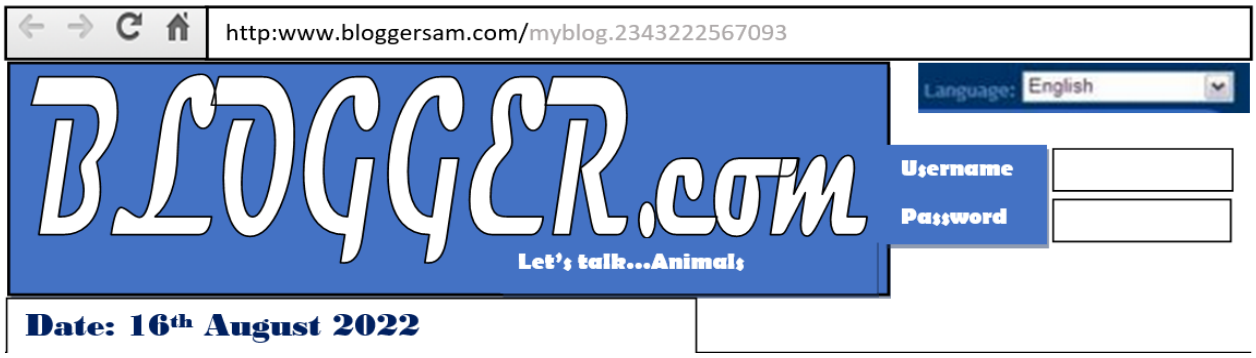
DEPARTMENT FOR CURRICULUM,
LIFELONG LEARNING AND EMPLOYABILITY
Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes
Educational Assessment Unit

Track 3

Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2023

YEAR 7 ENGLISH SOURCE BOOKLET

Source A



Now everyone who follows my blog knows I'm a pet lover. That is actually an understatement! My pets are valued as family members and I take pride in ensuring their comfort and make their safety an absolute priority. So, nowadays pet owners or as I'd like to call them, pet parents, like myself, are turning to the latest technologies to do this. Considering that more than 800 million pets such as dogs and cats are kept worldwide, it is small wonder that interest in Pet Tech is on the rise.

What is Pet Tech, you might ask? Well, as the name implies, Pet Tech or pet technology is the term referring to the usage of technology in the pet sector to improve the health, wellbeing, surveillance, and safety of pets. Here are some examples of how Pet Tech has helped in this regard.

A. _____

Although pets may establish strong emotional bonds with people, they cannot communicate verbally. Several "translation" services have appeared to fulfil this wish. An app provided by a U.S. company called Meowtalk translates cats' meows into human language in real time. Meanwhile, a Japanese company's translation service called Bowlingual uses a collar equipped with sensors to convert dog and cat behaviour into messages. It also conveys the condition of pets to their owners who might be miles away.

B. _____

It is a known fact that a lack of exercise can pose serious risks such as obesity and dementia to pets. So iFetch have created an automatic ball launcher which can keep your pooch engaged for up to 5 hours without being taxing on your time and arm muscles! Apart from this, VARRAM have also developed a fitness robot specifically for pets. Equipped with sensors, the robot moves around autonomously while avoiding obstacles, helping pets exercise while eliminating stress as they play and chase after it for up to 4 hours straight. How's that for a workout!

C. _____

The worst thing that could happen to many pet owners is losing their beloved companions. But technology is coming to the rescue. A Korean company developed an app called Smart Snout that uses the wrinkles on a dog's nose for biometric authentication. Since wrinkles on dogs' noses, like people's fingerprints, are unique to each dog, they can be linked to the owner when registered, all with the help of a smartphone camera. In some countries, identification is already carried out with microchips embedded in the dog's body, and in some places this is actually mandatory. This makes it easier to identify owner information if pets get lost whilst also preventing animal abandonment.

D. _____

Everyone wants their pets to be happy at home and electrical appliances designed with that in mind are on the increase. For example, air conditioning with a pet mode provides the most comfortable environment for pets based on the input information. The system calculates the optimum setting temperature according to the type and variety of pet, blowing air based on the characteristic that dogs, for example, prefer cool places, whilst cats, on the other hand, prefer warmer environments. In addition, an application that can be linked to monitoring cameras can keep track of your pets while you are away and can also be useful for health management by counting the number of times a day they visit areas for drinking, eating, and toileting. Even the traditional pet door, which may allow some unwanted guests in, has had an upgrade. The SureFlap, devised by a US company in 2019, prevents this by only opening the door when the device reads your pet's microchip.

E. _____

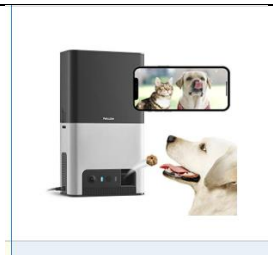
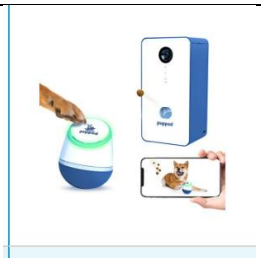
Our furry friends can now experience a new standard when flying with Delta Airlines. This company has created a state-of-the-art pet travel carrier fitted with innovative technology, such as real-time updates throughout the journey, which will provide first-class pet safety while on the go. Other features include stronger walls protecting against temperature changes, windows and doors with blinds to help create a calming environment and the world's first built-in hydration system. After a successful two-month trial period, preceded by five years of research, development, and testing, Delta will launch this ultimate travel carrier in the United States towards the end of 2024. This is what I call travelling in style!

Of course, technology is changing the world as we know it, and I'm glad it's not leaving our furry friends behind! In my opinion, the developments mentioned above are just a scratch on the surface of this world of pet care and it will be interesting to see what's in store for the future. Watch this space! I'll definitely keep you posted. Meanwhile, share this news and comment below…

Adapted from: https://article.murata.com/en-sg/article/iot-changes-life-with-pets
https://www.design1st.com/pet-tech-products/
https://www.kiwi.com/stories/delta-launches-innovative-pet-travel-with-live-updates/

Source B

Best Dog Treat Dispensing Cameras

A. _____	**Furbo 360°**	**Petcube Bites 2**	**PupPod Camera**
PICTURE OF PRODUCT			
THE CAMERA			
FIELD OF VISION	360 degrees	45 degrees	90 degrees
NIGHT VISION	No	Colour Night Vision	Yes
COLOUR VISION	no	yes	yes full HD
PICTURE-TAKING ABILITY	yes	no	no
TREAT-TOSSING ABILITY			
TOSSING DISTANCE	3 metres	8 metres	1 metre
SCHEDULING MODE	No	No	Yes
TREAT COMPATIBILITY	Compatible with round-shaped treats only up to 1cm in diameter	Compatible with round-shaped treats only up to 1cm in diameter	Works with any type of treats which can be found on the market
OTHER			
B. _____	150€	200€	250€
C. _____	Free 45-day trail if the product is purchased from the official store	Use promo-code TBARK10 for 10% off when buying this product	30 days cool down period when buying from the official website
D. _____	Call 999-300-4685	www.petcube.bites.2 @ymail.com	www.puppod.dog-camera@imail.com

Adapted from: https://technobark.com/best-treat-dispensing-dog-cameras/

Source C

It was a long, long list, but Mr Stink listened intently to everything she said as jolly Christmas songs played incongruously in the background. For someone who spent every day with only a little black dog for company, he was surprisingly full of wisdom. In fact, he seemed to relish the opportunity to listen and talk and help. People didn't really stop to talk to Mr Stink – and he seemed pleased to be having a proper conversation for once.

Finally finding herself a receptive audience, Chloe took a deep breath and it all came flooding out. What started off as a stream soon became a rushing river of emotion. Chloe told Mr Stink everything whilst unsuccessfully trying very hard to hold back her tears. From time to time, he interrupted Chloe; "Tell your mother how you feel, I am sure she loves you and would hate to see you unhappy." And, "…try and find something fun you can do with your sister." And, "…why not talk to your dad about how you feel?" And at the end, "That's terrible child," said Mr Stink. "You are very angry, of course but your family loves you, even if they find it hard to show it."

"Maybe," Chloe shrugged, unconvinced. But having talked everything through, she felt a little calmer now. "Thank you so much for listening to me," she said wiping her eyes with the back of her hands. Mr Stink smiled, before letting the last sludge of his volcanic gloop slip down his throat. "Delicious! Now, we'd better leave some money for our beverages." He searched around in his pockets for some change. "Oh, bother, I can't read the board without my spectacles. I'll leave six pence. That should be enough. And a tuppence tip. They will be pleased with that. They can treat themselves to one of those new-fangled cassettes. Right, I think you'd better be heading home now, young lady." The rain had stopped when they left the coffee shop. They sauntered down the road as cars hummed past.

"Let's swap places," said Mr Stink.

"Why?"

"Because a lady should always walk on the inside of the pavement and a gentleman on the outside."

"Really?" said Chloe. "Why?"

"Well," replied Mr Stink, "the outside is more dangerous because that's where the cars are. But I believe it was originally because in the olden days people used to throw the contents of their chamber pots out of their windows and into the gutter. The person on the outside was more likely to get splattered!"

"What's a chamber pot?" said Chloe.

"Well, I don't wish to be crude, but it's a round container shaped like a very large cup made of clay, metal or ceramic. Kind of a portable toilet."

"Ugh! That's gross. Did people do that when you were a boy?"

Mr Stink chuckled. "No, that was a little before my time, child. In the sixteenth century, in fact! Now, Ms Chloe, etiquette demands we swap places." His old-world gallantry was so charming it made Chloe smile, and they changed places.

Adapted from: *Ms Stink* by David Walliams