The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School
Elstree, Herts

13+ Entrance Examination 2016

ENGLISH

Time: One hour and 10 minutes

Please follow these instructions

There are two parts to this examination:

- **Part 1** tests your **Reading** (**40 minutes, including 10 minutes reading time**)
- **Part 2** tests your **Writing** (**30 minutes**)
- Put your name and examination number at the top of each new sheet of paper you use
- Write in ink
- Begin Part 2 (the Writing Exercise) on a **new sheet** of paper
- Do not take this question paper away

PART 1 READING EXERCISE - 40 mins

Spend <u>ten minutes</u> at the start of the examination reading the following passage carefully. You can underline / highlight / annotate the passage in this time. Then spend <u>thirty minutes</u> answering the questions opposite.

The following passage is an extract from the novel Black Swan Green by David Mitchell. Written from the perspective of a thirteen year-old boy, Jason Taylor, it is an account of a game of 'British Bulldog'.

Screaming like kamikazes, we charged. I slipped over (accidentally on purpose) just before the front wave of Runners smashed into the Bulldogs. This'd tie up most of the hardest Bulldogs in fights with our front Runners. (Bulldogs have to pin down both shoulders of Runners on to the ice for long enough to shout 'British Bulldogs One Two Three'.) With luck, my strategy'd clear some spaces to dodge through and on to our home goal-posts. My plan worked pretty well at first. The Tookey brothers and Gary Drake all crashed into Nick Yew. A flying leg kicked my shin but I got past them without coming a cropper. But then Ross Wilcox came homing in on me. I tried to wriggle past but Wilcox got a firm grip on my wrist and tried to pull me down. But instead of trying to struggle free I got a firmer grip on *his* wrist and flung him off me straight into Ant Little and Darren Croome. Ace in the *face* or what? Games and sports're really about humiliating your enemies. Lee Biggs tried a poxy rugby tackle on me but I shook him free *no* sweat. He's too worried about the teeth he's got left to be a decent Bulldog. I was the fourth Runner home. Grant Burch shouted, 'Nice work, *Jacey*-boy!' Nick Yew'd fought free of the Tookeys and Gary Drake and got home too. About a third of the Runners got captured and turned into Bulldogs for the next pass. I hate that about British Bulldogs. It forces you to be a traitor.

So anyway, we all chanted, 'British Bulldogs One Two THREE!' and charged like last time but this time I had no chance. Ross Wilcox *and* Gary Drake *and* Dawn Madden targeted me from the start. No matter how I tried to dodge through the fray it was hopeless. I hadn't got halfway across the lake before they got me. Ross Wilcox went for my legs, Gary Drake toppled me and Dawn Madden sat on my chest and pinned my shoulders down with her knees. I just lay there and let them convert me into a Bulldog. In my heart I'd always be a runner. Gary Drake gave me a dead leg, which might or might not have been on purpose. Dawn Madden's got cruel eyes like a Chinese empress and sometimes one glimpse at school makes me think about her all day. Ross Wilcox jumped up and punched the air like he'd scored at Old Trafford. The spazzo. 'Yeah, yeah Wilcox,' I said, 'three against one, well done.' Wilcox flashed me a V-sign and slid off for another battle. Grant Burch and Nick Yew came windmilling at a thick pocket of Bulldogs and half of them went flying.

Then Gilbert Swinyard yelled at the top of his lungs, 'PIIIIILE-ONNNNNN!' That was the signal for every Runner and every Bulldog on the lake to throw themselves on to a wriggling, groaning, growing pyramid of kids. The game itself was sort of forgotten. I held back, pretending to limp a bit from my dead leg. Then we heard the sound of a chainsaw in the woods, flying down the track, straight towards us.

QUESTIONS (50 marks)

Answers for the first four questions do not require full sentences.

1. Note down two words from the first two lines that suggests this is a violent game. (2 marks)

2. What is a *kamikaze* (line 1)? (2 marks)

3. What does the word *poxy* (line 12) mean? (2 marks)

4. Give an alternative phrase for *coming a cropper (line 7)*. (4 marks)

Answers for the remaining questions should be in full sentences.

5. How is it possible for this game to be played on a lake? (4 marks)

6. What does the phrase *accidentally on purpose* (line 1) reveal about Jason? (4 marks)

7. How does David Mitchell convey the chaos of this scene? Support your response with textual quotations. (6 marks)

8. This passage is narrated in the first person, from Jason Taylor's point of view.

   a) Give two advantages of this. (4 marks)

   b) Give two disadvantages of this. (4 marks)

9. How does David Mitchell convey the impossibility of Jason succeeding in the second round of the game? (4 marks)

10. How does David Mitchell portray the relationship between the narrator and his friends in the second paragraph? (4 marks)

11. In this passage there are frequent references to warfare.

    (a) Identify and write down two of these references. (4 marks)

    (b) Comment in as much detail as you can on the effect of these frequent references. You might like to consider atmosphere and symbolism in your response. (6 marks)

PART 2 WRITING EXERCISE – 30 minutes

PLEASE START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER. PUT YOUR NAME AND EXAM NUMBER AT THE TOP.

Write as accurately and as interestingly as you can on ONE of the following tasks.

Either

1. *Games and sports're really about humiliating your enemies*. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Or

2. The Outsider

(50 marks)

END OF EXAMINATION
Remember to check that you have written your name and examination number on each sheet of paper that you have used.