Name .............................................. College of first choice ..............................................

Proposed course of study .................................................................

Please state your first language (mother tongue) ..............................................

THE COLLEGES OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY

ORIENTAL STUDIES

Wednesday, 10 December 2008

LANGUAGE APTITUDE TEST

Time allowed: 30 minutes

For candidates applying for degrees involving Arabic, Hebrew and Jewish studies,
Persian and Turkish

Please write your name and college of first choice at the top of this page.

1. Try to answer all questions, working through parts (a) – (d) in order.

2. Write your answers in the spaces provided on the paper. (You may, if you wish, also write your rough work on the paper.)

3. Please take care to write very clearly.
The questions here are all based on an invented language, called Kalaamfaadi. Read each group of examples carefully, paying particular attention to different forms of words, and working out what information they convey (just as in English there are differences between e.g. cat and cats, or beckon and beckons and beckoned). Word order in Kalaamfaadi is different from that of English and is not really fixed; it is not a reliable guide to the meanings of sentences. Note also that Kalaamfaadi has nothing corresponding to the English the and a(n), so that felhom can mean either ‘a farmer’ or ‘the farmer’. You are advised to work through the questions in the order in which they are given, as the later ones presuppose some information or vocabulary supplied in the earlier examples.

(a)
felhom ghrabop karhyd
milkyd felhom rassop
tayrom rassop karhyd
sadyd tayrop sabyom
bussyd felhop ghrabom
extayrop felhom talkyd
exsabyom extalkyd felhop

The farmer hates the crow
The farmer owns a gun
The bird hates the gun
The boy helps the bird
The crow sees the farmer
The farmer shoots the birds
The boys shoot the farmer

Give the meaning of:
exfelhop sadyd rassom

extayrom exsabyop exbussyd

Translate into Kalaamfaadi:
The crows own guns

(b)
sabyom rassop felhorip sargyd
exsabyorim sadyj sahborn exghrabop
sahborn rassorip daipop karhyj
rahbyj tayrop daipom rassorim
exfelhorip exsargyd exbikrop
sabyorim exsahborn

The boy steals the farmer’s gun
The boys’ friend helped crows
The friend hated the gun’s noise
The gun’s noise scared the bird
The boy’s friends steal the farmers’ eggs

Give the meaning of:
ghaborim rahbyd exdajjom sabyop

sargyj sabyom felhorip bikrop

Translate into Kalaamfaadi:
The crows’ friends shot the farmers’ boys
(c)
tayrop rabhzarm talkyj felhom
exsabym rassov exherbyd exrahbzorm

exhissyj exfelhorim exmartom nadzarp
sabyop
exsabyop exdajjov exfoqzorm exmartom
exbussyyj exherbzarp
sarkhyj felhorim martom exsabyorip
exsahbop hisszarm
foqyj martorim dajjom ghrobop

Scaring a bird, the farmer shot
Being scared by the gun, the boys flee
The farmers’ wives heard a boy calling
Being awoken by noises, the wives saw the boys fleeing
Hearing the boy’s friends, a farmer’s wife screamed
A wife’s noise awoke a crow

Give the meaning of:
Foqzorm sabyom extayrov sarkhzarm herbyj
______________________________

extalkzorp exmartov ghrobom bussyj exfelhop
______________________________

Translate into Kalaamfaadi:
Being seen by the crows, the wives scream
______________________________

(d)
jarfom felhov dabtoj

bussoj felhoriv jarfom exkelpov

jarfop kelpom tardyj
bussod kelpov sabyoriv felhorim kelpom

exbussod exsahbom exkelporim exherbzarm

The tractor was stopped by the farmer
The tractor was seen by the farmer’s dogs
The dog chased the tractor
The farmer’s dog is seen by the boy’s dog
The dogs’ friends are seen fleeing

Give the meaning of:
Kelpom exjarfop tardyj sabyorim
______________________________

Exsahbom jarforim extardzorm exhissoj
______________________________

Translate into Kalaamfaadi:
The eggs are owned by the crow’s friends
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