ALDENHAM SCHOOL

11 + Entrance Paper

SAMPLE PAPER

English

Length of Examination – 60 minutes

Do not start until you are told to do so

Surname: …… School:……

- **Write on the lined paper provided**

Total Number of Marks: 40

Instructions.

Answer ALL the questions in Section A. Then move on to Section B.

Section A – ENGLISH COMPREHENSION - *Spend about 30 minutes on this section*

Read the following passage taken from English author George Eliot's The Mill on the Floss, then answer the questions. In this extract, Maggie and her brother Tom are playing with their cousin Lucy and meeting their aunts and uncles.

Maggie and her brother Tom came in from the garden with their father and their uncle Glegg. As always, Maggie had thrown her bonnet off very carelessly, and coming in with her hair rough as well as out of curl, rushed at once to Lucy, who was standing by her mother's knee.

Certainly the contrast between the cousins was very obvious, and to some eyes was very much to the disadvantage of Maggie though an expert might have seen "points" in her which had a higher promise for maturity than Lucy's neat completeness. It was like the contrast between a rough, dark, overgrown puppy and a white kitten. Lucy put up her neatest little rosebud mouth to be kissed; everything about her was neat,--her little round neck, with the row of coral beads; her little straight nose, not at all snubby; her little clear eyebrows, rather darker than her curls, to match hazel eyes, which looked up with shy pleasure at Maggie, taller by the head, though scarcely a year older. Maggie always looked at Lucy with delight.

Maggie was fond of fancying a world where the people never got any larger than children of their own age, and she made the queen of it just like Lucy, with a little crown on her head, and a little sceptre in her hand--only the queen was Maggie herself in Lucy's form.

"Oh, Lucy," Maggie burst out, after kissing her, "you'll stay with Tom and me, won't you? Oh, kiss her, Tom."

Tom, too, had come up to Lucy, but he was not going to kiss her--no; he came up to her with Maggie, because it seemed easier, on the whole, than saying, "How do you do?" to all those aunts and uncles. He stood looking at nothing in particular, with the blushing, awkward air and semi-smile which are common to shy boys when in company,--very much as if they had come into the world by mistake, and found it in a degree of undress that was quite embarrassing.

"Well excuse me!" said aunt Glegg, with loud emphasis. "Do little boys and girls come into a room without taking notice of their uncles and aunts? That wasn't the way when _I_ was a little girl." "Go and speak to your aunts and uncles, my dears," said Mrs. Tulliver,
looking anxious and melancholy. She wanted to whisper to Maggie a command to go and have her hair brushed.

"Well, and how do you do? And I hope you're good children, are you?" said Aunt Glegg, in the same loud, emphatic way, as she took their hands, hurting them with her large rings, and kissing their cheeks much against their desire. "Look up, Tom, look up. Boys who go to boarding-schools should hold their heads up. Look at me now." Tom declined that pleasure apparently, for he tried to draw his hand away. "Put your hair behind your ears, Maggie, and keep your dress on your shoulder."

Questions 1 to 5 should be answered in full sentences. Try to include as many details as you can.

Comprehension Questions.

1) In the first paragraphs, what two animals are used to describe Maggie and Lucy?

(2 marks)

2) Find a quote that suggests that Maggie loves her cousin Lucy

(2 marks)

3) Explain how each of the following quotations add to the description of both characters.

- *'Maggie had thrown her bonnet off very carelessly, and coming in with her hair rough as well as out of curl, rushed at once to Lucy, who was standing by her mother's knee.'*
- *'It was like the contrast between a rough, dark, overgrown puppy and a white kitten.'*

(4 marks)

4) In the second paragraph, it says 'she was fond of fancying a world where the people never got any larger than children of their own age.' Using evidence from the text and your imagination, why do you think Maggie feels like this?

(6 marks)

5) What impression is given of Aunt Glegg in this passage? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

(6 marks)

Section B - ENGLISH COMPOSITION - *Spend about 30 minutes on this section*

Choose one of the following ideas to write about.

Spend 5 minutes writing a plan for your work. Underline after the plan before you begin your composition.

Check that you have:

- Punctuated correctly
- Used different and interesting verbs, adverbs and adjectives
- Included a variety of sentence structures
- Varied the length of your sentences
- Organised your writing into paragraphs
- Checked spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Used descriptive techniques such as similes and metaphors

Either

1) Imagine you are Maggie. Write a diary entry which covers the events of the day, including meeting your cousin and seeing your aunt. **(20 marks)**

Or

2) 'The Party.' Write a story using this as your title. **(20 marks)**