OUNDLE

School

2016 Junior Entrance Examination

English

Time allowed: **60 minutes**

Instructions

- *Please write your name at the top of each piece of paper you use*
- *Answer as many questions as you can*
- *There are two 30 minute Sections: Section A and Section B – please use a new sheet of paper for each section.*
- *Answer in full sentences unless asked to do otherwise*
- *Accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar will be evaluated although there is not a specific mark allocation for these elements*
- *While accuracy is desirable throughout the paper, it will be particularly noted in Section B*
- *Remember to leave yourself enough time to check your work*
- *Dictionaries are not allowed*

Good Luck

Section A 30 Minutes

Read the passage and answer the questions which follow.

He was called "Smith" and was twelve years old. Which, in itself was a marvel: for it seemed as if the smallpox, the consumption, brain-fever, gaol- fever, and even the hangman's rope had given him a wide berth for fear of catching something. Or else they weren't quick enough.

Smith had a turn of speed that was remarkable, and a neatness in nipping down an alley or vanishing in a court that had to be seen to be believed. Not that it was often seen, for Smith was rather a sooty spirit of the violent and ramshackle Town, and inhabited the tumble-down mazes about fat St. Paul's like the subtle air itself. A rat was like a snail beside Smith, and the most his thousand or more victims ever got of him was the powerful whiff of his passing and a cold draft in their dexterously emptied pockets.

Only the sanctimonious birds that perched on the Church's dome ever saw Smith's progress entire, and as their beady eyes followed him, they chattered savagely, "*Pick* - pocket! *Pick* - pocket! Jug him! Jug-jug-jug him!" as if they'd been appointed by the Town to save it from such as Smith.

His favourite spot was Ludgate Hill, where the world's coaches, chairs, and curricles[1] were met and locked, from morning to night, in a horrible, blasphemous confusion. And here, in one or other of the ancient doorways, he leaned and grinned while the shouting and the cursing and the scraping and the raging went endlessly, hopelessly, on-till, sooner or later, something prosperous would come his way.

At about half past ten of a cold December morning an old gentleman got furiously out of his carriage (in which he'd been trapped for an hour), shook his red fist at his helpless coachman and the roaring but motionless world, and began to stump up Ludgate Hill.

"*Pick*- pocket! *Pick* - pocket!" shrieked the cathedral birds in a fury.

A country gentleman - judging by his complexion, his clean, old-fashioned coat, and his broad legged, lumbering walk which bumped out his pockets in a manner most provoking.

Smith twitched his nose and nipped neatly along like a shadow . . .

From *Smith* by Leon Garfield

[1] curricles are light carriages drawn by two horses

Section A Questions

1) Using lines 1-4, what do you learn about Smith? (4)

2) Using paragraph two (lines 5-11) select and write down **three phrases** which show that Smith was a fast runner. (3)

3) What does "dexterously emptied pockets" (line 10) tell you about Smith's profession and how successful he was at it? (2)

4) By describing Smith as a "rather sooty spirit of the violent and ramshackle town" (line 7) and one who "inhabited the tumbledown mazes about fat St Paul's like the subtle air itself "(line 8), what is suggested about
   a) The boy
   b) The town ? (6)

5) Explain what you understand the following phrases to mean :
   (you will find it helpful to look back at where they appear in the passage)
   1) given him a wide berth (line 3)
   2) the powerful whiff of his passing (line 10)
   3) something prosperous would come his way (line 20)
   4) lumbering walk (line 27) (4)

6) What, in this passage, tells us there were traffic jams even in Eighteenth Century London? (4)

7) Where is Smith's favourite spot and why do you think he chooses it? Use the passage to explain your view. (2)

8) What indicates that the old gentleman is angry and impatient? Use the passage to explain your view. (3)

9) What does the last line of the passage suggest about Smith and what he is going to do next? (2)

Total 30 marks

Please turn over for Section B

Section B : Creative Response 30 minutes

Please start your answer to Section B on a new sheet of paper.

Choose **ONE** of the following options.
You should leave 5 minutes to check your work through at the end.

Either:

Write your own story with the title "Thief".

OR:

Imagine and describe a **quiet** time of day in a town, city or location (ie market /theatre/ fairground) that is usually bustling with activity.

OR:

Use the following as the opening line of a story:
At about half past ten of a cold December morning an old gentleman got furiously out of his carriage…

Total : 30 marks