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

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
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
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
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.

Such a frost
The freezing moon
Has lost her wits.

A star falls.

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

*viol = a stringed musical instrument

Ted Hughes
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

The poem *The Warm and the Cold* by Ted Hughes is reproduced by kind permission of Faber and Faber Ltd. ©
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)
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| 5. | the farmers seem to be very much out of place, unlike the creatures, and unable to adapt to circumstances or surroundings — *sweating, Turn in their sleep*  
the image of *oxen on spits* might imply vulnerability, that they are someone’s prey, possibly revenge for raising animals for food  
it is potentially humorous                                                                                                                  | 3    |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 6. | 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                                     | 3    | the best answers should tackle the issue of contrasts, and the place of the farmers within the poem’s landscape of imagery                                                                         |
|    | **Total**                                                                                                                                                                                              | 25   |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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

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<td>1.</td>
<td>dusk (or evening)</td>
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| 2. | *trap* — something prepared deliberately to catch things  
*slow* — because more threatening, sinister, deliberate  
*steel* — cold, hard, unforgiving  
*nut* — something mechanical, cold, hard  
*screwed* — something relentless, almost torture-like  
*tight* — painful, can’t be undone                                                                                                       | 4    | 2 marks each for detailed answers; 1 mark for thinner answers                                                                                                                                 |

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| 3. | 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:  
   *planet in its heaven* and *viol in its case* suggest fitness, harmony  
   *seed in a sunflower* suggests this too as well as the potential for growth and new life  
   *loaf in the oven* also suggests growth, as well as warmth, comfort, and nourishment  
   *doll in its lace* suggests delicacy, even though the feathers also keep the owl warm (which lace wouldn’t)  
   *giggle in a sleeper* suggests the trout originates from deep inside its hole  
   *root going deeper* 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  
   *clock on its tower* suggests fitness, again, as well as confidence, the ability to withstand the weather | 6 | 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 weaker answers may grasp some but not all of this |
<p>| 4. (a) &amp; (b) | the first four lines describe the cold; the following eight lines, indented, describe the reactions of the different creatures this distinctive layout highlights the difference between the two the indenting perhaps enacts the process of taking refuge 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 the <em>abcb</em> rhyme scheme helps this sense of neatness and closure, of being nicely wrapped up against the cold | 4 + 4 | there may be other intelligent observations 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>
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| 5. (a) | the changed layout slows down the ending of the poem, and intensifies the imagery  
lines 25–27 show how unusually cold the weather is: even the moon is freezing, has lost her wits  
*lost her wits* suggests something seriously out of place, an unnatural state of affairs  
as does *A star falls*  
lines 25–27 and 29–31 reflect the title                                                                                                       | 3    | answers to this may well vary considerably                                          |
| (b)  | 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 *sweating* farmers – hence the poem’s title  
the farmers seem to be very much out of place, unlike the creatures, and unable to adapt to circumstances or surroundings  
the image of *oxen on spits* implies vulnerability, that they are someone’s prey, skewered by heat                                                                 | 3    | reward candidates who have engaged bravely with the final image and tried to relate it to the title |
| Total                                                                                                                                   | 25   |                                                                                      |