Independent Schools Examinations Board

COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AT 13+

ENGLISH

LEVELS 1 AND 2

PAPER 2: WRITING

Tuesday 12 June 2012

Please read this information before the examination starts.

- You have 1 hour 20 minutes which includes planning time.
- The paper is divided into two sections. You should spend about 40 minutes on Section A and about 40 minutes on Section B.
- Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Vocabulary, spelling, grammar, punctuation and presentation are important and will be taken into account.

© Independent Schools Examinations Board

SECTION A: STUDIED LITERATURE

Answer ONE of the following questions. Each one is worth 25 marks. You may write on one text or more in your answer.

1. 'Even though most texts depend on conflict, you can usually tell fairly early on who is going to win.'

   Write about whether you have found this to be true in your own reading.

2. Conflict does not always have to be serious: sometimes it can be very funny.

   To what extent have you found this to be true in your own reading?

3. It is said that the villains are often the most interesting characters.

   To what extent have you found this to be true in your own reading?

4. 'Literature helps us understand the complexities of life.'

   Have you ever read a text that helped you to understand something about life which had previously been confusing to you? Write about the text, explaining how it managed to do this for you.

SECTION B: WRITING TASK

Write on any ONE of the following topics. Each one is worth 25 marks. Credit will be given for good spelling, punctuation and presentation as well as for imaginative and exciting use of vocabulary.

1. 'Nobody's perfect.'

   Write a story which uses this as its final line.

2. 'Everyone always remembers a good teacher.'

   Is there a particular teacher whom you think you will always remember?

   Either:

   Write an article for The Teacher's Magazine, explaining from a student's point of view what makes a good teacher.

   Or:

   Write a letter to one of your teachers, explaining why you will always remember him or her.

3. Write a story on one of the following topics:

   (a) Weird Habits

   (b) Mirror

   (c) Show and Tell

4. 'Summer in February, Winter in July.'

   Write a descriptive piece about unseasonal weather.

5. 'How to avoid things.'

   Write an article in which you explore the issue of how and why people avoid things which they know they ought to do. You might like to write about:

   - things we like to avoid
   - why people try to avoid things
   - different techniques for avoiding things
   - how to get away with it
   - whether it pays off

6. 'There is one thing I regret.'

(Total marks: 50)