



**THE PONY CLUB 'AH' TEST (3 Assessors)**  
**Assessor's Comments Sheet**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ASSESSOR A – Part I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR A – Part II</b>
<p><b>RIDE AND LEAD AND LEG UP</b>            A1. Take two horses out of the stables; mount, ride and lead unaided – using snaffle bridles. Lead horse may be tied up outside. Highway Code.            A2. 'Put up' a person on a horse by giving a leg up.            A3. Discuss compatibility of the two horses, and the advantages and disadvantages of riding and leading.</p> <p><b>STABLE YARD</b>            A4. Consider the practical planning of a stable yard to enhance the welfare of the horses. Consider materials and labour-saving devices.            A5. Explain how yards can be maintained, and how to create teamwork within family, friends, and colleagues so tasks can be completed effectively.            A6. Discuss some of the types of bedding available, including storage, muck heap and disposal.            A7. Precautions to be taken against fire and burglary, in and around the stables and yard. Legal requirements for fire extinguishers and electrics.            A8. Know what current legislation it is advisable to consider when owning a horse.            A9. Consider Health and Safety legislation, and apply it to the way a yard is run.            A10. Explain how to purchase, store and ensure the quality of feed, both economically and safely, using efficient practice for feeding regimes. Include rodent control.            A14. Explain the importance of communication with farrier, vet and other yard users.</p> <p><b>GROOMING</b>            A21. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of classical and modern methods of grooming fit horses.            A22. Demonstrate strapping and modern alternatives and discuss the reasons for them.            A23. Explain why it is important to wash a sheath, and how it is done.            A24. Discuss current methods of cooling horses and ponies after hard work.            A25. Discuss the care of horses' teethe and show how to examine for a sharp or wolf teeth.</p> <p><b>CLIPPING</b>            A27. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of the different ways of pulling manes and tails.            A28. Show how to trim the horses legs and heels            A29. Show how to plait manes and tails            A30. Discuss clipping a nervous or difficult horse, considering the safety of the person clipping, the preparation of the horse, the environment and the care of the clippers.            A31. Describe types of clip and their uses. Explain how to mark horses for various types of clip.</p>	<p><b>TACKING UP</b>            D6. Stable and work area to be kept clean and tidy.            D7. Compare types and uses of bandages, materials and padding. Discuss current thinking on the effect of heat on tendons.            D8. Put on working and or exercise bandages and discuss poorly applied bandages and boots.            D9. Select and put on suitable equipment to ride this horse around a cross country course.            D10. Discuss the consequence of poorly fitting equipment.            D11. Fit a saddle and a double bridle. Explain the action of the double bridle.            D12. Recognition of various normal types of bit and saddlery; their uses, advantages, disadvantages and actions.</p> <p><b>HANDLING</b>            D1. Define the importance of good stable manners for the horse.            D2. Explain stereotypical behaviours and how to minimise them.            D3. Demonstrate how to hold horses or lead horses that are being awkward, possibly during wound cleaning, or when very fresh.            D4. Handling difficult horses in and out of stables. The advantages and disadvantages of twitching, how a twitch works, and different types of restraint.            D5. How to prevent horses from becoming cast, dealing with a horse during and after being cast.            A26 Show basic knowledge of the nervous system: discuss how the sensory systems affect our handling of horses.</p> <p><b>COMMON AILMENTS, NURSING, FIRST AID</b>            D13. Be able to recognise good and ill health.            D14. Explain simple medical and veterinary terms.            D15. Summarise precautions against infection and contagion.            D16. Discuss care of ill, infectious, and long term recuperating horses.            D17. Understand the use of support bandages, vet wrap and current veterinary bandaging.            D18. Specify how to prevent sore galls in fir horses during long working seasons.            D19. Compare hot and cold poultices, types and uses.            D20. Identify and discuss the circulatory system and symptoms of when it malfunctions, explain how to deal with severe bleeding.            D21. Summarise vaccinations – types and timings.            D22. Evaluate precautions that can be taken against flies on horses and around stables and in the field.            D23. Explain treatment of coughs, colds, flu and strangles.            D24. Discuss current thinking on causes, treatment and preventative measures of laminitis, azoturia, and atypical myopathy.            D25. Evaluate modern methods of reducing horses' worm burden.            D26. Explain the functions of the horses' skin, and how to recognise and treat skin diseases.            D27. Have a basic knowledge of the skeletal and muscular systems and their effect on performance and movement. Know the functions of the muscle groups. Identify the locations of and know the difference between muscles, tendons, and ligaments.            D28. Discuss the development of the muscular system required to support ridden            D29. Explain how to recognise eye problems, and action to be taken.            D30. Be able to judge when a wound is simple to deal with and when veterinary attention is required.</p>



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<b>ASSESSOR B – Part I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR B – Part II</b>
<p><b>LUNGEING</b>            B1. Checking the horse's equipment.            B2. Working the fit horse for exercise on the lunge in a safe, efficient, effective and practical way.            B3. Recognise the quality of work shown.            B4. All work must demonstrate care to maintain the safety and welfare of the horse and handler.</p> <p><b>PADDOCK MANAGEMENT</b>            B5. Discuss how many horses you would keep on this field. Estimate average.            B6. Know how to avoid worm infestation.            B7. Explain various pasture routines, including how grassland quality can be improved.            B8. Discuss the identification and eradication of poisonous plants.            B9. Know the precautions necessary during and after use of sprays, fertilisers, lime, etc.            B10. Describe advantageous and disadvantageous grasses.</p> <p><b>STABLE YARD CONT.</b>            A11. State the advantages of Pony Club insurance and discuss other possible forms of insurance.            A12. Explain the use of Accident Report forms/books. Know what COSHH and RIDDOR stand for.            A13. Outline actions to be taken in the event of an accident to a person on a stable yard.</p>	<p><b>CARE AND HANDLING OF MARES, FOALS AND YOUNG STOCK</b>            B11. What factors may influence the choice of broodmare or stallion.            B12. Discuss the differences between natural covering, artificial insemination and embryo transplant, and the advantages and disadvantages of each.            B13. Explain the veterinary procedures required before a mare can go to stud.            B14. Recognise when a mare is in season.            B15. Know the factors behind the choice of service date - basic outline of covering programme.            B16. Discuss foaling environments, facilities and equipment; selection, preparations and procedures.            B17. Describe care of the in-foal mare, including feeding, worming and testing routines.            B18. Describe the inoculations required for the brood mare and foal.            B19. Determine whether or not to foal at home.            B20. Recognise the signs of a mare about to foal.            B21. Compare a normal birth to a situation requiring veterinary attention.            B22. Discuss problems and solutions that may arise with mares, foals and young stock.            B23. Deciding factors on whether to return a mare to stud.            B24. Explain how to travel mares and foals safely.            B25. Discuss the timing and procedure of weaning foals.            B26. Compare the advantages and disadvantages and timing of gelding colts.            B27. Outline the care of young stock up to the age of three years.</p> <p><b>COMMON AILMENTS, NURSING, FIRST AID</b>            D10. Recognition of good and ill health.            D11. Explain simple medical and veterinary terms.            D16. Compare hot and cold poultices, types and uses.            D17. Identify and discuss the circulatory system and symptoms of when it malfunctions, explain how to deal with severe bleeding.            D18. Summarise inoculations - types and timing.            D19. Evaluate precautions against flies on horses and around stables and in the field.            D27. Wounds, judge when the wound is simple to deal with and when veterinary attention is required.</p>



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<b>ASSESSOR C – Part I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR C – Part II</b>
<p><b>CONFORMATION</b> C1. Describe a horse fully, including sex, colour, size, age, markings, type. C2. Consider the conformation of this horse and the effect that it might have on its way of going and the type of work it may be suited to. C3. Discuss horseman-like terms or phrases. C4. Evaluate the advantages or disadvantages of the different types of procedure for vetting horses before purchase.</p> <p><b>LAMENESS</b> C5. Running a horse up for veterinary inspection and evaluate the action. C6. Explain the value of trotting up a horse for veterinary inspection and evaluation of its action. C7. Discuss how to identify lameness. C8. Show how to detect heat and swelling in the horse's leg and interpret the findings. C9. Indicate seats of lameness. Splints, curbs, spavins, etc. Where to find them, what they are, causes and treatments. C10. Recognition and treatment of diseases and ailments of the foot.</p> <p><b>FOOT AND SHOETING</b> A15. Discuss the structure of this horse's foot and lower leg. A16. Discuss the balance of this foot. Identify a well shod foot. A17. Notice and discuss remedial or corrective shoeing, pads, wear of shoes and relate to movement or possible unsoundness. A18. Discuss the advantages and disadvantage of the use of studs. A19. Show how to remove a loose shoe. Tools to use, either farrier's or substitutes if these are not available. A20. Evaluate the prognosis for diseases and ailments related to the foot, bearing in mind the future plans for the horse.</p> <p><b>HEALTH AND CONDITION</b> C11. Assess some observations that might make you take action when checking horses first thing in the morning or last thing at night. C12. Getting a tired horse to urinate. Recognising and dealing with symptoms of exhaustion, stress or dehydration. Describe how these conditions can be prevented. C13. Consider the urinary system as related to practical problems. C14. Be able to demonstrate taking a temperature, pulse rate and respiration rate and explain why these are important. C15. Discuss the aims of societies and associations connected with the care of horses and ponies.</p>	<p><b>FEEDING, EXERCISE AND FITNESS</b> C16. Recognition of good and poor condition and reasons for them. Explain condition scoring. C17. Explain the nutrients in the horse's diet. C18. Discuss how the digestive system affects the way horses are fed, and the problems arising from ignoring the rules of feeding. C19. Evaluate feeding hay or alternatives - horsehage, haylage, etc. Type, qualities, purchasing, storage, quantities to be fed. C20. Contrast the difference in feeding traditional feedstuffs with modern mixes, consider quality, quantity, and constituents. C21. Is there a place in a modern feeding system for boiled feeds? C22. Discuss the value of the many feed additives on the market, and the use of minerals and probiotics. C23. Compare fibre-based with fibre and concentrate diets, include grass. C24. Tempting a difficult feeder, relating to a young, old or sick horse. C25. Contrast work and feed when changing horse from one job to another, or rest, during the year. C26. Discuss getting horses fit for various disciplines. Interval training – distance and speed. C27. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of horse-walkers. C28. Recognise how to relate feeding to work and condition. C29. Evaluate how to judge fitness following, during training, or competition. C30. Discuss the considerations to be made in the care of a competition horse to ensure maximum performance. C31. Identify how the respiratory system relates to fitness. C32. Discuss problems of the respiratory system, such as whistling, roaring and allergies and how to deal with them. C33. Understand the lymphatic, and endocrine systems as they relate to practical problems, such as lymphangitis.</p> <p><b>COMMON AILMENTS, NURSING, FIRST AID</b> D21. Discuss current thinking on causes, treatment and preventative measures of laminitis and azoturia. D15. Specify how to prevent sores and galls in fit horses during long working seasons. D24. Basic knowledge of the skeletal and muscular systems and their effect on performance and movement. D25. Discuss the muscular system's development required to support ridden work.</p>
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