SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

YEAR 7 (11+) ENTRANCE EXAMINATION
January 2016
for entry in September 2016

ENGLISH

Name: _____

School: _____

Time allowed: 5 minutes reading time, then 1 hour exam.
You are advised to spend approximately 30 minutes on Section A and 30 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.
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 30. The marks for each question are indicated in square brackets [ ].

SECTION A
Spend approximately 30 minutes on Section A

Read the passage and answer **all** the questions below.

When the black brumby recovered from the battle he had fought, he left the hiding-place in the hills with less than half of the mares following him. For months they wandered, breaking fences, chased by men on swift horses, always escaping, until at last they reached the unfenced, mountainous country to claim a free range of hundreds of miles around them. Their instinct was to choose the heights and the cover of the mountain rocks. Between the rocks the earth was packed with sweet food and the air clean in their nostrils. The vast blue bowl of the sky surrounded them, the burning sun blazed down so that they stood in the black shadows thrown by the tall rocks and drowsed away the middays.

At nightfall, when the urge was in them, they swept down the rocky hillside for the sheer joy of movement. Moonlight silvered their running bodies, giving a frosted gleam to the broad black back of their leader. They drank at the river at the foot of their mountain, or tore across the flat lands edging the water, penetrating far into the scrub country, trampling the mud at the edge of the lily-covered lagoon whose water held a strange, sharp sweetness, extracted from the growing plants.

It was wild country. Man, their enemy, worried them little, for the owners of their central mountainous strip, and of the wide, variegated landscape on either side of it, could none of them afford to fence their country in. The herd, though small, was remarkably fine physically in contrast with most brumby herds, in which the thin, harried creatures are not worth the taming.

Circling the plateau claimed by the horses was a wall of closely packed 'organ pipe' rocks of red and grey, towering upwards from the side of the mountain. In the centre of the plateau stood Yarraman, the leader. He was about sixteen hands high, a heavy, plebeian brute with an ugly head and a coarse hide. He limped a little, souvenir of his fight with the silver Pegasus. A close look would have shown scars criss-crossing the hide, where the sharp breezes blew long furrows in the hairy winter growth.

Extract from: *The Brumby* by Mary Elwyn Patchett (published: 1971)

Glossary:
Brumby: the name of wild, free-roaming Australian horses.

Questions Section A

1. What impression does the author give of the life that these wild horses lead? Whilst writing 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 lines 22-23. Why do you think the author describes the wall of closely packed rocks of red and grey as "organ pipe rocks"?

[4 marks]

3. **Using your own words**, how would you describe the character of Yarraman?

[5 marks]

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR SECTION B

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

SECTION B
Spend approximately 30 minutes on Section B

Look at this painting below:



Artist Emanuel Leutze: 1851

Questions Section B

Choose **one** of the following options and write a creative response to this picture:

1. Imagine you were one of the people on the boat 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.

3. Write from the point of view of someone on shore observing the oncoming boats.

[15 marks]

Total: [30 marks]