OUNDLE
School

2018 Academic Scholarship

English

Time allowed: 2 hours

Instructions

- **Dictionaries are not allowed.**
- Answer on lined paper. Clearly mark your name at the top of each sheet of paper you use.
- Answer ALL the questions in Section A. Choose ONE question from Section B. You should divide your time equally between both sections.
- You are expected to write clear, accurate and well-punctuated prose across all your answers. You should leave some time towards the end of the examination to check your work carefully.
- The maximum number of marks for this paper is 60.

Section A: poetry comprehension

You should spend 60 minutes on this section.

In both poems below the poet is forced to make an unexpected stop on a journey. Read the poems carefully and then answer the questions that follow. Questions 1 and 2 are about 'Adlestrop'. Questions 3 and 4 are about 'Interruption to a Journey'. Question 5 invites you to consider both poems. You should leave yourself enough time to answer Question 5 in full detail.

Adlestrop by Edward Thomas (1878-1917)

Yes, I remember Adlestrop –
The name, because one afternoon
Of heat the express-train drew up there
Unwontedly. It was late June.

The steam hissed. Someone cleared his throat.
No one left and no one came
On the bare platform. What I saw
Was Adlestrop – only the name

And willows, willow-herb, and grass,
And meadowsweet, and haycocks dry,
No whit less still and lonely fair
Than the high cloudlets in the sky.

And for that minute a blackbird sang
Close by, and round him, mistier,
Farther and farther, all the birds
Of Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

Interruption to a Journey by Norman MacCraig (1910-1996)

The hare we had run over
Bounced about the road
On the springing curve
Of its spine.

Cornfields breathed in the darkness.
We were going through the darkness and
The breathing cornfields from one
Important place to another.

We broke the hare's neck
And made that place, for a moment,
The most important place there was,
Where a bowstring was cut
And a bow broken for ever
That had shot itself through so many
Darknesses and cornfields.

It was left in that landscape
It left us in another.

On 'Adlestrop'

1. What does the poet feel about stopping at Adletstrop? Support your answer with quotations from the poem. *(5 marks)*
2. Comment on some of the effects of the poet's use of repetition in the poem. *(5 marks)*

On 'Interruption to a Journey'

3. What impression of the hare is created through the poet's choice of vocabulary? Support your answer with quotations from the poem. *(5 marks)*
4. In what different ways does the poet use the word 'darkness' in this poem and why? *(5 marks)*

On both poems

5. Compare and contrast these two poems in any way you think is interesting and appropriate. Support your answer with quotations from the poems. You may wish to look at:
    - the content and meaning of the poems;
    - the form and structure of the poems;
    - the use of literary techniques. *(10 marks)*

(Total: 30 marks)

TURN OVER

Section B: Composition

Spend about 60 minutes on this section

The following are all opening or closing sentences from a selection of different novels. Write a story or a piece of descriptive writing using ONE of these sentences as your opening or closing sentence. Credit will be given for how well your writing fits with your chosen sentence. You are reminded of the importance of clear and accurate written English and of careful presentation in your answer. All questions carry equal marks.

1. 'He'd been sent out to pick firewood from the forest, sticks and timbers wrenched loose in the storm.' *(30 marks)*

OR

2. 'By ten-forty-five it was all over.' *(30 marks)*

OR

3. 'It seems increasingly likely that I really will undertake the expedition that has been preoccupying my imagination now for some days.' *(30 marks)*

OR

4. 'Being tired isn't the same as being rich, but most times it's close enough.' *(30 marks)*

OR

5. 'He stared out into the wintry night, feeling some warmth from Alice's shoulder, knowing only that he must try.' *(30 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS