



OUNDLÉ

School

2019 Academic Scholarship

English

Time allowed: 2 hours

Instructions

- **Dictionaries are not allowed**
- Answer on lined paper. Clearly mark your name at the top of each sheet of paper you use.
- Answer ALL the questions in Section A. Choose ONE question from Section B. You should divide your time equally between both sections.
- You are expected to write clearly and accurately throughout each of your answers. 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 60 minutes on this section

Each of the two poems below explores the poet's reaction to the sight of a city. Read the poems carefully and then answer the questions that follow. Questions 1 and 2 are about the first poem. Questions 3 and 4 are about the second poem. Question 5 invites you to consider both poems together. You should leave yourself enough time to answer Question 5 in full detail. Support all your answers with quotations from the poems, as appropriate.

Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802 by William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

Earth has not anything to show more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This City now doth like a garment wear
The beauty of the morning: silent, bare, 5
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields, and to the sky;
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
Never did sun more beautifully steep
In his first splendour, valley, rock, or hill; 10
Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!
The river glideth at his own sweet will:
Dear God! the very houses seem asleep;
And all that mighty heart is lying still!

Entering the City by Tony Collins (1930-)

The city lies ahead. The vale
is cluttering as the train speeds through.
Hacked woods fall back; the scoop and swell
of cooling towers swing into view.

Acres of clinker, slag-heaps, roads 5
where lorries rev and tip all night,
railway sidings, broken sheds,
brutally bare in arc-light,

summon me to a present far
from Pericles's Athens, Caesar's Rome,
to follow again the river's scar
squirming beneath detergent foam. 10

I close the book, and rub the glass;
a glance ambiguously dark
entertains briefly scrap-yards, rows
of houses, and a treeless park, 15

like passing thoughts. Across my head
sundry familiar and strange
denizens of the city tread
vistas I would, and would not, change. 20

Birth-place and home! The diesel's whine
flattens. Excited and defiled
once more, I heave the window down
and thrust my head out like a child.

On 'Composed upon Westminster Bridge'

1. What does the poet feel about the city as he looks at it? (5 marks)
2. Comment on some of the effects of the poet's use of similes and metaphors in the poem. (5 marks)

On 'Entering the City'

3. How does the poet's reaction to the city change as he travels through it? (5 marks)
4. Comment on any two or three examples of where the poet's choice of vocabulary creates a deliberate effect. (5 marks)

On both poems

5. Compare and contrast these two poems in any way you think is interesting and appropriate. You may wish to look at:
 - the content and meaning of the poems;
 - the form and structure of the poems;
 - the use of literary techniques. (10 marks)

(Total: 30 marks)

TURN OVER

Section B: Composition

Spend about 60 minutes on this section

The following are all opening or closing sentences from a selection of different novels. Write a story or a piece of descriptive writing using ONE of these sentences as your opening or closing sentence. Credit will be given for how well your writing fits with your chosen sentence. You are reminded of the importance of clear and accurate written English and of careful presentation in your answer. All questions carry equal marks.

1. The two men had been watching the street for some time now and the car was fuggy with their breath and the damp, steaming burgers they were eating.

(30 marks)

OR

2. She walked rapidly in the thin June sunlight towards the worst horror of all.

(30 marks)

OR

3. 'Yes,' he said, and shivered. 'Well, send her in.'

(30 marks)

OR

4. It caused a mild scandal at the time, but in most people's memories it was quite outshone by what succeeded it.

(30 marks)

OR

5. Late that evening, in the cold autumn moonlight, they drove up to the door of the red house.

(30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS