



City of London School

Specimen English Paper

Group 1

One and a quarter hours.

Answer all the questions in sections A, B, C, and E (worth fifty marks). Section F, the Composition, must be written on separate page. You are advised to spend at least THIRTY minutes on Section F (fifty marks).

A piece of advice: if you find a particular question difficult, do not spend too long worrying about it, but move on to the next question. You can always come back to it if you have time to spare at the end.

SECTION A

Ten words have been missed out of the following passage. Each missing word has been given a number in the passage. Underneath the passage is a list of words, each one of which is identified by a capital letter. Choose the word from the list which best fits the meaning of the passage in each of the ten places. Then, in the numbered answer spaces provided at the bottom of the page, write the capital letter which identifies the word you choose.

Chris missed her diary next morning when she was ... 1 ... her bed. It was not in its ... 2 ... place beneath her ... 3 ... and an ... 4 ... search through all her belongings failed to bring it to ... 5 ...

Puzzled, Chris ... 6 ... on her bed and mentally went ... 7 ... her ... 8 ... of the previous day.

"I'm sure I brought it back from Cherry Knowle, and in here, for that ... 9 ... Now I ... 10 ... where it can be?"

- | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|-----------|---|--------|
| A | exhaustive | F | movements | K | usual |
| B | painting | G | pillow | L | light |
| C | desirable | H | her | M | around |
| D | making | I | matter | N | wonder |
| E | intelligent | J | sat | O | over |

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
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9	
10	

Ten Marks

Please Turn Over

SECTION B

Read the following story carefully and then answer the questions by writing A, B, C, D, or E in the appropriate answer boxes.

William was feeling grateful to Robert. Gratitude to Robert was not a normal emotion of William's. Their ordinary relationship was marked by that deep distrust not unusual between brothers aged eleven and seventeen respectively. William cherished in his breast many, many grievances against Robert, and Robert cherished in his breast many, many grievances against William – but last week, Robert had all unwittingly earned that not unmixed blessing, William's gratitude.

There were those who said that they preferred William's open enmity to William's gratitude. William had a laudable habit of translating feelings into action, and when William was openly out to avenge himself upon you the results were as a rule far less devastating than when he was out to help you.

Anyway, Robert, having received a handsome present of five pounds from his godmother, and being in a generous mood, gave William 25p. This munificent gift happened to extricate William from a difficult financial position. William had taken his air gun to be mended and had subsequently, through a series of unfortunate incidents (including a broken pane in the greenhouse, and damage done to an enemy's school cap, which resulted in parental correspondence and the enforced purchase of a new cap for the enemy by William's father), found himself insolvent.

He offered his services to his mother at 6p an hour, and his mother, after a slight hesitation, allowed him to help with the arrangement of the flowers. In ten minutes he had broken two vases, knocked over a pail of water, annihilated a bunch of sweet peas by sitting on them, and left the tap running in the pantry so that the hall was completely flooded. At this point his mother hastily terminated the arrangement, refusing even to pay him for the ten minutes. William then wandered into the garden to brood over the unreasonableness and unkindness of the human beings among whom Fate had cast his lot.

1. The age difference between William and Robert is:

- a) six years.
- b) five years.
- c) four years.
- d) seven years.
- e) nine years.



Please Turn Over

2. Is it usual, according to the author, for brothers to trust one another?

- a) yes.
- b) partly.
- c) never.
- d) sometimes.
- e) no.

3. "Cherished" means:

- a) lost.
- b) found.
- c) cheered.
- d) nursed.
- e) enjoyed.

4. "Grievances" means:

- a) presents.
- b) reasons for complaint.
- c) blessings.
- d) blood vessels.
- e) sorrows.

5. It is usually better to have William as:

- a) an enemy.
- b) a companion.
- c) leader of your gang.
- d) someone grateful to you.
- e) a messenger.

Please Turn Over

6. What had William recently had mended?

- a) a school cap.
- b) the greenhouse.
- c) a pane of glass.
- d) an air gun.
- e) a present.

7. "Insolvent" means:

- a) rude.
- b) stupid.
- c) unable to meet debts.
- d) out of favour.
- e) upset.

8. Which of these did William not do when "working" for his mother?

- a) damage the greenhouse.
- b) break two vases.
- c) flood the hall.
- d) destroy some flowers.
- e) knock over a bucket.

9. How much would William's mother "owe" him for ten minutes' work?

- a) five pounds.
- b) twenty-five pence.
- c) six pence.
- d) ten pence.
- e) one penny.

Please Turn Over

10. When William's mother "terminated the arrangement", did she:

- a) sack him?
- b) kill him?
- c) send him to the railway station?
- d) give him a second chance?
- e) pay him?



Ten Marks

Please Turn Over

SECTION C

There is an error of spelling, punctuation or grammar in the following sentences. Each sentence contains ONE mistake. Underline the word or punctuation mark which you think is an error.

Two examples are given below:

Example 1 Lightening frightened the pets.

Example 2 "Are you all right_" asked Mike.

1. It's time to get of the train.
2. The puppy wagged it's tail.
3. This is no time to be feint-hearted!
4. Peter left for school, he was early for once.
5. Its snowing again!
6. Youth is a wonderfull thing.
7. Alice flew to Barbados
8. With little time to spare. The soldier defused the bomb.
9. Peters mother's bag was found eventually.
10. We was not there when the crime occurred.

Ten Marks

Please Turn Over

SECTION D

Read this passage carefully:

Scrooge sat down again. As he threw his head back in the chair, his glance happened to rest upon a bell, a disused bell, that hung in the room, and communicated with a chamber in the highest storey of the building. It was with great astonishment, and with a strange, inexplicable dread, that as he looked, he saw this bell begin to swing. It swung so softly in the outset, that it scarcely made a sound; but soon it rang out loudly, and so did every bell in the house.

This might have lasted half a minute, or a minute, but it seemed an hour. The bells ceased as they had begun, together. They were succeeded by a clanking noise, deep down below; as if some person were dragging a heavy chain over the casks in the wine-merchants' cellar.

The cellar-door flew open with a booming sound, and then he heard the noise much louder, coming straight towards his door.

Without a pause, it came on through the heavy door, and passed into the room before his eyes. Marley's ghost! The chain he drew was clasped about his middle. His body was transparent.

You will notice that ten words are underlined. Five meanings (A, B, C, D, E) are suggested for each of these words. In the answer square, write the letter which refers to what you think is the meaning closest to that intended by the writer.

1. threw

- A steadied
- B rolled
- C conveyed
- D quickly turned
- E lobbed

2. chamber

- A gun
- B box
- C room
- D warning
- E spy

Please Turn Over

3. inexplicable

- A unknown
- B cold
- C repeated
- D previous
- E unexplainable

4. dread

- A death
- B fear
- C morbidity
- D amazement
- E humour

5. outset

- A exterior
- B next room
- C street
- D corridor
- E beginning

6. succeeded

- A followed
- B won
- C bought
- D defeated
- E deceived

Please Turn Over

7. casks

- A barrels
- B money-bags
- C customers
- D glasses
- E bottles

8. booming

- A boring
- B frightening
- C loud and deep
- D unfortunate
- E sad

9. passed

- A jumped
- B threw
- C galloped before
- D moved
- E melted

10. transparent

- A blank
- B easily seen through
- C dirty
- D ghostly
- E unformed

Ten Marks

Please Turn Over

SECTION E

Study 1-10 below. Some are correct and complete sentences, and some are not. Place a tick in the box to show if the sentence is correct or incorrect.

	Correct	Incorrect
1. The sheep lay in the sun.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Walking to the shops.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Peter shouted to Paul, he came running.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Turning lightly. He scored.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. It was raining, I missed the bus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The robber drew a gun, so I ducked as the police arrived.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Fly me to the moon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. It was sick, the goldfish died.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Fiddlesticks!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Anne was happy because she had passed the exam.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ten Marks

Please Turn Over

SECTION F

Write a story or an essay using ONE of the following titles. Remember to write your name and candidate number on the top sheet.

1. One fine day.
2. The funniest thing which has ever happened to me.
3. The Maze.
4. Write a guidebook for tourists visiting your own home.
5. I remember him as if it were yesterday.

Fifty Marks

REMEMBER TO CHECK THROUGH YOUR WORK