



**THE PONY CLUB 'AH' TEST (4 Assessors)  
Assessor's Comments Sheet**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ASSESSOR A – Part I	ASSESSOR A – Part II
<p><b><u>Ride and Lead and Leg Up</u></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>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>
ASSESSOR A – Part II	
<p><b><u>Stable Yard</u></b>            A4. Consider the practical planning of a stable yard to enhance the welfare of the horses.            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 current legislation it is advisable to consider when owning a horse.            A9. Consider current 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 the efficient practice for feeding regimes. Include rodent control.            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.            A14. Explain the importance of communication with farrier, vet and other yard users.</p> <p><b><u>Foot and Shoeing</u></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.</p>	<p><b><u>Grooming</u></b>            A21. Contrast the advantages and disadvantages of classical and modern methods of grooming fit horses.            A22. Demonstrate and discuss the reasons for strapping and modern alternatives.            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. Explain the care of horses' teeth, and show how to examine for sharp or wolf teeth.            A26. Show basic knowledge of the nervous system; discuss how the sensory systems affect our handling of horses.</p> <p><b><u>Clipping, Trimming and Plaiting</u></b>            A27. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of the different ways of pulling manes and tails.            A28. Show how to trim the horse's legs and heels.            A29. Show how to plait manes and tails.            A30. Discuss clipping a nervous or difficult horse, consider the safety of the person clipping, preparation of horse, the environment and the care of clippers.            A31. Types of clipping and their uses. Marking the horse for clipping.</p>



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<b>ASSESSOR B – Part I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR B – Part II</b>
<p><b><u>Lungeing</u></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><u>Care and Handling of Mares, Foals and Young Stock</u></b>            B11. What factors may influence the choice of broodmare or stallion.            B12. Discuss whether you would choose natural covering, AI or embryo transplant.            B13. Explain the veterinary procedures required before a mare can go to stud.            B14. Recognise when a mare is in season.            B15. 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>ASSESSOR B – Part II</b></p> <p><b><u>Paddock Management</u></b>            B5. Discuss how many horses you would keep on this field. Estimate acreage.            B6. Know how to avoid worm infestation by regular picking up of droppings and topping rough patches, resting paddock or grazing with sheep or cattle.            B7. Explain pasture routines, include grassland quality and how it can be improved.            B8. Discuss the identification and eradication of poisonous plants.            B9. Precautions necessary during and after use of sprays, fertilisers, lime, etc.            B10. Describe advantageous and disadvantageous grasses.</p>	



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<b>ASSESSOR C – Part I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR C – Part II</b>
<p><b><u>Conformation</u></b>            C1. Describe a horse fully, including sex, colour, size, age, markings, and 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><u>Lameness</u></b>            C5. Run a horse up for veterinary inspection and evaluate the action.            C6. Explain the value of trotting up a horse for veterinary inspection evaluation if 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. Be able to indicate sites of lameness, know what these conditions are, and be able to discuss the causes and treatments.            C10. Recognition and treatment of diseases and ailments of the foot.</p> <p><b><u>Health and Condition</u></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 can be prevented.            C13. Consider the urinary system as related to practical problems.            C14. Be able to demonstrate taking a temperature, pulse rate and respiratory rate. Explain why these are important.            C15. Discuss the aims and</p>	<p><b><u>Feeding, Exercise and Fitness</u></b>            C16. Recognition of good and poor condition and reasons for them. Explain condition scoring.            C17. Explain the nutrients in the horses 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 mineral content of feedstuffs.            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. Discuss the work and feed requirements for different levels of activity, or rest.            C26. Discuss getting horses fit for various disciplines. Interval training – distance and speed. Compare the fitness levels required, and how fitness may affect the horses behaviour.            C27. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of horse-walkers.            C28. Recognise how to relate feeding to work and condition. Discuss diets for horses in different types of work.            C29. Evaluate how to judge fitness following during and 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>



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<b>ASSESSOR D – PART I</b>	<b>ASSESSOR D – PART II</b>
<p><b><u>Handling</u></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.</p> <p><b><u>Tacking Up</u></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. Discuss the consequences of poorly fitting bandages or boots.            D9. Select and put on suitable equipment to ride a horse around a cross country course.            D10. Discuss the consequences 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><u>Common Ailments, Nursing, First Aid</u></b>            D13. Recognition of 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 sores and galls in fit 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 inoculations - types and timing.            D22. Evaluate precautions 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, atypical myopathy.            D25. Evaluate modern methods of reducing horses' worm burdens.            D26. Explain the functions of the horses' skin, and how to recognise and treat skin diseases.            D27. Basic knowledge of the skeletal and muscular systems and their effect on performance and movement. Identify the locations of the muscle groups and know the difference between muscles, tendons, and ligaments.            D28. Discuss the muscular system's development required to support ridden work.            D29. Explain how to recognise eye problems, and the action to be taken.            D30. Wounds, judge when the wound is simple to deal with and when veterinary attention is required.</p>



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