The Junior King's School
Canterbury

2012

Year 7
Entrance Examination (12+)
English

One Hour

Section A	**Reading**	**25 Marks**	**30 Minutes**
Section B	**Writing**	**25 marks**	**30 Minutes**

PLEASE BE SURE TO ANSWER SECTIONS A & B ON SEPARATE SHEETS OF PAPER

PRISONER OF THE INQUISITION

In this extract from "Prisoner of the Inquisition" by Teresa Breslin, Zarita is visiting the shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows to pray for her dying mother. She is accompanied by Ramón Salazar, a young nobleman. Saulo is a boy who comes from a poor family in the town of Las Conchas. The story is set in Spain in 1490.

Zarita

'Señorita, I beg you. One coin only.'

'What?' Startled, I stood up. The man was bigger than me, his eyes enormous, brown seeping to almost black in a face that was gaunt and grey with unshaved stubble.

'I need money,' he said. I've walked all morning and found none. I cannot go home empty-handed to my wife and my son.' He held out his hand, palm up.

I was suddenly aware that I was alone with this **ruffian** inside the empty church. I pulled my veil down over my face and took a step back.

He came forward - so very close to me. His mouth opened, showing blackened and missing teeth. An over-powering foul odour. His outstretched hand brushed mine.

I shrieked in alarm.

Ramón came running down the aisle from the main door.

'My son is hungry. My wife is very ill. She needs medicine. One coin would buy something to ease her discomfort,' the man gabbled at me.

But I paid no heed to his pleas. The smell of him and the contact of his fingers, with their roughened skin and **broken** fingernails, repelled me. That a peasant would go so far as to try to grasp the hand of a woman of my status was outrageous.

'He touched me!' I screamed. 'This man actually *touched* me!'

Ramón looked at me in horror. His face turned red with fury. 'You assaulted this woman!' he yelled at the beggar.

'N - no!' the man stuttered in confusion. 'I was only asking for a coin.' He looked at me, as if I might verify what he said.

In fear, I shook my head and sobbed again. 'He touched me.'

'For that you die!' cried Ramón, and tried to pull his sword from its scabbard. But he wasn't practised enough to do this in one movement. It caught on his tunic, and he swore and snatched his dagger from his belt.

The beggar turned and rushed out of the side door.

Ramón gave chase,and I, terrified to be left on my own, gathered up my skirts and ran after them both.

Saulo

… As I sat **under** a tree in the square outside the church on this sultry summer day, I was very hopeful that my father would be successful. When he left that morning he'd asked me to tend to my mother, but I had disobeyed him. My mother had fallen asleep so I'd trailed behind him as he followed the richly dressed girl and her companion. I figured out, as I imagined he had, that if someone like her was walking in this area, she could have only one destination. She would be going to the shrine of the Virgin Mary, which was inside the

church on a cliff overlooking the sea. And if this girl was visiting a church to pray on a day not designated for religious observance, then it was likely that she had a merciful disposition. She seemed to be about my age, with the most beautiful long black hair caught up in swirls and curls with fine tortoiseshell combs. From time to time the young nobleman who was with her would turn to smile at her and reach out to touch her hair. She looked like a good girl, her face **properly** covered with a veil, kind and devout. She'd come to this poorer part of town to visit the shrine, so it must mean that she sought some special favour, that she had a sorrow or a petition of her own.

I thought, *She will listen to my father as she expects her God to listen to her.*

I was wrong.

GLOSSARY: **shrine** *noun* an altar, chapel or other sacred place.

Section A **Reading Comprehension** **30 minutes**

Read the passage from "Prisoner of the Inquisition" ***twice*** *and then answer the questions below. Remember to write full sentences except for questions 1 and 4.*

1. Copy the word or group of words that are the best answers to these questions:

   a) The man is begging because
   He has been injured in the war **He is a peasant** **He needs money for his family**
   b) The extracts are written in the
   first person **second person** **third person**
   c) Saulo thinks the girl looks
   haughty **compassionate** **sad** **[3]**

2. Copy out the sentence which tells us that Zarita is much wealthier and more important than the beggar. **[2]**

3. 'I paid no heed to his pleas.' [line 14] Put this into your own words. **[2]**

4. Give the part of speech of each of these four words: a) ruffian [line 6]; b) broken [line 15]; under [line 30]; properly [line 41]. **[2]**

5. Ramón,who is protecting Zarita, is only sixteen. How do we know that he is inexperienced in battle? **[4]**

6. Describe the beggar in your own words and giving as much detail as you can. **[7]**

7. a) Why do you think the writer uses italic letters for some of the penultimate sentence?

[2]

b) Comment on the writer's use of paragraphs in this extract. **[3]**

[25 marks]

Section B **Creative Writing** **30 minutes**

Teresa Breslin uses two narrators (Zarita and Saulo) to tell the story in "Prisoner of the Inquisition". This technique offers writers the chance to explore an event from more than one point of view.

Your task is to write a short piece with two narrators entitled,

THE TRICK

REMEMBER

You will be marked on the quality and accuracy of your writing as well as your ideas so take great care with your vocabulary, use of language, punctuation and spelling.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- **Think who your two narrators will be and then put their name at the beginning of each section of your story – as you saw in the extract.**
- **Decide what "The Trick" is and where and when your story takes place.**
- **Be sure to write about what each character was thinking and feeling as well as what they actually did.**
- **Aim to write at least one side**

[25 marks]