

Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2018

YEAR 8 **ENGLISH** **TIME: 2 hours**

Name: _____ Class: _____

Marks			
Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

SECTION A – LANGUAGE

15 MARKS

1. Underline the correct answer. The first one (0) has been done for you. (5 marks)

Dear Ann,

Thank you for your email (0) (**which, who, where**) was very interesting. I haven't met your cousin John (1) (**who, whose, which**) lived close to us for ages! Last summer, I met your other cousin Tom, (2) (**when, who, whose**) father used to be a bus driver. I met him at the airport (3) (**which, when, who**) I missed the flight to Paris. I also met his wife (4) (**whose, which, who**) was travelling with him. We found a cafeteria (5) (**which, who, whose**) was not crowded and we talked till our flight was called. He told me his father had retired and he had moved house. The new house, (6) (**who, which, whose**) is smaller, suits him better as it has a lovely garden. He loves to look at the horses (7) (**when, whose, which**) drink in the river close by. His father also goes fishing on the river. Tom, (8) (**who, whose, which**) does not like fishing, likes to visit the village (9) (**when, which, where**) he grew up instead. The old headmaster, (10) (**who, whose, which**) sister used to teach Tom, still recognises him.

I hope we will find time to meet up soon.

Regards

Paul

2. Underline the correct form of the verbs in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you. (5 marks)

Yesterday afternoon there (0) **(is, were, was)** a bank robbery in Birmingham. A girl whose sister (1) **(be, is, am)** in my class was at the bank at the time. The robber had two pistols and (2) **(wears, wearing, was wearing)** a clown mask. The people in the bank were very frightened and the woman whose daughter (3) **(was crying, cry, cries)** did not know what (4) **(do, does, to do)**. Another robber waited outside. He (5) **(had parked, parks, parking)** close to the bank for a quick getaway. Although the robbers (6) **(plans, had planned, planning)** their escape very well, when they drove away from the bank, they (7) **(not stopped, did not stop, not stopping)** at the traffic lights. A policeman whose car was parked at the next corner (8) **(followed, follows, following)** them and later on (9) **(arrest, arresting, arrested)** them. They (10) **(was, will be, am)** in prison for a long time.

5 marks

3. Fill in each blank with ONE word. The first one (0) has been done for you. (5 marks)

Spending a summer in the company of whales (0) **off** the coast of Patagonia is a once in a lifetime (1)_____. We spent 12 hours on the boat every day and learnt a great deal (2)_____ whales. To encourage whales to come (3)_____ to the boat we would switch off the (4)_____ and wait. Young whales were pushed away (5)_____ their mothers while older ones were allowed to (6)_____ nearby. Sometimes whales jumped (7)_____ of the water, but on other days we did not (8)_____ a single whale. On the whole it was a very rewarding experience and at the end of our (9)_____ we had lots of stories to tell our friends back (10)_____.

5 marks

Section B - Reading Comprehension

20 marks

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Read the Comprehension Text, which is on a separate sheet, and then answer the following questions.

1. Mark (✓) the following statements True (T) or False (F). 2 marks []

T	F

- a) The writer had one shelf above her bed.
- b) The writer’s father painted the shelves.
- c) The writer has a sister.
- d) The writer kept her fairy tales on the purple shelf.

2. Where did the writer read the stories? 1 mark []

3. Look at the picture. What do you think ‘Once upon a time’ means? Tick (✓) the correct answer. 2 marks []

- Once a girl met a monster.
- We’re going to read a story.
- The story happened in the past.
- It’s time to read.

4. Complete the sentence by underlining the correct word or phrase from those in the brackets. 1 mark []

The stories about ogres and wicked stepmothers (**frightened; did not frighten**) the writer because (**she knew the stories were true; she knew they were just fantasy; she read the stories in the dark; because she was very young.**)

5. Complete the sentence by filling in a word from the text. 1 mark []

_____ are monsters which breathe fire.

Another word for bad dreams is _____.

6. Fill in the blanks with a word from the grid. You do not need to use all the words. 3 marks []

action	different	most	slipper
slow	fur	love	glass

The writer enjoyed reading fairy tales because they can be very _____ from one another. Some stories have a lot of _____ and some also include a _____ story. _____ of the stories have changed over the years. In fact, in an older version, Cinderella's _____ was made of _____.

7. Who was Hans Christian Andersen? 1 mark []

8. Why does the narrator prefer books to films? 2 marks []

9. According to the writer, who was more beautiful and lovable: the Hollywood version of Beauty and the Beast or the characters in the story she read? 1 mark []

10. Tick (✓) the **four** ways mentioned in the passage how reading fairy tales can help a person. 2 marks []

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales teach us about princesses and princes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales teach us about love and sacrifice.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales increase our vocabulary.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales help us develop our imagination.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales help us become surgeons.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales teach us how to treat a patient.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairy tales teach us that evil exists.

11. From lines 35 – 40 find a sentence which shows that the writer thinks children should read all kinds of stories. 2 marks []

12. Match the meanings in the grid to the word below.

2 marks []

people admired for their courage	man-eating giants
women who have magical powers	wicked / evil persons

- a) ogres (line 14): _____
- b) witches (line 14): _____
- c) heroes (line 39): _____
- d) villains (line 39): _____

Section C - Literature

20 marks

Part 1: Poetry - Unprepared Text

10 marks

Read the poem below and answer all the following questions.

A Piece of Paper

I saw this blank piece of paper 1
And it looked
Kind of lonely,
Like it needed someone to talk to.

So I started to talk. 5

I told it about
School and trivial things,
And my need
For someone to talk to,

And in return 10
It told me about trees
And Autumn
And where it had come from.

The paper looked sad
When it told me about the 15
Wind in the trees
And the coming of man
Who had felled the tree,
And I felt ashamed.

Then I got angry. 20
I had problems enough
Without
Guilt.

I tore up the paper.
I tore up myself. 25



By Julia Biggs

1. Underline the correct answer. (½ mark)
The poem is written
a) in the form of a sonnet.
b) in free verse.
c) with a regular rhyme scheme.
d) in iambic pentameter.

2. a) Underline the correct answer to complete the sentence below. (½ mark)
The paper "looked kind of lonely" is an example of
i) simile
ii) alliteration
iii) personification
iv) metaphor

- b) Continue the sentence: (1 mark)
The paper looked lonely because _____.

3. Who do you think is the persona in the poem? (½ mark)

4. Read the quote and underline the correct answers below.

"And in return

It told me about trees

And Autumn"

- a) These verses are an example of (alliteration / run-on-lines / simile). (1 mark)

- b) This technique is used to create a fast (rhythm / rhyme / stanza). (1 mark)

5. Write down TWO things, found in lines 1-9, that the persona talks to the paper about. (2 marks)

a) _____

b) _____

6. Quote a verse from lines 10 to 23 that shows us that the persona had a difficult life. (½ mark)

7. a. Find TWO words between line 15 and 20 of the poem that show the feelings of the persona. (1 mark)

i) _____ ii) _____

- b) Why does s/he feel this way? (2 marks)

Part 2: Prose – Unprepared Text

10 marks

Read the text and answer the following questions.

The vampire was watching him with his back to the window. The boy could not see his face now. He started to say something again but he said nothing. And then he sighed with relief when the vampire moved towards the table and pulled the light cord. Suddenly the room was filled with a bright yellow light. And the boy, staring up at the vampire, gasped. His fingers danced backwards on the table to grasp the edge. He gazed, speechless, at the vampire. The vampire's face was very white and smooth and it was as empty of emotion as that of a statue, except for two brilliant green eyes that looked at the boy like flames in a skull. The boy shivered, lifting his hand as if to protect himself from a powerful light. His eyes moved slowly over the finely tailored black coat, the long folds of the cape, the black silk tie, and the gleam of the white collar that was as white as the vampire's flesh. The vampire's full curly, black hair was combed back. 'Now do you still want the interview?' the vampire asked. The boy nodded. Then he said, 'Yes.'

The vampire sat down slowly opposite him and leaning forward, said gently, 'Don't be afraid. Just start the tape.' And then he reached out over the length of the table. The boy moved back, sweat running down the sides of his face. The vampire placed a hand on the boy's shoulder and said, "Believe me, I won't hurt you. I want this opportunity."



(Adapted from *Interview with the Vampire* by Anne Rice.)

1. Underline the correct answer.
The text is taken from a _____ story. (1 mark)
a) science fiction b) ghost c) horror

2. Underline the correct answer. (1 mark)
"His fingers danced backwards on the table." (line 7)
This figure of speech is a:
a) metaphor b) personification c) alliteration

3. Fill in the gaps with the following words: (2½ marks)

feelings simile statue like vampire

“The vampire’s face was very white and smooth and it was as empty of emotion as that of a statue” is a (a) _____ that compares the (b) _____’s face to a (c) _____ because he shows no (d) _____. In a simile there is always the word ‘as’ or (e) ‘_____’.

4. Write down **TWO** colours which are mostly used to describe the vampire’s clothes. (2 marks)

a) _____ b) _____

5. Underline the correct answer.

a) The phrase “The boy moved back, sweat running down the sides of his face” (lines 22-23) shows that the boy is feeling: (1 mark)

- i) excited ii) scared iii) calm

b) In lines 23- 24, the vampire’s character seems to be: (1 mark)

- i) gentle ii) thoughtless iii) angry

6. In your own words explain what the vampire wanted from the boy. (1½ marks)

SECTION D – COMPOSITION

25 MARKS

Write between 100 and 150 words on ONE of the following.

- 1. Write a **story** for the school website entitled: The secret room
(You can write about: where the room is, describe the room, who keeps it a secret, how you found it)

- 2. Write an **email** to your cousin describing a new friend you met this year.
The following words may help you: name, hobbies, tall, brown, first meeting.

From	
To	
Subject	

- 3. Write an **article** for the school magazine entitled: How schools can teach students lead a healthy lifestyle.

The following words may help you: healthy lunches, special assemblies, tuckshop, nutritionists, Home Economics teachers, leaflets, projects

Composition title:

