

**THE ENGLISH SCHOOL**  
**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2011**

**ENGLISH**

**Year 2 native speakers**

**Time allowed:**

**1  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours (one hour and thirty minutes)**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 1. FILL IN YOUR NAME 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 THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY**
- 4. WRITE IN GOOD ENGLISH**
- 5. PRESENT YOUR ANSWERS NEATLY**

*This paper is 17 pages.*

Total Marks: 100



## Section One: Writing Skills (30 marks)

*You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section*

*Choose ONE of the following questions and write about 300 words. Keep in mind the importance of:*

- Using imaginative ideas which will keep your reader interested
- Planning your answer carefully, considering the way you use paragraphs and link ideas
- Writing interesting opening and closing paragraphs
- Using appropriate and creative vocabulary
- Using accurate grammar and expression

1. Complete the story which starts like this:

*'Listen carefully and don't ask any questions. Put on a yellow pair of trousers and a yellow t- shirt and wait for me outside the big supermarket near your house. If you don't turn up you will regret it for sure.'* The voice on the other end of the line said.

*'Who are you? And why...'* I tried to say to the man at the other end of the line; but he had already hung up.

2. Describe a person you know who frightens you. Make sure you explain how this person has this effect on you.
3. Imagine you have magic powers but nobody knows about it. Describe a day when you decided to give your friends a big surprise and an unforgettable experience using your magic skills.

Please start on the next page







## Section Two: Reading and Comprehension (30 marks)

By now the locusts were falling like hail on to the roof of the kitchen. It sounded like a heavy storm. Margaret looked out and saw the air dark with a criss-cross of the insects, and she set her teeth and ran out into it- what the men could do, she could.

Overhead the air was thick, locusts everywhere. The locusts flopping against her, and she brushed them off, heavy red-brown creatures, looking at her with their beady old-men's eyes while they clung with hard serrated legs. She held her breath with disgust and ran through into the house. There it was even more like being in a heavy storm. The iron roof was reverberating, and the clamour of iron from the lands was like thunder. Looking out, all the trees were queer and still, clotted with insects, their boughs weighed to the ground.

The earth seemed to be moving, locusts crawling everywhere, she could not see the land at all, so thick was the swarm. Towards the mountains it was like looking into driving rain-even as she watched the sun was blotted out with a fresh onrush of them. It was a half-night, a perverted blackness. Then came a sharp crack from the bush-a branch had snapped off. Then another. A tree down the slope leaned over, and settled heavily to the ground.

Through the hail of insects a man came running. More tea, more water was needed. She supplied them. She kept the fires stoked and filled tins with liquid, and then it was four in the afternoon, and the locusts had been pouring across overhead for a couple of hours. Up came old Stephen again, crunching locusts underfoot with every step, locusts clinging all over him, cursing and swearing, banging with his old hat at the air. At the doorway he stopped briefly, hastily pulling at the clinging insects and throwing them off, then he plunged into the locust-free living-room.

"All the crops finished. Nothing left" he said. But the gongs were still beating, the men still shouting, and Margaret asked: "Why do you go on with it, then?"

The main swarm isn't settling. They are heavy with eggs. They are looking for a place to settle and lay. If we can stop the main body settling on our farm, that's everything. If they get a chance to lay their eggs, we are going to have

everything eaten flat with hoppers later on." He picked a stray locust off his shirt, and split it down with his thumb nail-it was clotted inside with eggs. "Imagine that multiplied by millions."

Margaret thought an adult swarm was bad enough. Outside now the light on the earth was a pale thin yellow, clotted with moving shadow, the clouds of moving insects thickened and lightened like driving rain. Old Stephen said:"They've got the wind behind them, that's something."

"Is it very bad?" asked Margaret fearfully, and the old man said emphatically: "We're finished. This swarm may pass over, but once they've started, they'll be coming down from the north now one after another. And then there are the hoppers-it might go on for two or three years".

Margaret sat down helplessly, and thought: "Well, if it's the end, it's the end. What now? ..." She took a quick look at Stephen, the old man who had farmed forty years in this country, been bankrupt twice, and she knew nothing would make him go and become a clerk in the city. Yet her heart ached for him, he looked so tired, the worry-lines deep from nose to mouth. Poor old man...He had lifted up a locust that had got itself somehow into his pocket, holding it in the air by one leg. "You've got the strength of a steel-spring in those legs of yours," he was telling the locust, good-humouredly.

Then, although he had been fighting locusts, squashing locusts, yelling at locusts, sweeping them in great mounds into the fires to burn for the last three hours, nevertheless he took this one to the door and carefully threw it out to join its fellows as if he would rather not harm a hair of its head.

From "The Habit of Loving"  
By Doris Lessing

### Comprehension Questions

1. What separate words in the first three sentences show that there was a multitude of locusts? ( 3 marks)

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2. Margaret "set her teeth and ran out into it-what the men could do, she could". What do these words tell you about her character? (2 marks).

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3. What was Margaret's main task during the passing of the locusts? ( 2 marks)

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4. What were the men doing to try to prevent the main swarm of the locusts from settling on the farm? ( 2 marks)

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5. Why was old Stephen so worried about a possible hopper swarm? ( 2 marks)

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6. "They've got the wind behind them, that's something." Why do you think old Stephen was glad about the wind? ( 2 marks)

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7. What evidence can you find to show that old Stephen had had previous experience of locust swarms? ( 2 marks)

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8. Can you suggest why Stephen did not kill the locust that had got into his pocket? ( 2 marks)

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9. Why did Margaret believe that old Stephen would not give up the farm?  
(2 marks)

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10. After your reading of the passage, what separate three words would you use to describe old Stephen?  
(3 marks)

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11. Quote three literary techniques (simile, metaphor etc.) that the writer uses in the passage. (3 marks)

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### Section Three: English Usage (40 marks)

#### Exercise A (10 marks)

Complete the sentences below by using each verb (in bold) at least once and in a suitable form:

*to be able, to talk, to become, to spend, to tell, to take, to hurt, to solve, to order, to have, to change, to look, to go, to make, to prepare, to postpone, to cut, to seem*

1. We can't watch TV tonight because the TV \_\_\_\_\_ to be working.
2. I don't think Simon \_\_\_\_\_ to finish his project by tomorrow; he is so slow.
3. When we \_\_\_\_\_ aware of the fire, we started evacuating the building.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ on the phone when the doorbell rang.
5. If he \_\_\_\_\_ me the truth I \_\_\_\_\_ him with me to the party.
6. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ so much fuss about this small accident; what is really important is that nobody \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Pizza? Not again! We \_\_\_\_\_ pizza twice this week.  
Why don't we \_\_\_\_\_ kebab instead?
8. As the teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the problem on the board, my naughty friends \_\_\_\_\_ fun of him.
9. A lot of things \_\_\_\_\_ in my life next September when I \_\_\_\_\_ to high school.
10. Last month I \_\_\_\_\_ most of my time \_\_\_\_\_ for the English School entrance Exams and I

rarely \_\_\_\_\_ out with my friends.

I \_\_\_\_\_ forward to the summer to be with my friends all day!

11. It is raining; let's \_\_\_\_\_ the game for another day.

12. You should \_\_\_\_\_ out smoking and never buy cigarettes again.

(10 marks)

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**Exercise B (5 marks):**

Complete the following passage by using a word for each space provided in the box below.

Collision accelerate engine injury pedestrian caution traffic damage safety garage negligence exceed anticipate mechanic fault serious accident situation unconscious severe
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**Road Accident**

An \_\_\_\_\_ has occurred on the main road. The first report came from a \_\_\_\_\_ who was waiting to cross the road at the \_\_\_\_\_ lights. Apparently, a car-driver, throwing \_\_\_\_\_ to the winds, tried to \_\_\_\_\_ past a semitrailer. The car-driver failed to \_\_\_\_\_ his own reactions and the car hit a pole. This caused \_\_\_\_\_ to the car. The driver is lucky to be alive. As it was, he was knocked \_\_\_\_\_ for a few moments. However, the \_\_\_\_\_ to his head was only slight, as the car's \_\_\_\_\_ took most of the force of the \_\_\_\_\_ with the pole. The wreckage of the car was towed to a \_\_\_\_\_, where a \_\_\_\_\_

stated that the car was a write-off. The police later charged the driver with \_\_\_\_\_ because he had taken no measures in an obviously dangerous \_\_\_\_\_. He was warned never to \_\_\_\_\_ the speed limit again.

### Exercise C (10 marks)

Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence printed before it.

Example: My brother's refusal to even discuss the matter really upset me.

Answer: What really upset me is my brother's refusal to even discuss the matter.

1. As far as I'm concerned, Saturday would be the best day.  
From my \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The water was so cold that I couldn't swim in it.  
The water was too \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I like travelling by train more than going by air.  
I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_.
4. 'He went home five minutes ago and took his papers with him'. His secretary said.  
His secretary told me \_\_\_\_\_.
5. If you work carefully, you won't make so many mistakes.  
The \_\_\_\_\_.
6. No one in the world drives as badly as you do!  
You're \_\_\_\_\_.
7. 'Don't touch the plate, it's hot'. The waiter said.  
The waiter warned \_\_\_\_\_.
8. There is room for five passengers in our car.  
Our car is big \_\_\_\_\_.
9. He said he was sorry that he had kept me waiting.  
He apologized \_\_\_\_\_.
10. It's often quicker by underground than by bus.  
The bus often takes \_\_\_\_\_.

### Exercise D (5 marks)

Underline the word in bold that best completes each sentence.

Example: My washing machine has been so useful that I don't know how I managed to \_\_\_\_\_ without it before.

Answer: a) get by b) **get over** c) **get away** d) **get across**

1. I'm afraid I can't give you your money back unless you have a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for the pullover.  
a) **Bill** b) **invoice** c) **ticket** d) **receipt**
2. There's a \_\_\_\_\_ of scarves in the shop window.  
a) **Scene** b) **display** c) **sight** d) **view**
3. The special offer in the magazine looked so good that I \_\_\_\_\_ for it straight away.  
a) **Wrote out** b) **wrote off** c) **wrote up** d) **wrote down**
4. I was very worried about the examination and it was a great \_\_\_\_\_ to hear that I had passed.  
a) **News** b) **relief** c) **reward** d) **escape**
5. Those gloves are much too small for you. Don't try to put them on or you'll \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
a) **Extend** b) **spread** c) **stretch** d) **swell**
6. If I'm late for work I take a short \_\_\_\_\_ across the park to save time.  
a) **Cut** b) **way** c) **road** d) **direction**
7. The bank clerk asked me for some \_\_\_\_\_ of my identity, such as a passport or driver's license.  
a) **Card** b) **signal** c) **notice** d) **proof**
8. When you have \_\_\_\_\_ the goods, you can collect them from the store.  
a) **Paid for** b) **paid** c) **settled** d) **returned**
9. He doesn't know anybody in London, apart \_\_\_\_\_ his sister.  
a) **From** b) **for** c) **than** d) **of**
10. This society was \_\_\_\_\_ in 1990 and the membership has been growing ever since.  
a) **Set off** b) **set out** c) **set in** d) **set up**

**Exercise E (5 marks)**

Complete these sentences by putting the **correct verb form** of the word in parentheses.

1. No dental appliance had \_\_\_\_\_ (fell) into any of the food.
2. The students were \_\_\_\_\_ (confusion) about what had \_\_\_\_\_ (occurrence).
3. Mr. Jones was able to remain calm, even when he \_\_\_\_\_ (discovery) that Sam had tried to \_\_\_\_\_ (deception) him.
4. Mr. Jones would \_\_\_\_\_ (punishment) Sam.
5. Some of the students were now \_\_\_\_\_ (consumption) their food again.
6. Sam did not \_\_\_\_\_ (argument) with Mr. Jones.
7. Sam was forced to \_\_\_\_\_ (admission) that he had not \_\_\_\_\_ (drop) his dental appliance into the spaghetti.

**Exercise F: (5 marks)**

Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct word from the list below:

At in when for before on ago during after until

1. He got married \_\_\_\_\_ 1986.
2. He was President \_\_\_\_\_ the period 2003-2007.
3. How long \_\_\_\_\_ did you last see him?

4. The fire started \_\_\_\_\_ 6 o'clock.
5. I was ill \_\_\_\_\_ three months.
6. They had to use candles \_\_\_\_\_ there was a power cut.
7. He read a book \_\_\_\_\_ he fell asleep.
8. She left Spain \_\_\_\_\_ living there for four years.
9. Fortunately they left the building \_\_\_\_\_ the bomb exploded.
10. Didn't you see the match \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday?

THE END