



# The English School Entrance Examination 2022

## *Near-Native English*

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

### **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), 30 minutes

Section B: Comprehension and Usage (50 marks), 30 minutes

Section C: Directed Writing (15 marks), 15 minutes

Total marks: 100

The paper consists of 14 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. Narrative

Write a story which has as a main character a student who changes school in the middle of the school year and finds it difficult to adjust.

Make sure you include the following within your story:

- the reaction and the attitude of the new student's classmates
- the student's reaction and attitude to his/her new school
- the positive outcome of this story



**OR**

### 2. Discursive



"Books open windows to the world".

Develop your views on the above quote, referring to the points below.

- how fiction books help shape our character and our lives
- how a particular book has influenced you
- how schools could encourage students to read more books

**OR**

3. Descriptive

While you were walking home on foot, you were caught in a heavy storm. Describe:

- The changes in nature and environment around you
- Sights, smells and sounds
- Your feelings as the weather changed



Question: .....

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**Section B: Comprehension**

**(50 marks)**

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

***The following extract is from the novel 'Tsunami Girl' by Julian Sedgwick. A 15-year-old Yuki Hara Jones gets caught up in the March 2011 Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. In this extract Yuki tries to ride a wave to safety.***

Spluttering, thrashing at the surface, blinking sea and salt out of her eyes, she sees a slab of debris floating right next to her. It's about the size of a garage door – and there's something crouched on it.

5 No time to think – she takes one big stroke with her good arm and grabs hold, trying to pull herself to safety, kicking hard with the sodden trainers on her feet. But it's impossible, the thing's bobbing up and down and slippery, and her strength is almost gone. Nothing to do but cling on as long as she can and hope somehow that they drift into the shallows eventually. She blinks at the thing on the 'raft' – and sees a small dog. A sodden little dog, steadying itself as it struggles to its feet, legs splayed, shaking...

10 Stuff under the water keeps banging into her legs and lower back, and her grip is already weakening. Now her head is above water and it's somehow almost worse than the moment when she thought all hope was gone. This tiny chance of survival is almost like she is being teased. She can taste the salt and mud in her mouth, the back of her nose. Again she tries to propel herself up out of the water's grip, her fingers  
15 desperately clawing the shiny wet surface.

No good. She slips and nearly goes right under again, her finger tips just keeping contact, the cold shocking her again. But then there's a sudden upthrust of the water, and it lifts her, and she is virtually catapulted out of the tsunami and onto the piece of flotsam where she lands in a mess of arms and legs, half-dead, choking up sea water  
20 and sludge.

For a moment she lies there clinging to the slippery surface as best as she can as the wrecking pitches up and down. She takes a deep breath, then steadies herself on all fours and wrenches again and again from the pit of her stomach, coughing up muck that stings the back of her throat. As it eases – through the blur of water clinging to her eyes  
25 – she sees the bedraggled animal edging away to the far side of their makeshift raft. It yaps sharply. Maybe by some miracle it's Mrs Takeda's pouchi? About the right size, and the same reddish brown colouring. She holds out a hand, overwhelmingly glad to see something else living.

'Pouci?' It's OK, daijobu!' (*it's ok*) she coughs, and the animal suddenly whimpers and comes closer, paws skittering on the shiny debris as something bangs into them tilting  
30

the raft, threatening to spill the creature into the water. She reaches out and grabs it by the scruff of the neck, pulling it to her aching chest.

35 More water chokes up from her insides and for a minute or so all she can do is cough and heave until the spasms pass. She manages to get up into a half-sitting position, braced better against the rocking of the chunk of whatever it is they are riding, doing her best to hold on to the animal.

She blinks again, holding one edge of the raft tight. Without her glasses everything beyond arm's length is a blur, and she looks down at the shivering dog in her other arm, taking in the sharp ears, the pointy muzzle, the thickly-matted fur of its tail.

40 It's not a dog at all...



***Japan Earthquake: Tsunami***

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

1. Which details from the opening sentence (*line 1*) tell us that the main character (Yuki) is struggling to survive? Provide **two** details.

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(2 marks)

2. Re-read paragraph two (*lines 4-9*).

i) Which phrase tells us that Yuki is injured?

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(1 mark)

ii) What makes her attempts at reaching the safety of the raft difficult? Give **four** details.

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(4 marks)

3. **Using your own words**, explain what the writer means by each of the words highlighted? They have also been highlighted in the passage for your easy reference:

i) 'A **sodden** little dog'

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(1 mark)



ii) 'steadying itself'

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(1 mark)

iii) 'she tries to propel herself up'

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(1 mark)

iv) 'she is virtually catapulted out of the tsunami'

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(2 marks)

v) 'and the animal suddenly whimpers and comes closer'

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(1 mark)

vi) 'she looks down at the shivering dog in her other arm'

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(1 mark)

4. Give **two** examples from the passage that explain why the main character believes the animal to be Mrs Takeda's.

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(2 marks)

5. Reread paragraph 8 (*lines 37-39*). What makes Yuki suddenly realise the animal in front of her is not a dog.

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(2 marks)

6. **Using your own words** give **two** reasons why you think the main character tries to keep the animal safe?

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(2 marks)

7. **Using your own words**, summarise Yuki's situation. Make sure you include **five** details.

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(5 marks)

8. Identify a word or phrase from paragraph 5 (*lines 21-28*) which suggests the same idea as the words underlined:

i) A scruffy looking dog moved away from her.

scruffy: \_\_\_\_\_

moved away: \_\_\_\_\_

(2 marks)

ii) She tries keep hold of the slimy surface for a short time.

Keep hold: \_\_\_\_\_

Slimy: \_\_\_\_\_

(2 marks)

9. Using connectives and/or punctuation, re-write the following two sentences turning them into one.

**e.g. She tried to grab hold of the raft. It was slippery.**

When she tried to grab hold of the raft, it was slippery.

i) The dog was finding it hard to stay on the raft. He stood up with his legs wide open.

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(2 marks)

ii) Her head was above water. She felt that she was in a worse situation than before.

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(2 marks)

iii) She coughs up water. It stings the back of her throat.

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(2 marks)

iv) The animal was not a dog. She wasn't scared.

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(2 marks)

v) She was in danger of falling back into the water. She still saved the dog.

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(2 marks)

10. Complete the questions below, putting the words in brackets in the right form.

Is Yuki \_\_\_\_\_ (fright)?

What did Yuki find to \_\_\_\_\_ (hold) onto?

Why did Yuki \_\_\_\_\_ (struggle) to stay on the raft?

Have you \_\_\_\_\_ (find) your family?

Are you \_\_\_\_\_(safe) on land?

Do you think the tsunami has \_\_\_\_\_(finish)?

(5 marks)

11. Imagine you are a journalist talking to Yuki about her experiences that day. Based on the information from the extract, ask Yuki 6 questions.

e.g. How did you end up in the water?

i) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ii) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

iii) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

iv) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

v) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

vi) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(6 marks)



Turn to the next page

**Section C: Directed Writing**

**(15 marks)**

Imagine you are Yuki and that you have finally reached safety.

**Write a diary entry explaining what you have experienced.**

In your diary, make sure you describe:

- how you reached safety;
- how you feel about having found an animal to look after.

*There are 10 marks for the ideas in your answer and 5 marks available for your accuracy and style of writing. Write around 120 words.*

*Dear Diary,*

*What an unbelievable experience I've had today! I'm lucky to have survived.*



*Yuki*

