Independent Schools Examinations Board

COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AT 13+

ENGLISH

LEVELS 1 AND 2

MARK SCHEME

This is a suggested, not a prescriptive, mark scheme

Specimen Paper

(for first examination in Autumn 2013)

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PAPER 1

SECTION A: LITERARY PROSE

LEVEL 1

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
1.	a rainstorm	**1**	
2.	‘the rain ceased’ ‘the breeze died too’ ‘there was no noise’ ‘presently even the sound of the water was still’	**3** **+** **3**	1 mark for each quotation 1 mark for each comment
3.	‘Simon’s body lay huddled’ makes his body sound small and vulnerable ‘the stains spread, inch by inch’; describes the blood and suggests his life is draining away	**2**	up to 2 marks for a well explained idea, with or without a quotation
4.	‘strange, moonbeam-bodied creatures with fiery eyes’ ‘the creatures made a moving patch of light as they gathered at the edge’ ‘the strange, attendant creatures, with their fiery eyes and trailing vapours, busied themselves round his head’ they are unusual with other-worldly aspects made up of light, fire and vapour-trails they are performing some sort of service, working together	**2** **+** **4**	1 mark for each quotation up to 2 marks for each comment

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
5.	‘dressed Simon’s coarse hair with brightness’; hair is turned into a source of light and made to shine ‘The line of his cheek silvered’; silver is a beautiful and precious metal which suggests his body is shining and beautiful to look at ‘the turn of his shoulder became sculptured marble’; the dead body sounds like a beautiful scupture and marble is a stone which shines and gleams.	**2** **+** **4**	1 mark for each quotation up to 2 marks for each comment
6.	Simon’s body sounded vulnerable at the start of the passage and it was surrounded by blood which stained the beach by the end of the passage, Simon’s body has been washed clean and made to look beautiful so the reader feels less shocked and the description is comforting his death was violent and shocking but the small creatures in the water are very gentle and kind to Simon, which makes the reader feel less disturbed by the killing Simon’s body was left alone on the beach but now it is being looked after, which makes the reader feel less upset by the terrible events which have happened	**4**	for full marks, candidates should show an awareness of the disturbing nature of the killing as well as an awareness of the calming nature of this description award 1 or 2 marks for explaining how disturbed the reader might feel about the killing award 2 or 3 marks for explaining how the passage comforts the reader
Total		**25**	

PAPER 1

SECTION A: LITERARY PROSE

LEVEL 2

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
1.	the atmosphere is comparatively calm after the passing of the rainstorm the breeze dies away, the sounds of running water gradually cease	**2**	
2.	minute particulars, 'sand grains', are contrasted with the 'great wave of the tide' the sky, with its stars, is mirrored in the sea	**4**	2 marks for identifying contrasts 2 marks for sensible comments on the use of contrast
3.	they are unusual, with other-worldly aspects made up of light, fire and vapour trails and they seem to be providing some sort of service, working together	**6**	suggestions of the angelic, preparing a reception on the other side of death might be particularly rewarded
4.	the body is being turned into something attractive, ceremonially prepared, an artefact with some of the qualities of a funerary monument it is lifted and turned with great care in preparation for the next stage of a journey	**6**	reward any responses which show sensitivity to the language
5.	we are taken into space to look at the earth's orb from a distance, observing it turning on its axis as the tide is moved by the gravitational pull of the sun and moon Simon's body is embraced by the tide, connected to the constellations and moved carefully towards the deep	**7**	any connection between the movements of the planets and stars and that of Simon's body is likely to create a providential perspective alternative interpretations, such as the indifference of the cosmos, might be persuasively argued
Total		**25**	

PAPER 2

SECTION A: LITERARY PROSE

LEVEL 1

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
1.	'cracks like a pod' suggests everything is dry 'never enough water' suggests a place where there is not much rain and people are always hot and thirsty	**2**	up to 2 marks for a clear explanation with or without a quotation
2.	water pours out on to the ground the people become excited everybody rushes to the broken pipe they bring lots of containers to collect the water	**3**	any three of these points 1 mark for each point made
3.	'roar of tongues' suggests that the water brings a huge amount of excitement 'congregation' suggests the people worship the water 'every man woman child for streets around' suggests everyone is equally desperate for water 'butts in' suggests they cannot wait to get this water 'frantic hands' suggests desperation	**2** **+** **4**	1 mark for each quotation up to 2 marks for each comment

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
4.	the children are 'naked' and free to enjoy the feeling of the water on their hot bodies they are 'screaming' which shows their excitement 'polished to perfection" suggests the atmosphere is positive and makes them seem happy the water 'sings' which suggests the children are filled with joy	**2**	
5.	the long sentence reflects the fact that a lot is happening it creates a sense of the action and excitement which the water has created it contrasts with the shorter sentences at the start of the poem to show the change from hot and dry to wet and refreshing	**2**	accept any sensible idea reward clarity of explanation
6.	*possible examples could include:* 'cracks' 'drip of it' – small amount resounding in the tin mug 'small splash' – alliterative/onomatopoeic 'echo' 'crashes' – powerful sound/ onomatopoeic 'roar of tongues' – sudden burst of noise from villagers or increased flow of water 'screaming' – children/ excitement/happiness water 'sings' – gentleness/brings joy and pleasure; children are splashing and playing in the water illuminated by the bright sunlight	**3** **+** **3**	1 mark for each quotation 1 mark for each comment

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
7.	*open to individual interpretation*	**4**	candidate may express concern/sadness for the people and their situation/plight or/and perhaps share their excitement/joy that they have water reward accordingly
Total		**25**	

PAPER 2

SECTION A: LITERARY PROSE

LEVEL 2

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
1.	water	**2**	
2.	imagination is specifically evoked tiny quantities are exaggerated by sounds: 'echo' in a frail receptacle the title, *Blessing*, is recalled by the invocation of a benevolent deity, the source	**4**	
3.	lack of clear rhyme creates sense of freedom in 'roar of tongues' and in 'flow' of water use of monosyllables creates speed length of lines – long and short – creates sense of dip and rush of water enjambement – echoes flow of water varied stanza length – echoes water coming slowly at first then in a quick rush	**6**	

Q	Answer	Mark	Additional Guidance
4.	*there are many sounds within the poem; candidates should select from the flowing for commentary:* 'cracks' 'drip of it' – sound of drop of water 'small splash' 'echo' resounding in the tin 'voice' 'crashes' – powerful sound, onomatopoeic 'roar of tongues' – sudden burst of noise from villagers 'screaming' – children water 'sings' - gentle	**6**	to gain full marks at least three examples should be given with explanation
5.	*open to individual interpretation*	**7**	reward varied thoughtful responses supported by textual references
Total		**25**	