

The English School

Mid-Entry Examination 2022

English – *Year 2*

Time Allowed: **1hour 15minutes**

General Instructions:

1. Answer all the questions asked
2. Use your own words unless otherwise stated
3. Write neatly
4. Check your work carefully at the end

Marks Allocated:

Section A: Comprehension (25 marks)

Section B: Composition (25 marks)

Good Luck!

Section A: Comprehension

(25 marks)

5 *The following extract is about a girl called Arty who has lived hidden in the hills of India all her life. But now a deadly plague is threatening her tiny commune, and she must leave her home and go into the modern world for help, before it's too late.*

10 The room had turned to hell. I took deep breaths, feeling myself, and panicking and calming myself. There were demon bats in the corners of the ceiling, and prowling wolves around the edges. The bear sat on my pillow, and the words on the heart it was holding said 'Hate You Loads'.

I felt sick. I kept being sick into a bucket, however little I ate, and the bucket was about a quarter full of thin acid, disgusting in every way. Sometimes I stared at it and wondered how this could be the stuff that lived inside me, doing the job of normal human digestion.

15 'Help me,' I said to the bear. 'You're my friend. Please help.'

The bear growled and lunged. Its teeth were sharp and its face had twisted into horror and hate.

'I will not,' it said. 'Because you are vile and you are going to die here.'

I shrank away from it and it ran towards me on its fat little legs. I closed my eyes and screamed, holding my arms up to keep it away, and when I opened them again it was back on the pillow, lying still, pretending.

20 The bear was right, I had nothing to live for, I couldn't stay here. I couldn't change everything about myself just because they wanted me to be a different kind of person, I didn't know who I was allowed to be now.

I rubbed my scarred arm. I pulled my long fingernails along the scar, trying to make myself feel real pain, but it didn't work. My stomach cramped.

25 I stood up and felt the ground through my feet, I took some breaths. I breathed in, counting to five, held it for a count of five, and let it out.

That didn't work. It made it worse, I gasped for breath, I kicked the wall. That was better. I kicked some more. I punched it and yelled for a long time, until I had no voice at all.

30 Then I curled up on the floor. All the stuffed animals came and stood around me, pointing and laughing. I reached past them and managed to put the television on. It was a tiny little television set but it got a few channels, and I flicked around until I found a children's programme. Then I shifted my position until I was staring at it. I let the pixels calm my brain. The animals sat down to watch too.

'Everyone knows that c-a-t is cat,' I said. I said it out loud, pretending the TV and I were conversing. It replied in its oblique way.

35 'Cat, cat, cat,' chanted the stuffed animals. One of them was a cat, a black and white kitten, and it strutted up and down, enjoying the attention. I watched it and smiled a bit, but I didn't trust these things. They made me smile and then they went for my throat.

40 There were no soft toys any more. There were demons, with wings, flying around the room, and they had the toys' faces. They hated me. They hated me loads. Sometimes they flew at me in a cloud and I had to run away and hide in a corner. They hissed and spat and told me I was going to be one of them.

Whenever she came in they all lay down and pretended to be normal. I tried to tell her a couple of times but she just took my hand and pressed it too hard with hers and said, 'You'll feel better soon.'

45 I could not stay here. Getting out was more urgent than anything had ever been. I tried to find some energy but I seemed to have nothing left. I didn't know how I was meant to do it when I felt like this. I clawed at myself. I tore at my skin and my hair. I kicked the walls. I ran toward the demons and they flew out of my way.

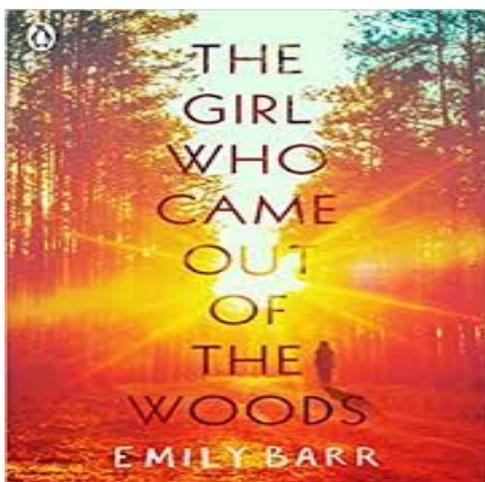
I took my energy and tried to use it properly. Once, long before all this, I had been sensible. As a young child I had been happy, living in my perfect world in the treetops. That had all gone now, viciously, but I tried to harness that world, to do the right thing.

We are all gods and goddesses.

50 I felt myself fill with strength, even though I knew I shouldn't be strong because I hadn't eaten for ages. (I wasn't going to eat her food because I didn't trust her.)

When I felt strong the demons went to the corners of the room and watched me. That was easier.

55 The door was locked and bolted from the outside. There was a little bathroom with no window, with a loo, a basin and a shower. The loo was smelly, the basin was tiny, and the shower was dribbly. There were books that I didn't want to read, there was the bucket, and there was the television.



Answer all the questions that follow, using your own words unless otherwise stated.

1. Describe the room Arty is in at the beginning of the extract. Provide two details.

- _____
- _____

(2 marks)

2. Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
Arty ate a lot whilst she was in the room.		
Arty knew who she was allowed to be.		
The stuffed toys really did come to life.		
There was no way out of the room for Arty.		

(4 marks)

3. **Using your own words**, describe the situation Arty finds herself in. Make sure you include three details.

(3 marks)

4. Reread lines 43-45. Explain how Arty is feeling, using two phrases from the text to support your answer.

(4 marks)

5. **Using your own words**, explain what the text means by:

i. 'The bear growled and lunged' (line 16)

(2 marks)

ii. 'The door was locked and bolted from the outside.' (line 53)

(2 marks)

iii. 'its face had twisted into horror and hate' (line 16)

(2 marks)

6. Give the meaning of the underlined words in the following three phrases as the writer uses them in the passage.

i. 'and prowling wolves around the edges' (line 10)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: _____

(1 mark)

ii. 'I shrank away from it' (line 18)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: _____

(1 mark)

iii. 'Then I curled up on the floor.' (line 28)

Meaning of the underlined word as the writer uses it: _____

(1 mark)

7. Dashes can be used like a parenthesis, to add detail. Put dashes in the appropriate places in the following sentence:

Arty who found herself in an unknown place was very confused.

(2 marks)

8. Use an adverb to complete the sentence below.

Arty found herself in an _____ difficult situation.

(1 mark)

Section B: Composition

(25 marks)

Choose **ONE** of the following questions and write about 300-350 words.

EITHER

Narrative

1. Write a story which includes the words 'The fire was coming closer and closer. He knew that this was it.'

You should:

- develop a realistic plot
- use a variety of narrative techniques
- use language for effect.

OR

Descriptive

2. Imagine you have lived in the woods all your life. Describe the place where you live.

You should:

- use the senses
- use imagery
- provide detail for your reader
- make sure you do NOT write a story.

12 marks are available for the **content and structure** of your writing

13 marks are available for the **style and accuracy** of your writing.

