



The English School Entrance Examination 2021

English – Year 1 Native Paper

Time allowed: 1hr 15mins

General Instructions:

1. Answer **one** question in Section A, and **all** questions in Sections B and C
2. Read the instructions carefully before answering
3. Do not spend too much time on questions you find difficult as you must finish the paper
4. Write neatly and in black ink
5. Check your work carefully at the end
6. No questions concerning the content of the paper are allowed
7. **Do Not** write your name on any part of the paper.

Time Guidance:

Section A: Composition (35 marks): 25 mins

Section B: Comprehension and Usage (50 marks): 35 mins

Section C: Directed Writing (15 marks): 15 mins

This paper consists of 18 pages

Good Luck!

Section A: Composition

(35 marks)

Choose **ONE** of the following questions and write about **220-250 words**.

Remember the importance of:

- Planning your response
- Vocabulary, expression and written accuracy
- Structure and punctuation

EITHER:

1. Write a **story** which begins with the following words:

'I woke up to a strange sound coming from the park opposite my house. Knowing something was wrong, I couldn't resist investigating it further...'

Make sure you include the following within your story:

- an interesting event that happened during your investigation
- how you reacted.

OR

2. Imagine you are a **diver** exploring the deep blue sea. **Describe** your experience.

Make sure you reflect your feelings when describing:

- What you see
- What has impressed you the most.



OR



Turn to the next page

Section B: Comprehension and Usage

(50 marks)

Read the following extract carefully and answer ALL the questions that follow.

The extract below is adapted from the novel 'Nowhere on Earth' by Nick Lake where the main character, Emily, needs to make sure that the little boy Aidan and their pilot, Bob, make it off a snowy mountain alive after a plane crash.

Chapter 1

5 There was: the screaming of metal on metal, the shock that emptied her lungs, the white snow breaking in through the windows, the impact of her head on something, perhaps the side of the plane. It was a De Havilland Otter fitted with floats. This, thought Emily, was the kind of useless information she would take to the grave. Not that she would necessarily have a grave. Even with modern technology, it was possible they would never be found.

And then: the realization.

10 *Aidan.*

She panicked, flailed, tried to catch his hand—the little boy, her brother. But her fingers closed on nothing.

15 Then, after the whiteness, the blackness.

Chapter 2

20 Emily blinked back into light.

Part of a tree was sticking through the broken window; a cedar, she noticed uselessly. Her head was **throbbing**. She brought a hand up to it. Her temple and cheek were sticky with blood.

25 "Emily!" said a voice. The voice of a young boy, from behind her, oddly **muffled**. "Emily!"

Aidan.

Instinctively, she rose to stand and was roughly pulled back. She wrestled with the buckle on her seat belt, but it was bent and twisted away from her in the strange, unrecognizable new

30 contours of the plane.

She looked around. There: on the seat next to her were shards of glass from the broken window. She picked one up and used it to saw at her belt.

35 “Emily!”

She cursed the restraint. The glass cut her—not badly, but slippery blood loosened her grip on it. “Coming. Coming,” she said. Then the belt frayed and came apart. She lowered herself to the floor—nothing in her body seemed broken, but she couldn’t be sure—and crawled into the
40 aisle. Aidan. Aidan was the priority.

That was when she saw: the back of the plane was gone. There was only a vast round hole, the tears in the fabric of the aircraft revealing—in a way that was somehow disturbing over and above the fact of the crash—the insulation material inside the layers of metal. It opened a hole
45 in her heart too. Wind whistled through. The rearmost row of seats was nowhere to be seen. The incline of the aisle continued uninterrupted into the downslope of the mountain, all low pines pooled with snow and deepening shadow.

It was still daylight, just, but up here, this far north and at this time of year, the night always
50 folded itself into the day, swirled together with it. Time was a **murky** concept, the day an endless dusk, so it was hard to tell what time it was.

In reality, only a moment had passed since the plane had crashed—she thought. She had a concussion—she thought. She struggled to her feet and inched down the aisle. She noticed
55 that she couldn’t really hear her own movements. She looked into the row of seats behind her, where her *little brother* had been.

Nothing.

60 She swallowed a gasp, **inaudible** to her, like most everything else, her head jerking, casting her eyes around. But she’d heard him. She’d heard him, hadn’t she?

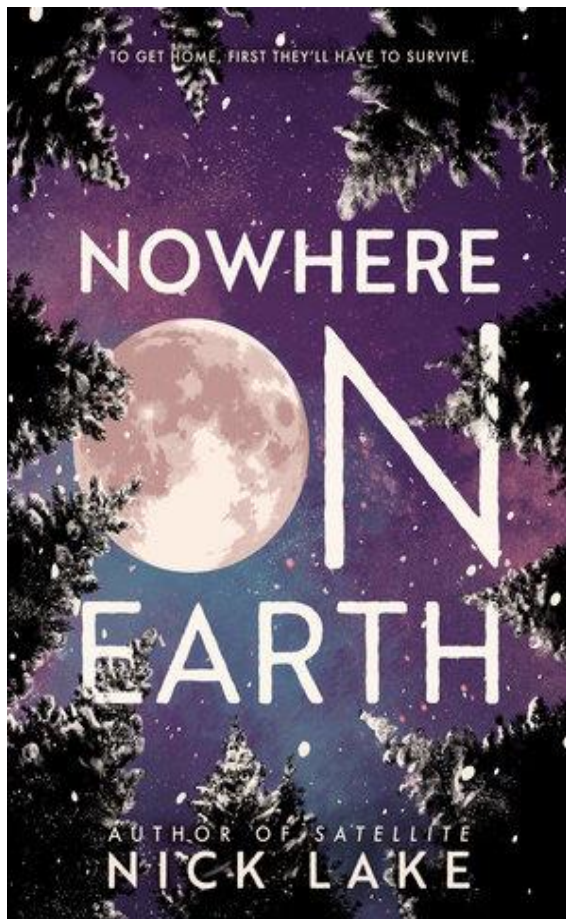
“Emily!”

65 The muffled voice again.

70 He was at the back, near the snow, a little dark bundle in his black puffy jacket. She hadn't buckled him in. She'd done her own belt automatically but not his. Stupid. Selfish. She half walked, half slid down to him, past random boxes and packages. The plane was mostly a kind of unofficial mail service.

The soft confusion of hood and collar **resolved** itself as he turned and looked up at her. His eyes were huge, his skin pale. Looking to her for reassurance.

75 "It doesn't hurt," Aidan said. "But I'm stuck."



1. Re-read the first sentence which begins 'There was:...'.
a) What vehicle was Emily travelling in?

(1 mark)

b) Quote three words from this sentence that suggest she was involved in a crash.

(3 marks)

2. a) Identify the technique used in the quote '...the screaming of metal on metal'.

(1 mark)

b) Explain what this image focuses on and why.

(2 marks)

3. Identify two verbs which show what Emily feels after 'the realization' in line 9.

(2 marks)

4. In your own words explain Emily's emotions and what she does once she remembers Aidan.

(3 marks)

5. Look at the end of Chapter 1 and the beginning of Chapter 2 where it says:

‘Then, after the whiteness, the blackness.

Emily blinked back into light.’

Explain what the writer suggests has happened in between. Provide evidence from the text that shows this.

(2 marks)

6. a) What does the phrase ‘She wrestled with the buckle on her seat belt’ (line 26) mean? Explain it using your own words.

(1 mark)

b) Why was this difficult for her?

(2 marks)

7. Reread the paragraph ‘It was still daylight...’ (line 49).

In your own words give two reasons why it was hard for Emily to know what time it was.

(2 marks)

8. Reread the paragraph beginning 'In reality...' (line 53).

a) Circle three words from the ones listed below, that best describe Emily's state of mind.

intrigued excited confused disorientated

 secure absorbed nervous

(3 marks)

b) Comment on one technique the writer uses to reflect these feelings and provide an example from the paragraph.

Technique and example:

(1 mark)

Comment:

(2 marks)

9. Reread the paragraph 'He was at the back...' (line 67).

a) Give two examples of single word sentences from this paragraph.

(1 mark)

b) Why has the writer used these here, explain the effect on the reader.

(2 marks)

10. Look again at Chapter 2.

How does the writer convey Emily's responsible nature and how deeply she cares about Aidan? Refer to **two** pieces of evidence from the passage in your answer.

Evidence:

(1 mark)

Explanation:

(2 marks)

Evidence:

(1 mark)

Explanation:

(2 marks)

11. Draw a line to match each word on the left (from the passage), with the correct **synonym** on the right. The words on the left have been highlighted in the extract above.

Throbbing

Automatically

Muffled

Imperceptible

Instinctively

Tender

Murky

Quiet

Inaudible

Cloudy

Resolved

Fixed

(6 marks)

12. Draw a line to match each word to the correct suffix.

Word

Suffix

frighten

ly

brave

ing

fool

ful

fear

ish

(4 marks)

13. Circle two words in the passage below that are **antonyms** of each other.

After realising her seatbelt was stuck, Emily used a shard of glass to cut it. Her slippery blood loosened her stable grip but she eventually managed to take the belt apart.

(1 mark)

14. Circle the four **adjectives** in the sentence below.

He was at the back, near the snow, a little dark bundle in his black puffy jacket.

(4 marks)

15. Insert an **apostrophe** in the correct place in the sentence below.

Emilys hand was bleeding badly.

(1 mark)

