



OUNDE
School

EXAMINATION PAPER

13+ Entrance 2025

English

Time allowed: 1 hour

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 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 50

SECTION A: READING

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Please note the final question in this section carries 8 marks.

A fox-hunt is taking place. The fox is chased by hounds and people on horseback. At this point in the story, Tom, who is out in the countryside and not part of the hunt, spots the fox.

Tom kept still.

The fox came past almost within touching distance, sneaking low over the moss, then bounding down through the bracken with a long easy stride. She was not pushed, or even anxious, intent on her cunning. Tom saw it and laughed. He lost sight of her, but
5 he knew where to look, down on the edge of the lake. She came, paused, then trotted cautiously over the ice.

“Clever girl.”

Tom went more slowly, spinning it out. If she saw where she went away on the other side, and told the huntsman, he would very likely get something for his trouble, and
10 certainly please Mr Pettigrew. Pleasing Mr Pettigrew was not to be sneezed at, to balance out the times he was far more likely to displease him; it mattered, unfortunately, to please Mr Pettigrew. On the other hand, Tom’s heart was with the fox. He could hear the hounds now, crashing and yelping through the woods behind the Vicarage. He stopped to wait. He did not see what was going to happen until it was too late to
15 prevent it.

Hounds streamed over the churchyard wall and down the hill. Tom stayed still as they went past, muddy and intent, loping and leaping down the hillside like a part of it had come to life, an avalanche of sudden movement. Their speed surprised Tom. He guessed they had a view but, having taken his eyes off the fox he could not see
20 here again, although he thought that by now she was on the over side of the lake.

The leading hound reached the waterside and checked, but a pair behind jumped out on to the ice and ran on strongly. As the pack converged on the lakeside, some went out on the ice after the two leaders and others hung back, casting about hesitantly. Tom frowned, anxious suddenly for the impetuous ones, but there was no huntsman
25 yet to call them off. The older hounds sensed the danger, but the younger ones were too eager to be put off. Tom saw another couple go skating away, running and sliding and throwing their tongues in an ecstasy of excitement, straight towards the centre of the lake.

“Oh, God!” Tom could see it all happening now. He ran down through the bracken,
30 shouting at them to come back, trying to remember out of all the peculiar calls he had heard the huntsman use which one was the reprimand, to return. The thaw was too far gone to bear the hounds’ weight; only the light passing of the fox could use it. The

35 leading hounds were already through, and the next pair sliding with sudden
whimpers of fear, but too late. By the time Tom got to the lake there was a spreading,
shaking hole of black water with ten hounds howling and threshing about, trying to
return. They were slowly making their ways towards the bank but their quarry had
long gone.

Adapted from A Pattern of Roses by K M Peyton

1. Reread lines 2- 6. **In your own words** explain the behaviour and mood of the fox in these lines. (4 marks)
2. Why does he view the fox as “clever”? (Line 7) (2 marks)
3. Reread lines 8-12. In what two ways would Tom benefit from telling the huntsman where the fox was? (4 marks)
4. **Looking at lines 16 to 20**, explain how the writer conveys the movement of the hounds. You should focus on language and any imagery that is relevant. (4 marks)
5. Why do some hounds fall through the ice but not others? (3 marks)
6. Looking at the passage as a whole, explain your impressions of Tom. Use brief quotations to support your views. (8 marks)

TURN OVER FOR SECTION B

SECTION B: EXTENDED WRITING

You should spend 30 minutes on this section

Answer **ONE** of the following questions. You are reminded of the importance of clear and accurate written English and of careful presentation in your answer. All questions carry equal marks.

Question 1:

Describe a brief incident in the countryside. Write in a way that creates a clear picture of what takes place and how your reader would feel if they were there. [25 marks]

Question 2:

Having a pet is wonderful but you have to be a responsible owner.

Use the view above to write a magazine article in which you inform and persuade the reader of the benefits of owning a pet.

[25 marks]

Question 3:

You must be over 16 to own a pet in England and Wales.

Write a speech giving your views as to whether you agree with this law about pet ownership.

[25 marks]