Transcript 2 (T2)

1. **Stand up for examination by stranger**
- **Aim:** Once more the dog's manageability will be tested, but this time it will be conducted by a stranger, as most often happens in real life situations where your dog is examined by the vet, groomer and any other person appropriate.
- **How to test:** The Dog shall be placed calmly in any position considered appropriate by his owner. The examiner will approach the dog and after the initial greeting, slowly examines the dog's teeth, ears, paws, stomach. Once this physical exam is carried out the examiner shall gently groom the dog.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should calmly let the examiner do all the necessary examinations without being shy or aggressive.
- **Points management:** Two marks will be allotted to each exercise. Overly aggressive or shy dogs will be immediately disqualified.

2. **Basic commands from same position.**
- **Aim:** This is to confirm that the dog truly understands the difference between the basic Sit – Down – Stand command and executes them as they should.
- **How to test:** Owner moves forward 5 steps with his dog and then he instructs the dog to sit. After 5 seconds the owner orders the down then after another 5 seconds the owner orders the stand. All 3 commands are to be executed whilst remaining on the same spot without moving.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should follow commands as fast as possible and without hesitation.
- **Points management:** 3 points are allocated to each command and the other point goes to the handler's ability to handle the dog.
3. **Controlled leashed walk amongst people.**
- **Aim:** The dog has to be constantly in control when walking by and meeting strangers.
- **How to test:** The dog has to walk calmly with his owner a minimum distance of 20 steps when passers by start to approach the dog. The dog has to remain indifferent whilst passers by cross in front and walk beside the dog. Finally the handler puts his dog in a sit position whilst 4 strangers approach the owner and form a small circle around dog and owner. This position is to be maintained for 10 seconds, after which the pedestrians walk away from the dog in different directions. The helpers in this exercise should at no time call or try to play with the dog.
- **The expected outcome:** Dog should be calm throughout the exercise; he must not bark at or try to nip at the strangers. Another unexpected behaviour is shyness. The test will be failed if any of these unexpected behaviours will be shown.
- **Points management:** If the dog tries to happily greet strangers, 3 points will be deducted. Submissive behaviour towards strangers will result in deduction of 3 points. Whilst on heel, the dog should pay attention towards owner. If he is distracted by passers by, 1 to 3 points will be deducted. Deduction of points is according to the degree of distraction.

4. **Controlled leashed walk amongst dogs, jogger, and cyclist.**

- **Aim:** This is a very important exercise as it will ensure that the dog is constantly under control, in any situation, and that he has no particular phobias or aggressive traits.
- **How to test:** The dog should be placed on leash and walked for a distance of at least 20 steps after which he is approached by other 3 leashed dogs. The dog should keep on walking calmly till he gets passed the dogs. Then an about turn will be done and the dog will be placed on a sit position. The other 3 dogs approach once again and pass by the seated dog that is being examined. When this is done the dog will be walked further for another approximation of 20 steps whilst at least 2 joggers will past by. Finally a cyclist will pass by coming from behind the dog. After a long enough distance the cyclist will turn and come back, to again meet the handler and the dog. The cyclist will then place himself in a way that the dog is between its handler and the cyclist.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should be calm throughout the exercise/s. He must not bark at or try to nip at the helpers. Another unexpected behaviour is shyness. The test will be failed if any of these unexpected behaviours will be shown.
- **Points management:** 3 points are allotted to each encounter/exercise and the remaining 1 point is given to the handling.

5. **Controlled leashed walk amongst cars.**
- **Aim:** Control is once more tested in an urban environment. Streets in Malta are very busy and our dogs should be able to cope with this stressful chaotic scenario.
- **How to test:** The handler with his dog on leash passes several cars. One of the vehicles is started and from another car a door is slammed shut. While the handler and the dog continue to walk, a car beside them stops. The windowpane is lowered and the handler is asked for information. The dog has to sit when told by the handler or sit by himself.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog has to be calm and show indifference in relation to cars and all traffic noises.
- **Points management:** If the dog obeys in everything but shows fear and/or nervousness, 3 points will be deducted. If the dog refuses to move or shows aggressive behaviour this exercise will be considered as a Fail.

6. **Sit/stay in position with noise.**
- **Aim:** This exercise tests if a dog is confident, hence trust worthy and able to cope with daily life without fear or aggression.
- **How to test:** The dog is placed in a Sit position and owner moves forward 5 steps, at this point a car sounds the horn whilst a stereo with loud music is switched on for at least 5 seconds. Once these are done the handler moves forward towards his dog, returns in heal position and takes a few steps forward followed by the dog alongside.
- **The expected outcome:** Dog should calmly wait for handler to return without showing any fear or aggression towards the source of the noise.
- **Points management:** If dog changes position from sit to down or stand, but remains in place throughout the exercise 2 points will be deducted. If the dog follows the handler, the handler can retry to place the dog in position but, in

this case, 3 points will be deducted. If the dog doesn't stay in place even after initial correction and/or shows fear or aggression towards source of noise the exercise will be considered as failed.

7. **Down/Stay whilst other dog comes around.**
- **Aim:** All dogs should be well mannered not only towards people but also towards other creatures. This exercise puts dogs at test, where he should show a good understanding of orders from people to remain in position.
- **How to test:** The dog is placed in a down position and handler moves 5 steps away. Another handler together with a dog comes from front of the dog in down position, does a 360 degree turn around the dog under test and leave the scene.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should calmly wait for handler to return without showing any fear or aggression.
- **Points management:** If the dog changes but remains in place throughout the exercise 2 points will be deducted. If the dog follows the handler, the handler can retry placing the dog in position but 3 points will be deducted. If the dog doesn't stay in place even after an initial correction and/or shows fear or aggression towards the other dog, the exercise will be considered as failed.

8. **Recall after 1 min stay.**
- **Aim:** Here we are testing handler's authority, dog's trust of handler, respect and self confidence.
- **How to test:** The dog is placed in a position preferred by handler (sit, down or stand). Then the owner moves forward 10 steps and turns to facing towards his dog. Then waits for 1 whole minute after which he moves forward towards his dog, returns in heal position and moves forward 5 steps in heel position.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should wait calmly in desired position.
- **Points management:** If the dog changes position but remains in place throughout the exercise 2 points are lost. If the dog follows the handler, the handler can retry placing dog in position but 3 points will be deducted. If the dog doesn't stay in place even after an initial correction the exercise will be considered as failed.

9. **Controlled Walk without leash.**
- **Aim:** Here, the walk without leash will be introduced for the first time. It is important that we have control over the dog at all times irrespective of leash or not. Walking without a leash in a controlled manner shows great co operation and mutual respect/trust between owner and handler.
- **How to test:** When the judge indicates the start of this portion, the dog is off-leash and in the basic heel position. The handler loops the leash around the shoulder or waist or puts it into his Immediately the handler should proceed with his free-heeling dog doing the following pattern:

Start   End

Sequence 1: From Sit
moves forward 10 steps
then turns right to move a
further 15 steps

Sequence 2: Dog moves
forward 8 steps in slow
pace another 8 steps in fast
pace then turns right for a
further 10 steps in normal
pace.

                                About Turn

- **The expected outcome:** The dog should follow handler, changing directions correctly without moving in front or behind his handler. The dog should be responsive to change in speed.
- **Points management:** The dog should follow handler calmly without leaving too much distance from his handler. If the dog follows but leaves some space from his owner 2 points will be deducted. If the dog tries to take a different route than his owner he can be called back in place and 3 points will be deducted. If the dog retries for the second time to leave desired position, but is re corrected back in place then a total of 5 points will be lost. After that if the dog leaves handler and doesn't return then no points will be given.

10. Sit out of motion.
- **Aim:** The quick sit will test the dog's attention towards the handler.
- **How to test:** The handler goes straight ahead with his dog heeling off-leash. After at least 10 paces, he should sit the dog without interrupting, changing pace or looking around. The dog must sit promptly. After a further 5 steps, the handler stops and turns immediately to face his dog. When the judge signals, the handler goes back to his dog and takes up the basic position at its right side again.
- **The expected outcome:** The dog should sit quickly upon command and wait for handler to return.
- **Points management:** If the dog lays down or remains standing instead of sitting, 3 points will be deducted. If dog follows the handler by not more than 3 steps and then does what is expected 4 points are lost. If the handler has to re instruct the dog what to do, 5 points will be deducted. If after the second command the dog doesn't stay in the desired position then the exercise is considered as failed.