



Hampton Court House

Name:

Current School:

**Entrance Examination
(for entry into Year 7)**

ENGLISH

Examination Length: 1 hour 10 mins

Section A is a short comprehension exercise

Section B is a vocabulary exercise

Section C is a writing task You should spend about half your time on this section.

Read all instructions carefully and watch your timing.

Credit will be given for presentation, handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

A. Comprehension

Read the following passage and answer the questions which follow on a separate sheet of paper.

Two country lads came at an early hour to a market town, and, arranging their little stands, sat down to wait for customers. One was furnished with fruits and vegetables of the boy's own raising, and the other was supplied with clams and fish. The market hours passed along, and each young merchant saw with pleasure his stock steadily

5. decreasing, and an equivalent in silver and copper pieces lying in his money-cup. The last melon lay on Harry's stand, when a gentleman came by, and placing his hand upon it, said "What a fine, large melon! What do you ask for it, my boy?"

"The melon is the last I have, Sir; but though it looks very fair, there is an unsound spot in it," said the lad, turning it over.

10. "So there is," said the man, "I think I will not take it. But," he added, looking into the youth's fine, open face, "is it very business-like to point out the defects of your fruit to customers?"

"It is better than being dishonest, sir," said the boy, modestly.

15. "You are right, my little fellow; always remember that principle, and you will find favour with God, and man also. You have nothing else I wish for this morning, but I shall remember your little stand in future. Are those clams fresh?" he continued, turning to Ben's stand.

"Yes, sir; fresh this morning. I caught them myself," was the reply," and a purchase being made the gentleman went away.

20. "Harry, what a fool you was to show the gentleman that spot in the melon. Now you can take it home for your pains, or throw it away. How much wiser is he about these clams I caught yesterday? Sold them for the same price I did the fresh ones. He would never have looked at the melon until he had gone away."

25. "Ben, I would not tell a lie or act one either, for twice what I have earned this morning. Besides I shall be better off in the end, for I have gained a customer, and you have lost one."

1. How do the two boys in this passage make their living? [4 marks]

2. On this particular day do the boys earn a lot of money? How do you know? [3 marks]

3. Using only your own words, describe the melon in lines 8-9. [3 marks]

4. Why does the gentleman decide (in line 10) not to buy the melon? [2 marks]

5. Explain what is meant by a 'principle' (line 14). [4 marks]

6. The gentleman does not buy the melon, so why does Harry say (in line 25), "I have gained a customer?" [4 marks]
7. By paying careful attention to the words they speak, compare and contrast the characters of the two boys Ben and Harry. [10 marks]
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PLEASE WRITE YOUR ANSWERS TO SECTION B ON THE YELLOW SHEET ENCLOSED

B. Vocabulary

Please write your name here:

Try to explain the meaning of the following words (you are not expected to know all of them!) :

*Write your answers **on this page** and hand in with your other written answers.*

lullaby

orchard

innumerable

chronological

larder

to decipher

oak

to comprehend

archaeologist.....

heathen

biplane

to reveal

paradise

bedraggled

coarse

to reveal

niece

windfall

vulnerable

jovial

(20 marks)

C. Essay (50 marks)

Choose **ONE** of the following essay titles. You should spend *at least* 30 minutes on this task.

1. The light at the end of the tunnel.
2. Write a story (or part of a story) that begins with the words, 'As Gregor awoke one morning from uneasy dreams he found himself transformed in his bed into a gigantic insect.'
3. Write a story (or part of a story) with 'Alone' as the title, where you suddenly realise that you are on your own. It may be true or entirely made up, but it should include your thoughts and feelings as well as what happened.
4. Write a story (true or made up) about a visit you make to a relative that you have not met before.
5. Write a story (or part of a story) about somebody who tells a lie, or who says something which is not true although at the time he/she thinks it is. The lie, or false story, causes all sorts of trouble. What is your main character going to do? Will he/she own up? Or hope that nobody remembers that he/she is responsible? What happens?
6. Write a story (or part of a story) inspired by the following picture.



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