelfield Zoo, where the staff are completing a particularly important task. Our reporter, Paul Cowan, went to talk to her.



Paul *It looks like your staff are rushed off their feet, Amanda. What's going on?*

Amanda It's time for the annual weigh-in here at the zoo. Around 10,000 animals have their height and weight recorded and logged on an international database. It's important for me and my team to find out if the animals are as healthy as they should be. We also need to know if any of them are pregnant, which is particularly crucial for our endangered species.

Paul *So how do you go about weighing them all?*

Amanda We have a hugely diverse range of animals living here — from beetles to bears to big cats — so we have to use different scales for each of them. A feather-winged beetle, for example, can weigh around 0.4 milligrams (that's 0.4 thousandths of a gram), whilst our male Bactrian camel, Tony, weighs in at about 730 kg. Oh, and of course, most animals are not naturally cooperative.

Paul *Oh dear — that sounds ominous!*

Amanda Yes, things can certainly get interesting! Bribery plays a big part in the weigh-in. Squirrel monkeys can't keep still, so keepers have to entice them with food to get them into the weighing pans. The emperor tamarins are trained to approach targets, which we place on the scales. Sometimes we have to get even more creative — we've built a set of scales that resemble a tree branch in the sloth enclosure, so they can lounge there and hang about as normal, completely unaware.

Paul *This all sounds quite incredible. How long will it take you?*

Amanda We should manage to get most of the animals measured today. Our staff have a very special relationship with their animals, which makes the process (almost) seamless. We'll all sleep well tonight, though!

1. How many times a year does the weigh-in take place?

.....

1 mark

2. Which **two** measurements are taken at the weigh-in?

1).....

2).....

1 mark

3. What does the word *diverse* mean in the text?

Circle the correct option.

varied

interesting

old

special

1 mark

4. Amanda says that *most animals are not naturally cooperative*.  
What does she mean by this? Use the text to support your answer.

.....

.....

.....

2 marks

5. How do the keepers get squirrel monkeys onto the scales?

.....

1 mark

6. **Find and copy** a word or phrase which suggests that the weigh-in is a relaxing experience for a sloth.

.....

1 mark

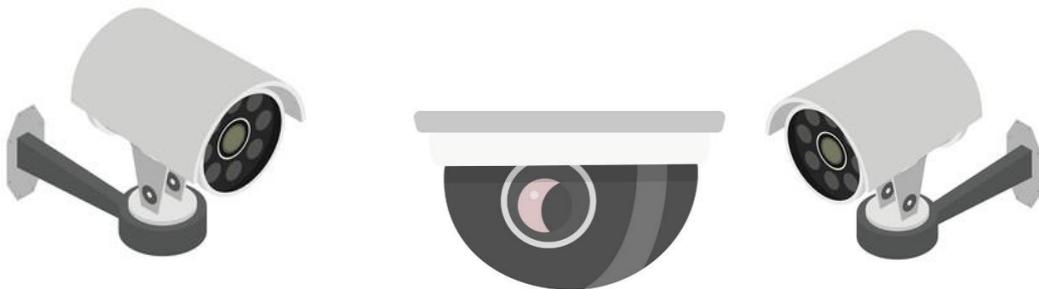
7. Read each statement and **tick** to show whether it is fact or opinion.

	<b>Fact</b>	<b>Opinion</b>
Feather-winged beetles weigh around 0.4 milligrams.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The staff and animals have a special relationship.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The weigh-in is an incredible event.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The results are recorded on a database.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark



*Only Scroll down if you have finished your homework.*





Answers to be revealed on the next page!

Test 2 — Pages 43-45

**1. 1 mark**

*once*  
(2a)

**2. 1 mark for both correct**

*height*  
*weight*  
(2b)

**3. 1 mark**

*varied*  
(2a)

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**4. 1 mark for a sensible answer, without supporting evidence, e.g.**

*"She means that most of the animals don't like being weighed."*

**2 marks for a sensible answer, with supporting evidence, e.g.**

*"She means that most of the animals don't like being weighed, so they have to come up with ways to persuade them, like training them to go for targets."*  
(2d)

**5. 1 mark**

*They entice them with food.*  
(2b)

**6. 1 mark for any one of the following:**

*lounge*  
*hang about*  
*completely unaware*  
(2g)

**7. 1 mark for all four correct**

*Feather-winged beetles weigh around 0.4 milligrams. — Fact*  
*The staff and animals have a special relationship. — Opinion*  
*The weigh-in is an incredible event. — Opinion*  
*The results are recorded on a database. — Fact*  
(2d)