THE NORTH LONDON INDEPENDENT GIRLS' SCHOOLS' CONSORTIUM

Group 1

YEAR 7
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

Friday 13 January 2017

Time allowed: 1 hour 20 minutes

First Name: .....

Surname: .....

READING RAW SCORE (out of 40) ☐ → SCALED READING → ☐ (mark out of 50)

WRITING CONTENT RAW SCORE (out of 40) ☐

\+

TECHNICAL ACCURACY RAW SCORE (out of 10) ☐

→ TOTAL WRITING → ☐ (mark out of 50)

TOTAL ☐ **%**

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INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE ANSWER BOTH PARTS OF THE PAPER

Part A: Reading (40 minutes)

- Spend 10 minutes reading the passage on the insert and the questions in this booklet.
- You may mark the passage by underlining words and phrases.
- Do not write anything in your booklet during this time.
- You will be told when the 10 minutes are over.

Spend 30 minutes writing your answers in this answer booklet.

- You will be told when 40 minutes are up, but you may start Part B, the Writing Section, when you are ready.

Part B: Writing (40 minutes)

- Spend 40 minutes writing on the lined paper provided.
- Put your first name and surname at the top of each page.
- If you have time, you may go back to Part A.

YOU MAY WRITE IN EITHER INK OR PENCIL

You will be told when you have 5 minutes left.

PLEASE TURN THE PAGE TO READ THE QUESTIONS

PART A: READING (40 minutes)

After you have spent about 10 minutes reading the passage, spend about 30 minutes answering the questions.

The mark at the end of each question is an indication of how much you should write for each answer.

1. Lines 2–6.

   Select **four** words or short phrases that show that Cecily is very nervous.

(i) .....

(ii) .....

(iii) .....

(iv) ..... **4 marks**

2. (a) Lines 10–11.

   "Cecily had pictured Jeremy folded under his bed, his heart flipping and diving."

   What does Cecily imagine Jeremy is feeling according to this line?

.....

..... **1 mark**

   (b) Lines 11–13.

   In your own words, explain why Cecily changes her mind about Jeremy.

.....

.....

..... **3 marks**

3. Lines 17–24.

How does the writer make Cecily's experience at this point frightening? Find **three** examples and explain why they are frightening.

Example	Why it is frightening
(i)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
(ii)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
(iii)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

6 marks

4. Lines 25–29.

(a) 'From beneath the bed Cecily watched, her heart denting the floor.' What is suggested about Cecily's feelings here?

.....

.....

..... **2 marks**

(b) 'He threw back its door with a conjuror's flourish.' What is suggested about the man here?

.....

.....

..... **2 marks**

5. Lines 32–41.

How does the writer make this part of the story so dramatic? Discuss **three** techniques such as word choices, imagery, structure etc.

(i) .....

.....

.....

(ii) .....

.....

.....

(iii) .....

.....

..... **6 marks**

6. Lines 46–52.

In your own words, give **three** effects of the blackout in London.

(i) .....

(ii) .....

(iii) .....

3 marks

7. Lines 56–59

How does the writer present Jeremy's attitude towards his sister in these lines? Find **two** words or phrases and explain what they reveal.

Example	What it reveals
(i)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
(ii)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

4 marks

8. Look back over the **whole extract**. What do you learn about Cecily's character? Find **three** pieces of evidence and explain what they reveal about Cecily.

Evidence	Explanation
(i)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
(ii)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
(iii)	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

6 marks

9. Give **three** words or phrases **from the passage** which tell you that this story is set during the Second World War.

(i) .....

(ii) .....

(iii) ..... **3 marks**

Total marks for Reading Section: 40 marks

Please turn over the page for Part B: WRITING

PART B: WRITING (40 minutes)

There are two tasks in this section. You must attempt both of them. Spend 20 minutes on each. The quality of your writing is more important than the length. Aim to write about a page on each task on the lined paper provided.

1. The next day Cecily and her brother are taken to Paddington station to be evacuated from London to the countryside. Describe their train journey. Begin your description with the following lines:

   The platform was packed. As the steam train sounded its whistle for departure, Cecily and Jeremy looked at each other.

20 marks

2. "Playing games in childhood is just as important as reading books."

   Do you agree with this statement? Give your personal opinion, backing up your points with examples.

20 marks

For Markers only:

Content and Style

40 marks

Taking the two writing pieces together, award an overall mark for Technical Accuracy

10 marks

Total marks for Writing Section: 50 marks

READING PASSAGE

Cecily is a 12 year old girl living in London during the Second World War. She is at home, hiding.

She heard it: footsteps in the dark.

Cecily Lockwood, aged recently twelve, cowered in the darkness beneath her bed and listened to the steps coming closer. The curtains of her bedroom were drawn and only a ribbon of light nosed past the door, and sense told Cecily that she must be nearly invisible in the blackness: but she did not feel invisible. Her teeth bit her lip. Her heart bounced like a trout.

The footsteps had climbed the stairs. Cecily had heard the creak of each tread. The steps had come stealthily along the hall, pausing in each doorway. There'd been a silence when the steps reached her brother's room; Cecily had pictured Jeremy folded under his bed, his heart flipping and diving. But no: Jeremy was too smart to hide under a bed. Jeremy would hide somewhere that could keep him secret all night. Only Cecily was silly enough to hide under a bed.

Now the footsteps had resumed. The rugs muffled them, but still they could be heard. Closer, closer – then a sudden bump, an *oof*. The steps had walked into the hall table. Cecily couldn't help but smile.

But the hall table stood just outside her bedroom, and it was abruptly too late to change her hiding-place for a better one. The door eased back on its hinges, letting in a shaft of soft light. Cecily held her breath, peeked past the bedspread's hem. The maker of the footsteps was carrying a candle, a quavering circle of orange light. It radiated its glow on to the face of a man wearing a mask – a gas mask. The silvery goggles reflected the flame as a pair of burning pupils. The canister below them heaved like a horrible snout. At the sight of this monster, Cecily almost screamed. Almost.

Holding the candle to one side, the man felt amid the curtains. From beneath the bed Cecily watched, her heart denting the floor. When he didn't find her in the drapery, the man turned and pondered the darkness again.

Three strides took him to the wardrobe. He threw back its door with a conjuror's flourish. Cecily nearly shrieked. She wasn't in the wardrobe, but she felt as if she was. He had no voice, but Cecily heard him say, *Come out!*

She could not bite back the tension any longer: she squeaked. Instantly the intruder dropped to the floor, flinging aside the quilt. The treacherous candle sent its rays on to the girl's aghast face.

Cecily yelled. "Murder! Kidnap! Help!" She struggled, grabbing at the bedsprings, but the hand dragged her from beneath the bed. She plunged into the man's arms. "Kidnap, police, help!" she bellowed.

The man pulled off his mask. In the charcoal darkness Cecily saw his glittering eyes. "Found you!" he cried. "Now you're doomed, little girl! Any last requests?" And he wrapped his arms around her, and cuddled her like a lion.

"You're supposed to kidnap me, Daddy, play properly!" Nonetheless, she ceased writhing and hugged him extravagantly.

In the flurry of her unearthing a gap had opened between the curtains, and her father went to close them. He lingered a moment at the glass, staring down into the street. Cecily looked too. All the windows of the houses were taped and blackened. No lamp illuminated the footpath, no cars travelled the road. Every street in London was subdued, lit only by candles and the kindness of the moon. Cecily knew the banning of bright light was a good thing, intended to keep the city safe…but it frightened her. What the blackout *meant* frightened her. Her entire world was hiding in darkness, but not because it was playing a child's game.

Her father closed the curtains fastidiously. He looked down at his daughter. "Come downstairs, Cecily," he said. "There's something I want to tell you."

Jeremy was standing victoriously at the top of the stairs.

"Where were you hiding?" Cecily asked, but her brother would not give away such holy secrets and his only answer was to raise a haughty chin.

"Daddy's going to tell us something," she bragged. "What were you going to tell us, Daddy?"

"Children," he said, "you know why London is blacked out, don't you?"

It was a question insulting in its simplicity, and Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "In case of an air raid," Cecily obliged.

The war has come very close to us now," said her father.

"Daddy," she said, "will we die?"

"No, Cecily, you are not going to die. You're going to be evacuated."

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