

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Reading comprehension: test 1

**Time: 30 minutes (both parts)**

## Part 1: The Snow Lambs

- Read the extracts then answer the questions.

It was just before teatime when the snow started falling. Sam, his dad and Bess the sheepdog were counting in the sheep from the river field.

“I think you counted that sheep twice, Dad,” said Sam. Dad was looking up at the sky where storm clouds gathered. The branches on the old elm creaked and Sam shivered. He looked around. I wonder where Bess is, he thought.

### The Snow Lambs questions

1. When did the snow start falling?

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1 mark

2. Who was not in the river field?

Tick ✓

Mum

Dad

Bess

Sam

1 mark

3. Why is it important that Dad counts the sheep properly?

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1 mark

Name	Date
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4. What could Dad see in the sky?

Tick

Branches

Sam shivering

Sheep

Clouds gathering

1 mark

5. 'I wonder where Bess is'. What do these words tell us about Sam's feelings?

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2 marks

“If the wind gets up, that old elm could blow down across the power lines, and we’d be in trouble,” said Dad.

The wind felt full of sharp little teeth, nibbling at Sam’s nose and biting his ears. “Come on, Sam, let’s get these sheep in,” said Dad.

“I can’t see Bess anywhere,” said Sam. “Where is she?”

When the sheep were safe inside, Dad yelled, “BESS! BESS, COME HERE!” His voice was lost in the wind.

“Come on, Sam, let’s get you inside – you look half frozen,” he said.

They took off their boots and coats in the porch. Dad bolted the door behind them.

“But how will Bess get in?” asked Sam.

“She won’t,” said Dad. “That dog is useless. Maybe being shut out will teach her a lesson.”

Text extract ©1994, Debbie Glori (1994, Scholastic Children's Books)

**L2.1**  **Transitional assessment**

Name _____	Date _____
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6. 'The wind felt full of sharp little teeth, nibbling at Sam's nose and biting his ears'. What do these words tell us about the wind?

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1 mark

7. "BESS! BESS, COME HERE!". Why are these words in capital letters?

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1 mark

8. Which words tell us that Bess could not hear Dad shouting?

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1 mark

9. Why did Dad want Sam to come inside?

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1 mark

10. What does Dad think of Bess?

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2 marks

Text extract ©1994, Debbie Glori (1994, Scholastic Children's Books)

**L2.1**  **Transitional assessment**

Name _____	Date _____
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After supper it was bathtime. As Sam jumped into his bath with a huge SPLASH, he thought, Bess will need a good hot bath when she gets in.

Mum wrapped Sam up in the cocoon of a warm towel, then dried his hair.

“That’s quite a storm brewing out there,” said Mum.

“Will Bess be blown away?” asked Sam.

“Don’t worry, Sam. Bess can look after herself,” replied Mum.

I hope Bess doesn’t have to dig her way home, thought Sam, digging out his pyjamas.

Taken from: *The Snow Lambs* by Debbie Gliori.

11. Find two things that tell us that Sam is worried about Bess?

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2 marks

12. What does Sam think could happen to Bess?

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1 mark each

13. How does Mum try to make Sam feel better?

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1 mark

Text extract ©1994, Debbie Gliori (1994, Scholastic Children's Books)



Name

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**Part 2: Weather at Work**

- Read the poem then answer the questions.

**Weather at Work**

I'm a speeding hailstone,  
An icy lump.

I'm a clap of thunder,  
A noisy thump.

I'm a chilly snowflake,  
Soft and white.

I'm a ray of sunshine,  
Warm and bright.

I'm a falling raindrop,  
Splashing to the ground.

I'm a winter snowball,  
Hard and round.

I'm a flash of lightning,  
A magic sight.

You can see me zigzag,  
Lighting up the night.

*Jenny Morris*

Poem ©1998, Jenny Morris

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Weather at Work questions

17. Which kind of weather is a 'noisy thump'?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

18. Which word means the same as cold?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

19. Which two words describe sunshine?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

20. Find the word in the poem which rhymes with ground.

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

21. How many different kinds of weather are there in this poem?

Tick ✓

5                      6                      8                      9

1 mark

22. 'Splashing' means the same as:

Tick ✓

splattering                      falling  
drowning                      twirling

1 mark

23. Choose your favourite description of the weather and explain your choice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2 marks

**End of test**