“An Ode to the User-Friendly Pencil.”

*Read the essay and answer the following questions on foolscap in complete sentences.*

*Feel free to make notes on this question sheet.*

1. In your own words, state the thesis of this essay. Support your answer with evidence from the text. (3 marks)

2. Who do you think the audience is for this article? Support your answer. (2 marks)

3. What is the tone of the essay? How does the author create this tone for the reader?

(3 marks)

4. Find and explain an effective use of sentence structure. (3 marks)

5. Find and explain an example of the author’s use of humour in the essay. (3 marks)

6. Explain the effect of the following excerpts: (2 marks each)

1. “You never have to take a pencil to a service department located on an industrial site on the outskirts of Moose Factory.” (para. 14)
2. “But a pencil won’t argue with you if you wish to write more than 50 lines to the page.” (para. 17)
3. “. . . and no one has ever screamed, after four hours of creative endeavour, “The ---- pencil ate my story!” (para. 9)
4. “I should point out that prior to this acquisition, my idea of modern technology at its best was frozen waffles.” (para. 1)
5. “By buying pencils you create employment and prosperity for dozens of people in British Columbia.” (para. 6)

7. Find an example of repetition in this essay and explain how it adds emphasis to the essay. (3 marks)

8. Evaluate the effectiveness of the conclusion. (3 marks)

TOTAL: 30 marks