

National Assessments  
5 -14

English language

Reading - Level B  
(Narrative)

The Cat

Name .....

Date.....



*Assessment is for Learning*

AssessmentID: 000 - TaskID: 000

Suzy was a little striped cat. She had stiffly starched white whiskers and a fine pair of football socks on her front paws.

She lived in the house of a fisherman in a little seaside village in France. The fisherman had four sons. All the boys played with Suzy and they took her with them everywhere.

Suzy hated it when the boys were at school and there was nobody to play with her. She would wander around by herself, or go exploring in the fields behind the village.

One day she was chasing butterflies across the field when she nearly bumped into a huge basket. Suzy climbed up the steep side and peered in. The basket was so big it had a wooden stool inside. Under the stool there was a nice patch of shade.

It was a very hot day. Suzy decided to have a little nap. She jumped down lightly into the basket and settled herself nose to tail under the stool. Curled up like that she looked like a huge furry snail.

Suzy was soon fast asleep.

When she woke up Suzy felt very strange. The basket seemed to be rocking from side to side, joggling her. She rushed to the edge of the basket and climbed up the side to jump out - but she changed her mind when she looked over the top! The ground was a very long way away - much too far to jump. She clung on tightly as the basket jerked again, grabbing at a rope with her paws.

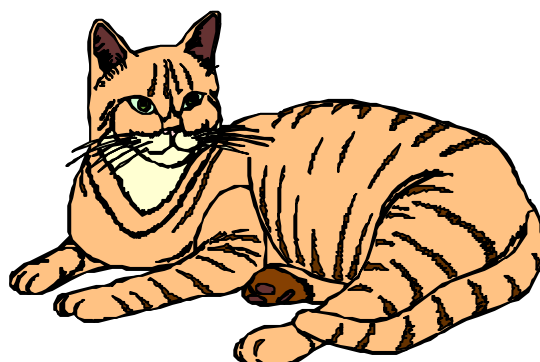
Ropes? She did not notice them when she climbed in. Suzy looked up. The ropes were attached to a huge balloon – an enormous balloon. Suzy was floating high up in the sky in a basket hanging from a balloon!

Poor Suzy! She slid back into the basket and crouched on the floor, shivering with fright. Then she felt a gentle hand in her back and looked up to find that there was a man in the basket with her.

“Hello little cat”, he said. “I didn’t invite you! Oh well, it’s too late now. You will have to come with me to England.”

Suzy didn’t know where England was, but she knew she didn’t want to go there. She wanted to stay in France in her own little fishing village with the boys.

The balloon floated across the sea between France and England. Suzy hated every joggling moment of it. The worst part was seeing the coast of France disappear behind them- everything Suzy knew and loved



## Section A

Look at these sentences about the passage. Choose the best answer to finish each sentence. **Underline your answer.**

1. Suzy was 

lonely
tired
sleepy
happy

 when the boys were at school.

2. Suzy enjoyed 

eating
following
chasing
catching

 butterflies.

3. Suzy 

climbed
crept
crawled
jumped

 into the balloon basket.

4. When Suzy woke the balloon was 

blowing
climbing
flying
floating

 in the sky.

5. The balloon journey was 

wild.
shaky.
smooth.
quick.

## Section B

Look at these sentences. Decide whether each sentence is **True** or **False** or whether you **Can't tell** from the passage. **Tick ONE box** beside each sentence.

		True	False	Can't Tell
1.	Suzy was a French cat.			
2.	The village was by the seaside.			
3.	The balloon basket was green.			
4.	As Suzy was tired, she got into the basket.			
5.	Suzy found a huge snail.			
6.	The man was angry when he found Suzy.			

## Section C

Here is a summary of the story. **Fill in the gaps, using one word or two words in each space.** You may use your own words or words from the story.

Suzy lived with a fisherman's family in a small French village.

Suzy loved \_\_\_\_\_ with the boys.  
1

On school days she had to \_\_\_\_\_ the fields by \_\_\_\_\_.  
2 3

One \_\_\_\_\_ day she found a \_\_\_\_\_ basket with a  
4 5  
\_\_\_\_\_ inside. Suzy went inside and fell asleep.  
6

Suzy woke up to find the basket \_\_\_\_\_ about. She tried  
7

to \_\_\_\_\_ out but the ground was too far. The basket  
8

was \_\_\_\_\_ to a balloon by lots of \_\_\_\_\_.  
9 10

Suzy was very \_\_\_\_\_. A man told her they were going  
11

to \_\_\_\_\_. She did not want to leave her \_\_\_\_\_ behind.  
12 13

## **Last Page**

This is the last page of the Assessment.

It can be discarded.