



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

11+ and Pre-Test Entrance Exam Sample Paper

Creative Writing

Time allowed: 40 minutes

Instructions

- Write your name clearly on the top of each sheet of paper.
- Answer ONE question.

Information

- There are 30 marks available.
- Remember the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

Advice

- Spend about 5 minutes planning, about 30 minutes writing, and about 5 minutes carefully checking your work.
- Remember: we are interested in reading imaginative and engaging responses as well as in the accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Try to make your writing as clear as you can, so it can be read easily.

SECTION A

This section tests your creative skills and accuracy in spelling, grammar and punctuation. We are keen to read engaging responses that show real care when developing character, place and mood.

When marking your work, we will be interested to see whether you can...

- ✓ use words to create a mood or atmosphere
- ✓ punctuate and paragraph your writing correctly
- ✓ vary the length and range of your sentences.

Don't...

- ✗ try to develop a huge plot in this short period of time. It is far better to work on the three components underlined above.

Select ONE of the tasks below.

EITHER

1. Read the following extract, which describes arriving at a desert island, and continue the story in any way you like. We will be most impressed if you can develop a sense of mood through your description of the island and the emotions of the boy.

The appearance of the island when they came on deck next morning was altogether changed. Grey-coloured woods covered a large part of the surface. The even tint was broken up by streaks of yellow sand-break in the lower lands, and by many tall trees of the pine family – some singly, some in clumps – but the general colouring was uniform and sad. The ship rolled in the ocean swell, and the boy had to cling tight to the backstay while the world turned giddily before his eyes.

OR

2. Using the image of an old-fashioned sailing ship on the opposite page, write a description of a person and significant moment in their life whilst sailing on this ship.



END OF TEST