

**THE ENGLISH SCHOOL, NICOSIA**  
**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2003**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**Native/Near-Native Speakers**

**YEAR 2**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. FILL IN YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON THE SLIP ATTACHED.**
- 2. ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THE SPACES PROVIDED AND THE ESSAY ON THE LINED PAPER IN THIS BOOKLET.**
- 3. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.**
- 4. WRITE NEATLY. WRITE GOOD ENGLISH .**

**This exam booklet contains 11 pages**



Lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines.

Lined writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines.

## SECTION II (30 MARKS)

Read this passage. Answer the questions that follow in the spaces provided.

5 Sophie Amundsen was on her way home from school. She had walked the first part of the way with Joanna. They had been discussing robots. Joanna thought the human brain was like an advanced computer. Sophie was not certain she agreed. Surely a person was more than a piece of hardware?

10 When they got to the supermarket they went their separate ways. Sophie lived on the outskirts of a sprawling suburb and had almost twice as far to school as Joanna. There were no other houses beyond her garden, which made it seem as if her house lay at the end of the world. This was where the woods began.

She turned the corner into Clover Close. At the end of the road there was a sharp bend, known as Captain's Bend. People seldom went that way except on the weekend.

15 It was early May. In some of the gardens the fruit trees were encircled with dense clusters of daffodils. The birches were already in pale green leaf.

20 It was extraordinary how everything burst forth at this time of year! What made this great mass of green vegetation come welling up from the dead earth as soon as it got warm and the last traces of snow disappeared?

As Sophie opened her garden gate, she looked in the mailbox. There was usually a lot of junk mail and a few big envelopes for her mother, a pile to dump on the kitchen table before she went up to her room to start her homework.

25 From time to time there would be a few letters from the bank for her father, but then he was not a normal father. Sophie's father was the captain of a big oil tanker, and was away for most of the year. During the few weeks at a time when he was at home, he would shuffle around the house making it nice and cosy for Sophie and her mother. But when he was at sea he could seem very distant.

30 There was only one letter in the mailbox—and it was for Sophie. The white envelope read: "Sophie Amundsen, 3 Clover Close." That was all; it did not say who it was from. There was no stamp on it either.

35 As soon as Sophie had closed the gate behind her she opened the envelope. It contained only a slip of paper no bigger than the envelope. It read: *Who are you?*

Nothing else, only the three words, written by hand, and followed by a large question mark.

40 She looked at the envelope again. The letter was definitely for her. Who could have dropped it in the mailbox?

Sophie let herself quickly into the red house. As always, her cat Sherekan managed to slink out of the bushes, jump onto the front step, and slip in through the door before she closed it behind her.

45 Whenever Sophie's mother was in a bad mood, she would call the house they lived in a menagerie. A menagerie was a collection of animals. Sophie certainly had one and was quite happy with it. It had begun with the three goldfish, Goldtop, Red Ridinghood, and Black Jack. Next she got two budgerigars called Smitt and Smule, then Govinda the tortoise, and finally the marmalade cat Sherekan. They had all been given to her to make up for the fact that her mother never got home from work until late in the afternoon and her father was away so much, sailing all over the world.

Sophie slung her schoolbag on the floor and put a bowl of cat food out for Sherekan. Then she sat down on a kitchen stool with the mysterious letter in her hand.

55 *Who are you?*

She had no idea. She was Sophie Amundsen, of course, but who was that? She had not really figured that out—yet.

What if she had been given a different name? Anne Knutsen, for instance. Would she then have *been* someone else?

60 She suddenly remembered that Dad had originally wanted her to be called Lillemor. Sophie tried to imagine herself shaking hands and introducing herself as Lillemor Amundsen, but it seemed all wrong. It was someone else who kept introducing herself.

65 She jumped up and went into the bathroom with the strange letter in her hand. She stood in front of the mirror and stared into her own eyes.

"I am Sophie Amundsen," she said.

The girl in the mirror did not react with as much as a twitch. Whatever Sophie did, she did exactly the same. Sophie tried to beat her reflection to it with a lightning movement but the other girl was just as fast.

70 "Who are you?" Sophie asked.

She received no response to this either, but felt a momentary confusion as to whether it was she or her reflection who had asked the question.

75 Sophie pressed her index finger to the nose in the mirror and said, "You are me."

As she got no answer to this, she turned the sentence around and said, "I am you."

80 Sophie Amundsen was often dissatisfied with her appearance. She was frequently told that she had beautiful almond-shaped eyes, but that was probably just something people said because her nose was too small and her mouth was a bit too big. And her ears were much too close to her eyes. Worst of all was her straight hair, which it was impossible to do anything with. Sometimes her father would stroke her hair and call her "the girl with the flaxen hair," after a piece of music by Claude Debussy. It was all right for him, he was not condemned to living with this straight dark hair. Neither mousse nor styling gel had the slightest effect on Sophie's hair. Sometimes she thought she was so ugly that she wondered if she was malformed at birth. Her mother always went on about her difficult labor. But was that really what determined how you looked?

90 Wasn't it odd that she didn't know who she was? And wasn't it unreasonable that she hadn't been allowed to have any say in what she would look like? Her looks had just been dumped on her. She could choose her own friends, but she certainly hadn't chosen herself. She had not even chosen to be a human being.

95 What was a human being?

Sophie looked up at the girl in the mirror again.

"I think I'll go upstairs and do my biology homework," she said, almost apologetically. Once she was out in the hall, she thought, No, I'd rather go out in the garden.

100 "Kitty, kitty, kitty!"

Sophie chased the cat out onto the doorstep and closed the front door behind her.

105 As she stood outside on the gravel path with the mysterious letter in her hand, the strangest feeling came over her. She felt like a doll that had suddenly been brought to life by the wave of a magic wand.

Wasn't it extraordinary to be in the world right now, wandering around in a wonderful adventure!

110 Sherekan sprang lightly across the gravel and slid into a dense clump of red-currant bushes. A live cat, vibrant with energy from its white whiskers to the twitching tail at the end of its sleek body. It was here in the garden too, but hardly aware of it in the same way as Sophie.

As Sophie started to think about being alive, she began to realize that she would not be alive forever. I am in the world now, she thought, but one day I shall be gone.



*Now answer the following questions:*

1. Why does Sophie's home seem to be 'at the end of the world' (1.9)? (1 mark)

---

---

---

2. Find words or phrases from the first page of the passage that have the same meaning as each of the following:

i: not often

ii. creep out suddenly

---

---

(2 marks)

3. What was unusual about what Sophie found in the mailbox? (2 marks)

---

---

4. Why does Sophie have so many pets? (2 marks)

---

---

5. Why was Sophie unhappy about the way she looked? (4 marks)

---

---

---

6. Explain 'her looks had just been dumped on her' (1.92). (2 marks)

---

---

7. Give 2 reasons why the letter was mysterious. (2 marks)

---

---





### SECTION III (40 MARKS)

#### Exercise A (10 marks)

The word in capital letters at the end of each of the following sentences can be used to form a word that fits suitably in the blank space. Fill each blank in this way.

Example: He could not give any \_\_\_\_\_. EXPLAIN

Answer: He could not give any *explanation*.

1. In some places water has to be boiled to \_\_\_\_\_ it. PURE
2. Although her visit was \_\_\_\_\_, we made her feel welcome just the same. EXPECT
3. I know all the boys who live in my \_\_\_\_\_. NEIGHBOUR
4. He does not agree with my \_\_\_\_\_. BELIEVE
5. He examined the parcel \_\_\_\_\_, as he had no idea what was inside. SUSPECT
6. The war will have great \_\_\_\_\_ for the world economy. IMPLY
7. He is not very \_\_\_\_\_. He tends to be quiet and not answer questions in class. RESPOND
8. The restaurant's food is quite boring. There is not much \_\_\_\_\_. VARY
9. She's not very friendly. In fact, she's completely \_\_\_\_\_. SOCIAL
10. The weatherman mentioned \_\_\_\_\_ weather for tomorrow's bank holiday. I think we should call off the picnic if rain has been forecast. FAVOUR



Exercise C (10 Marks)

Supply the missing prepositions where necessary. If no preposition is needed, then write X.

1. He is quite interested \_\_\_\_\_ music. He often attends \_\_\_\_\_ concerts.
2. Please explain \_\_\_\_\_ me what you mean.
3. Who looks \_\_\_\_\_ the baby when you go out \_\_\_\_\_ the evenings?
4. Did you know that small animals are afraid \_\_\_\_\_ big ones?
5. We got \_\_\_\_\_ the bus and took a seat by the window.
6. He apologized \_\_\_\_\_ all the damage he had caused.
7. Every mother is proud \_\_\_\_\_ her children.
8. My uncle is well-known \_\_\_\_\_ his cooking skills. He is especially good \_\_\_\_\_ French recipes.
9. The thief got \_\_\_\_\_ the house \_\_\_\_\_ the window
10. The plane took \_\_\_\_\_ from Larnaca Airport \_\_\_\_\_ midnight. It arrived \_\_\_\_\_ London \_\_\_\_\_ noon via Athens where it had stopped \_\_\_\_\_ about 6 hours.
11. When we returned \_\_\_\_\_ home everyone was already \_\_\_\_\_ bed.

Exercise D (4 marks)

Write the adjective forms of the following words.

Example: notice

Answer: *noticeable*

1. Social - \_\_\_\_\_
2. Study - \_\_\_\_\_
3. Nation - \_\_\_\_\_
4. Victory - \_\_\_\_\_
5. Circle - \_\_\_\_\_
6. Mischief - \_\_\_\_\_
7. Mercy - \_\_\_\_\_
8. Honour - \_\_\_\_\_

**End of exam.**

**Now go back and check your answers carefully.**