11+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

English

Sample paper

Time allowed: 60 minutes

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Answer all questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for each question are shown in the brackets.
- Use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.

Advice

- Write your answers on the dotted lines provided.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your writing for accuracy. In section 2, 5 marks are awarded for accuracy of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.

Candidate Name _____

Candidate Current School _____

SECTION A (allow 30 minutes for this section).
20 marks in total for this section.

Read the passage below and answer ALL the questions which follow.

(On his ninth birthday, Oliver Twist is taken to the workhouse where he will be put to work to earn his keep in very harsh conditions. The following, very well-known passage, shows Oliver challenging the system.)

The room in which the boys were fed, was a large stone hall, with a copper at one end: out of which the master, dressed in an apron for the purpose, and assisted by one or two women, ladled the gruel at mealtimes. Of this festive composition each boy had one porringer, and no more—except on occasions of great public rejoicing, when he had two ounces and a quarter of bread besides.

The bowls never wanted washing. The boys polished them with their spoons till they shone again; and when they had performed this operation (which never took very long, the spoons being nearly as large as the bowls), they would sit staring at the copper, with such eager eyes, as if they could have devoured the very bricks of which it was composed; employing themselves, meanwhile, in sucking their fingers most ***assiduously****, with the view of catching up any stray splashes of gruel that might have been cast thereon. Boys have generally excellent appetites. Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so* ***voracious*** *and wild with hunger, that one boy, who was tall for his age, and hadn't been used to that sort of thing (for his father had kept a small cook-shop), hinted darkly to his companions, that unless he had another basin of gruel per diem, he was afraid he might some night happen to eat the boy who slept next him, who happened to be a weakly youth of tender age. He had a wild, hungry eye; and they implicitly believed him. A council was held; lots were cast who should walk up to the master after supper that evening, and ask for more; and it fell to Oliver Twist.*

The evening arrived; the boys took their places. The master, in his cook's uniform, stationed himself at the copper; his pauper assistants ranged themselves behind him; the gruel was served out; and a long grace was said over the short commons. The gruel disappeared; the boys whispered each other, and winked at Oliver; while his next neighbours nudged him. Child as he was, he was desperate with hunger, and reckless with misery. He rose from the table; and advancing to the master, basin and spoon in hand, said: somewhat alarmed at his own temerity: 'Please, sir, I want some more.'

The master was a fat, healthy man; but he turned very pale. He gazed in ***stupefied*** *astonishment on the small rebel for some seconds, and then clung for support to the copper. The assistants were paralysed with wonder; the boys with fear.*

'What!' said the master at length, in a faint voice.

'Please, sir,' replied Oliver, 'I want some more.'

The master aimed a blow at Oliver's head with the ladle; ***pinioned*** *him in his arm; and shrieked aloud for the beadle.*

The board were sitting in solemn conclave, when Mr. Bumble rushed into the room in great excitement, and addressing the gentleman in the high chair, said, 'Mr. Limbkins, I beg your pardon, sir! Oliver Twist has asked for more!'

There was a general start. Horror was depicted on every countenance.

'For more!' said Mr. Limbkins. 'Compose yourself, Bumble, and answer me distinctly. Do I understand that he asked for more, after he had eaten the supper allotted by the dietary?'
'He did, sir,' replied Bumble.
'That boy will be hung,' said the gentleman in the white waistcoat. 'I know that boy will be hung.'
Nobody ***controverted*** *the prophetic gentleman's opinion. An animated discussion took place. Oliver was ordered into instant confinement; and a bill was next morning pasted on the outside of the gate, offering a reward of five pounds to anybody who would take Oliver Twist off the hands of the parish. In other words, five pounds and Oliver Twist were offered to any man or woman who wanted an apprentice to any trade, business, or calling.*

Questions:

1: Are these statements True or False? (delete the incorrect option).

a) The boys receive a full and healthy diet. TRUE/FALSE
b) The Beadle serves the food in the hall. TRUE/FALSE
c) Oliver Twist is put up for sale for £5. TRUE/FALSE (3 marks)

2: Define the following words from the text.

a) Assiduously:……
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b) Voracious……
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c) Pinioned:……
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d) Stupefied:……
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e) Controverted:……
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(5 marks)

Turn to next page

3: Look again at lines 6-11 (*The bowls never wanted… might have been cast thereon.).* **<u>In your own words</u>, explain how the boys behave at mealtimes.** (4 marks)

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4: Why do you think Dickens has made the master of the workhouse a healthy and fat man? Explain your answer briefly. (2 marks)

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5: What impression does Dickens create of the conditions in the workhouse? Use quotations from the text to illustrate and explain your response. (6 marks)

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END OF SECTION A

SECTION B (allow 25 minutes to write and 5 minutes to proof read your work).

(20 marks)

Choose **ONE** of the writing tasks below.

Please take care to proof read your work and correct your Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar as required.
One question is a stimulus image for you to explore.

B1: Write a letter to a friend inviting them to stay with you in the summer. Try to make your home sound as exciting and inviting as you can.

B2: Write an article for a school magazine to review your favourite book or film.

B3: Look at the picture below and write a story entitled 'Dreaming'.



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END OF SECTION B