



Independent Schools  
Examinations Board

## COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AT 13+

### ENGLISH

#### LEVEL 2

#### PAPER 2

Tuesday 3 June 2014

Please read this information before the examination starts.

- You have 1 hour 15 minutes which includes reading and note-making time.
- The paper is divided into two sections.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Remember to write **Level 2** at the top of your answer page.
- Vocabulary, spelling, grammar, punctuation and presentation are important and will be taken in to account.



## SECTION A: POETRY

from: **The Warm and the Cold**

Freezing dusk is closing  
 Like a slow trap of steel  
 On trees and roads and hills and all  
 That can no longer feel.

5        But the carp is in its depth  
           Like a planet in its heaven  
           And the badger in its bedding  
           Like a loaf in the oven  
 10        And the butterfly in its mummy  
           Like a viol\* in its case  
           And the owl in its feathers  
           Like a doll in its lace.

Freezing dusk has tightened  
 Like a nut screwed tight  
 15        On the starry aeroplane  
           Of the hurtling night.

          But the trout is in its hole  
           Like a giggle in a sleeper  
           The hare strays down the highway  
 20        Like a root going deeper  
           The snail is dry in the outhouse  
           Like a seed in a sunflower  
           The owl is pale on the gatepost  
           Like a clock on its tower.

25        Such a frost  
           The freezing moon  
           Has lost her wits.

          A star falls.

30        The sweating farmers  
           Turn in their sleep  
           Like oxen on spits.

Ted Hughes

\*viol = a stringed musical instrument

## SECTION A: POETRY

Read the extract from the poem *The Warm and the Cold* printed opposite and answer the questions below, using complete sentences.

The marks at the end of each question are a guide as to how much you should write in your answers.

1. What time of day is it? (1)
2. The cold is described as tightening 'Like a slow trap of steel' (line 2) and 'a nut screwed tight' (line 14).  
Explain in your own words what you understand by these similes. (4)
3. Look again at lines 5–12 and 17–24.  
Referring to specific language from the poem, explain what you think these lines suggest about how the animals cope with the cold weather. (6)
4. (a) What interesting features do you notice about the layout and structure of the first two stanzas? (4)  
(b) Comment on how these features contribute to the poem. (4)
5. Lines 25–31 are set out differently.  
(a) What do you understand by this section, and  
(b) how well does it develop the poem's title? (3+3)

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR SECTION B**

## SECTION B: WRITING TASK

**Write on any ONE of the following topics.**

**Each one is worth 25 marks.**

**Credit will be given for good spelling, punctuation and presentation as well as for imaginative and exciting use of vocabulary.**

1. 'Rain, midnight rain, nothing but the wild rain.'
2. Write a short story using one of the following titles
  - Going Underground
  - Echo
  - A Visit from Uncle
3. Write a description of a place viewed from high up – perhaps a balcony, or rooftop, or even a hot air balloon.
4. 'Things have changed a lot since last time I was here.'

(Total marks: 50)



Q.	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
5.	<p>the farmers seem to be very much out of place, unlike the creatures, and unable to adapt to circumstances or surroundings – <i>sweating, Turn in their sleep</i></p> <p>the image of <i>oxen on spits</i> might imply vulnerability, that they are someone's prey, possibly revenge for raising animals for food</p> <p>it is potentially humorous</p>	3	
6.	<p>the main issue is the contrast between the cold of the weather (particularly the effect of the cold on the moon in this last section), the comfortable warmth of the creatures, and the very uncomfortable heat of the farmers</p>	3	the best answers should tackle the issue of contrasts, and the place of the farmers within the poem's landscape of imagery
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	

**PAPER 2**  
**SECTION A: LITERARY POETRY**  
**LEVEL 2**

Q.	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
1.	dusk (or evening)	1	
2.	<p><i>trap</i> – something prepared deliberately to catch things</p> <p><i>slow</i> – because more threatening, sinister, deliberate</p> <p><i>steel</i> – cold, hard, unforgiving</p> <p><i>nut</i> – something mechanical, cold, hard</p> <p><i>screwed</i> – something relentless, almost torture-like</p> <p><i>tight</i> – painful, can't be undone</p>	4	2 marks each for detailed answers; 1 mark for thinner answers

Q.	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
3.	<p>the animals take refuge in various ways where they live is their natural habitat, so they are comfortable, and the various similes all reflect this, though with interesting variations:</p> <p><i>planet in its heaven</i> and <i>viol in its case</i> suggest fitness, harmony</p> <p><i>seed in a sunflower</i> suggests this too as well as the potential for growth and new life</p> <p><i>loaf in the oven</i> also suggests growth, as well as warmth, comfort, and nourishment</p> <p><i>doll in its lace</i> suggests delicacy, even though the feathers also keep the owl warm (which lace wouldn't)</p> <p><i>giggle in a sleeper</i> suggests the trout originates from deep inside its hole</p> <p><i>root going deeper</i> suggests a deliberate process of clinging on, finding food and shelter, though the image of the hare on the highway might be seen as vulnerable</p> <p><i>clock on its tower</i> suggests fitness, again, as well as confidence, the ability to withstand the weather</p>	6	<p>the concept of taking refuge in places that suit each different creature should be grasped for full marks, as should the operation of the simile as a poetic device</p> <p>weaker answers may grasp some but not all of this</p>
4. (a) & (b)	<p>the first four lines describe the cold; the following eight lines, indented, describe the reactions of the different creatures</p> <p>this distinctive layout highlights the difference between the two</p> <p>the indenting perhaps enacts the process of taking refuge</p> <p>each pair of lines in the indented sections describes a different creature and its reaction; there is something neatly self-contained about each of these, as well perhaps as a sense of safety in numbers</p> <p>the <i>abcb</i> rhyme scheme helps this sense of neatness and closure, of being nicely wrapped up against the cold</p>	4 + 4	<p>there may be other intelligent observations</p> <p>award 1 mark for each observation about layout and/or structure (up to a maximum of 4), and up to 4 further marks for intelligent comment on the effect of these</p>



Q.	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
5. (a)	<p>the changed layout slows down the ending of the poem, and intensifies the imagery</p> <p>lines 25–27 show how unusually cold the weather is: even the moon is freezing, has lost her wits</p> <p><i>lost her wits</i> suggests something seriously out of place, an unnatural state of affairs</p> <p>as does <i>A star falls</i></p> <p>lines 25–27 and 29–31 reflect the title</p>	3	answers to this may well vary considerably
(b)	<p>the main issue is the contrast between the cold of the weather, the comfortable warmth of the creatures, and the very uncomfortable heat of the <i>sweating</i> farmers – hence the poem’s title</p> <p>the farmers seem to be very much out of place, unlike the creatures, and unable to adapt to circumstances or surroundings</p> <p>the image of <i>oxen on spits</i> implies vulnerability, that they are someone’s prey, skewered by heat</p>	3	reward candidates who have engaged bravely with the final image and tried to relate it to the title
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>	