



OUNDLE

School

EXAMINATION PAPER
13+ Academic Scholarship 2024

English

Time allowed: 2 hours

Name: _____

Instructions

- Dictionaries are not allowed.
- Answer on lined paper. Write your name clearly at the top of each sheet of paper that you use.

Answer **ALL** the questions in **Section A**. Choose **ONE** question from **Section B**. You should divide your time approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes for Section A and 40 minutes for Section B.

- You are expected to write clearly and accurately throughout each of your answers, paying careful attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar. You should leave some time towards the end of the examination to check your work carefully.
- The maximum number of marks for this paper is 60.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

You should spend about 80 minutes on this section. This is a long time so look to make your answers detailed and read carefully.

Please pay attention to how many marks are available. Question 7 carries 10 marks.

Both the poem and the extract from the novel below describe a blacksmith. A forge is the place in which a blacksmith works, using a fire and a hammer to beat out the impurities in metal and shape them into simple objects, such as horseshoes, knives or gates. An anvil is a block on which the metal is beaten to shape it.

In all your answers we are looking to see evidence of the depth and sophistication of your understanding and analysis. Question 7 on the novel is your opportunity to show your ability to the full, so give yourself enough time for it.

The Forge

All I know is a door into the dark.

Outside, old axles and iron hoops rusting;

Inside, the hammered anvil's short-pitched ring,

The unpredictable fantail of sparks

Or hiss when a new shoe toughens in water. 5

The anvil must be somewhere in the centre,

Horned as a unicorn, at one end and square,

Set there immovable: an altar

Where he expends himself in shape and music.

Sometimes, leather-aproned, hairs in his nose, 10

He leans out on the jamb¹, recalls a clatter

Of hoofs where traffic is flashing in rows;

Then grunts and goes in, with a slam and flick

To beat real iron out, to work the bellows.

Seamus Heaney

1. *Jamb*: the side post of a door.

1. What impression of outside the forge does the poet create in line 2? [2 marks]
2. How does the poet use the sound of words in lines 3-5 to convey the sounds of the forge? [3 marks]
3. Why do you think Heaney describes the anvil as "horned as a unicorn" and "an altar"? [4 marks]
4. Explain "He expends himself in shape and music" [line 9] in your own words. [3 marks]

5. In lines 10-14 the blacksmith is seen and described. What impression is the reader supposed to have of him here? Use short quotations to support your ideas. [4 marks]
6. Line 1 suggests that the poet can only hear what is happening in the forge, not see it. But he sees the blacksmith in lines 10 to 13. Look at your answers to questions 3, 4 and 5. What impression does the poem *as a whole* give of the blacksmith? [4 marks].

The extract below is adapted from Philip Pullman's novel, The Amber Spyglass. Will is helping a bear, named Iorek, repair a magical knife over a fire.

7. Read through the passage carefully. What impressions of the work the two do does Pullman create in his description? Use short quotations to support your answer. [10 marks]

Will was placed in charge of the fire and Iorek spent several minutes directing him and making sure he understood the principles he was to use. So much depended on exact placement, and Iorek could not stop and correct each one: Will had to understand, and then he'd do it properly. Furthermore, he mustn't expect the knife to look exactly the same when it was mended. It would be shorter and the surface would have oxidized a little so some of the play of colour would be lost; and no doubt the handle would be charred. But the blade would be just as sharp, and it would work.

So Will watched as the flames roared alongside the resinous twigs, and with streaming eyes and scorched hands he adjusted each fresh branch until the heat was focused as Iorek wanted it.

Meanwhile Iorek himself was grinding and hammering at a fist-sized stone he would use as the hammer. With massive blows he shaped it and smoothed it, the cordite-smell of smashed rocks joining the smoke in Will's nostrils.

Iorek set the first two pieces of the blade of the magical knife among the fierce burning wood at the heart of the fire. The bear watched, his long white face lurid in the glare, and Will saw the surface of the metal begin to glow red and then yellow and then white. Iorek watched closely, his paw ready to snatch the pieces out. After a few moments the metal changed again, and sparks like those from fireworks sprayed up from it.

Then Iorek moved. His right paw darted in and seized first one piece and then the other, holding them between the tips of his massive claws. Will could smell the claws burning, but Iorek took no notice, and moving with extraordinary speed he adjusted the angle at which the pieces overlapped and then raised his left paw high and struck a massive blow with the hammer. Will felt his whole being quiver under the blows of the hammer in the bear's fist.

Adapted from *The Amber Spyglass* by Phillip Pullman

TURN OVER

SECTION B: COMPREHENSION

Spend about 40 minutes on this section.

Choose ONE of the following tasks.

1. Write an imaginative description of a person whose skill or work is fascinating. Look to convey the feelings that watching this person creates in the observer. [20 marks]
2. *“Creating something by hand creates a thing of beauty.”*

Explore this idea in an article for your school magazine. You could reflect on what you have made yourself or the beauty of hand-made things. [20 marks]

3. *Schools devote too much time to subjects that require reading and writing at the expense of creative subjects like Art and Design.* [20 marks]

Write the words to a speech in which you argue for or against this statement. [20 marks]

END OF PAPER