

VCE VET Equine Studies

Written examination – End of year

Sample questions

SECTION A – Multiple-choice questions

Question 1

Strangles is a condition related to which one of the following systems?

- A. nervous
- B. digestive
- C. respiratory
- D. reproductive

Question 2

Approximately 65–70% of a healthy, mature horse's weight consists of

- A. bone.
- B. water.
- C. muscle.
- D. internal organs.

Question 3

The primary site for the digestion of protein is the

- A. small intestine.
- B. stomach.
- C. caecum.
- D. colon.

Question 4

What does synovial fluid assist with?

- A. the digestion of fibre
- B. the reproductive cycle
- C. the elimination of wastes
- D. the smooth action of joints

Question 5

A show horse with a body condition score of 2 would be considered

- A. overweight.
- B. underweight.
- C. in ideal condition.
- D. in paddock condition.

Question 6

Which one of the following foods has the highest phosphorous content?

- A. wheat bran
- B. lucerne hay
- C. crushed oats
- D. soybean meal

Question 7

What does the palatability of a particular feed refer to?

- A. shelf life
- B. oil content
- C. nutritional value
- D. acceptability to horses

Question 8

A significant decrease in a horse's energy intake is likely to result in a metabolic disorder called

- A. azoturia.
- B. laminitis.
- C. hyperthermia.
- D. hyperlipidemia.

SECTION B

Question 1 (3 marks)

A pregnant mare has foaled.

- a. What is **one** major health issue that may arise for the mare after foaling? 1 mark

- b. Give **two** consequences for the mare that result from this major health issue. 2 marks

Question 2 (6 marks)

- a. What is equine Cushing's disease? 2 marks

- b. Describe **three** observable symptoms that would indicate a horse has equine Cushing's disease. 3 marks

- c. Which physiological system does equine Cushing's disease affect? 1 mark

Question 3 (9 marks)

It is the middle of winter and there has been consistent, heavy rainfall for two weeks. This has caused an extensive muddy area in the paddock where a horse regularly stands. The horse has developed crusty cracks and scabs on the back of the pasterns. They are sensitive to touch and the scabs are spreading.

- a.** Identify the condition affecting the horse and explain how it develops. 3 marks

Condition _____

Explanation _____

- b.** Outline **three** ways in which this condition, if left untreated, would have an impact on the health of the horse. 3 marks

- c.** Describe the main steps that need to be followed to treat this horse and prevent a recurrence. 3 marks

Question 4 (4 marks)

State one advantage and one disadvantage of using each of an automatic waterer and a water bucket as water supplies for a stabled horse.

	Advantage/pro/+	Disadvantage/con/-
Automatic waterer		
Water bucket		

Question 5 (3 marks)

Give **three** ways in which horse feed may become contaminated, other than by bird or animal droppings.

Question 6 (5 marks)

In a northern coastal area of Australia, a number of horses are watered and fed in a paddock where bats are known to roost in the trees.

- a.** Which infection are the horses at risk of contracting? 1 mark

- b.** Explain how the horses can become infected. 2 marks

- c.** Suggest **two** practical strategies, other than vaccination, that could be used to reduce the risk of the horses becoming infected. 2 marks

Answers to multiple-choice questions

Question	Answer
1	C
2	B
3	A
4	D
5	B
6	A
7	D
8	D