SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

YEAR 7 (11+) ENTRANCE EXAMINATION
January 2019
for entry in September 2019

ENGLISH

Name: _____

School: _____

Time allowed: 5 minutes reading time, then 1 hour exam.
You are advised to spend approximately 35 minutes on Section A and 25 minutes on section B.

Equipment needed: Pen and lined paper

Information for candidates:

1. Dictionaries are NOT allowed.
2. Write your name and school on this page.
3. You may NOT make notes on this exam paper during the 5 minutes of reading time. After the first 5 minutes of reading time you may write on this paper.
4. Write your answers on the separate paper provided. Please put your name on all the sheets of paper you use. Answer both Section A and Section B.
5. You should write in full sentences and pay attention to both spelling and punctuation.
6. The paper will be marked out of 33. The marks for each question are indicated in square brackets [ ]. 3 marks are available for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

SECTION A

Spend approximately 35 minutes on Section A
Read the following passage and answer all the questions below.

In this extract the writer, Ryan, finds himself in an avalanche at Everest base camp.

The avalanche engulfed us. It felt like I'd been kicked in the back by a horse. I was blown off my feet, sent head over heels. Klaus smashed into me, our heads knocked together.

A fusillade [1] of cracks and clunks came out of the dense cloud. Stone on stone. Stone on ice. Bullet-like impacts, half-seen objects flashing past in a blur of darkness. I kept my head down, skidding with my cheek pressed against gritty, frozen mud.

I snatched a look. Klaus had his head up. *Idiot!*

'Get down!'

A rock the size of a suitcase tumbled out of the void and smashed itself to smithereens on a boulder little more than an arm's length from our position. An even bigger missile went whirring overhead, disappearing into the white nightmare.

'We have to get away from the face! Come on!' Klaus yelled. He stood, moving quickly into the ice cloud.

I tried to stand. A frozen block cut through the avalanche, hitting me square in the ribs, smashing all the air out of my lungs.

'Ryan….?' Klaus called back.

A dense thud came through the silver haze. A sharp exhalation of air. The sound of a human body hitting the ground. The voice was cut off.

I spat out pieces of gravel. Stars exploded across my vision. I drew in a huge breath, shivering as crystals of ice got sucked into my lungs. Ice fragments continued to zip out of nowhere. Smaller stones and pebbles.

I scrambled up, managed to get on all fours, still winded from the blow.

A figure appeared by my side, the face slowly coming into focus. It was the Tibetan girl [2] – the one who had been leading the yaks. She looked bruised and covered in dust but otherwise in one piece.

'Are you OK?' she said.

'Can't…breathe….'

'Come on!' She yanked me upright and got my arm over her shoulders. 43

An aftershock undulated through the ground. The earthquake wasn't done yet. A deep boom announced a further avalanche, somewhere far away on the other side of the valley.

'Where's my friend?' I gasped. 49

I looked for Klaus, my guts twisting with dread.

Footsteps. A Sherpa [3] came stumbling out of the gloom. Blood was dripping 53
from a deep cut on his forehead.

'This way! Quickly!' he shouted. He pointed urgently into the ice cloud then 56
vanished as swiftly as he had appeared, tripping unsteadily away.

'Can you walk now?' the girl asked. 59

Air flowed into my lungs. I gasped with relief. My ribcage flared with pain. 61

'I guess'.

From *North Face* by Matt Dickinson

Glossary: [1] fusillade – a series of shots or missiles; [2] Tibetan girl – someone who comes from the country of Tibet; [3] Sherpa – a local mountain guide.

1. How does the writer use language to suggest his fear and the speed of the avalanche? In your answer include evidence by choosing 2 or 3 words, or short phrases, which particularly seem to emphasise your points. [6 marks]

2. Look again at line 14 beginning "A rock the size…" to line 17 ending "…into the white nightmare". How does the writer use language in order to express how helpless he feels? Be as specific as you can as to which words particularly create this effect. [4 marks]

3. Look again at line 36."A figure appeared by my side, the face slowly coming into focus." Why do you think the writer describes the Tibetan girl in this way? [3 marks]

4. By the end of this passage, what do you think Ryan is most afraid of? [2 marks]

Please turn over for Section B

PLEASE WRITE YOUR ANSWER TO SECTION B ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

SECTION B

Spend approximately 25 minutes on Section B

Section B
Choose **ONE** of the following options and write a creative response to this picture:

1. Imagine you were one of the people in the picture and describe the scene, your feelings and your observations as if you are that character.

2. Write from the point of view of the artist about your feelings and thoughts when painting this picture.

[15 marks]



The Storm on the Sea of Galilee **Rembrandt** (1633)