SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

YEAR 7 (11+) ENTRANCE EXAMINATION
January 2011
for entry in September 2011

ENGLISH

Name: ……

School: …… .

Time allowed: 10 minutes reading time, then 1 hour 15 minutes

Equipment needed: Pen and lined paper

Information for candidates:

1. Write your name and school on this page.
2. You may make notes on this exam paper during the 10 minutes of reading time (you will be told when this begins), but you must not start writing your answers until you are told to do so.
3. 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.
4. You should write in full sentences and pay attention to both spelling and punctuation.
5. The marks available for each question are indicated in square brackets [ ] after the question.
6. Dictionaries are NOT allowed.

SECTION A

Read both the following passages. You have 10 minutes reading time, during which you may write on this paper. You must answer all the questions in this section. You are advised to spend 45 minutes on this section, as well as the 10 minutes reading time. Remember that you should write as fully as you can in your answers.

Now read this passage and answer the questions below.

Unmotivated, the sloth covers four to five metres in an hour.

The three-toed sloth is not well informed about the outside world. On a scale of 2 to 10, where 2 represents unusual dullness and 10 extreme sharpness, one would give the sloth's senses of taste, touch, sight and hearing a rating of 2, and its sense of smell a rating of 3. If you come upon a sleeping three-toed sloth in the wild, two or three nudges should suffice to awaken it; it will then look sleepily in every direction but yours. Why it should look about is uncertain since the sloth sees everything in a fog-like blur. As for hearing, the sloth is not so much deaf as uninterested in sound. It has been reported that firing guns next to sleeping or feeding sloths elicits little reaction. And the sloth's slightly better sense of smell should not be overestimated. They are said to be able to sniff and avoid decayed branches, but some have reported that sloths fall to the ground clinging to decayed branches "often".

How does it survive, you might ask.

From Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Questions

1. **What does Yann Martel tell us about the sloth's senses? You should use examples from the passage to support your ideas and explain what you examples show.** [6 marks]

2. **How does the author create a sense of the sloth's terrible slowness? You should use examples from the passage to support your ideas and explain what your examples show.** [6 marks]

Read this passage and then answer the questions below.

The tiger walked up and down; it walked up and down like Satan walking about the world and it burned. It burned so brightly, Lizzie was scorched. Its tail, thick as her father's forearm, twitched back and forth at the tip. The quick loping stride of the caged tiger; its eyes like yellow coins of a foreign currency; its round, innocent, toy-like ears; the stiff whiskers sticking out with an artificial look; the red mouth from which the bright noise came. It walked up and down on straw strewn with bloody bones.

All its motion was slung from marvellous haunches it held so high you could have rolled a marble down it back, if it would have let you.

Upon its skin it bore the imprint of the bars behind which it lived.

From Lizzie's Tiger by Angela Carter

Questions

3. **How does the writer describe the tiger? How does she make it appear frightening? You should use examples from the passage to support your ideas and explain what your examples show.** [4 marks]

4. **What do you think Angela Carter means by the last line: "Upon its skin it bore the imprint of the bars behind which it lived."?** [3 marks]

5. **The writer uses some vivid images (word pictures). Choose two vivid images or word pictures from the passage and write about the picture each one creates in your mind.** [6 marks]

SECTION B

You are advised to spend 30 minutes on this section.

1. Describe an animal, real or imaginary. Try to describe it in as much detail as you can. [25 marks]

END OF PAPER