

Eton College King's Scholarship Examination 2020

GENERAL II

(One and a half hours)

Remember to write your candidate number on every sheet of answer paper used.

You must answer both questions.

Each of the questions is worth the same number of marks.

You need not answer the questions in the order set, but you must start each one on a separate piece of paper.

Spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Do not turn over until told to do so.

Question 1: *START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER NOW*

Below the thunders of the upper deep,
Far, far beneath in the abysmal sea,
His ancient, dreamless, uninvaded sleep
The Kraken sleepeth: faintest sunlights flee
About his shadowy sides; above him swell⁽¹⁾ 5
Huge sponges of millennial growth and height;
And far away into the sickly light,
From many a wondrous grot and secret cell⁽²⁾
Unnumbered and enormous polypi
Winnow with giant arms the slumbering green. 10
There hath he lain for ages, and will lie⁽³⁾
Battening upon huge sea worms in his sleep,
Until the latter fire shall heat the deep;
Then once by man and angels to be seen,
In roaring he shall rise and on the surface die⁽⁴⁾. 15

- (a) Read the poem on page 2.
- (i) (A) Replace the underlined words (1) – (4) with non-rhyming synonyms. [4]
- (B) What difference has eliminating rhyme made to the overall meaning and effect of the poem? [4]
- (ii) Think of one other alteration you might make to the language or structure of the poem. What difference would this make to its meaning and/or effect? [4]
- (b) Paul Dirac, winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1933, claimed that ‘In science one tries to tell people, in such a way as to be understood by everyone, something that no one ever knew before. But in poetry, it’s the exact opposite.’ How far do you agree? [13]

[Total mark for Question 1: 25]

Question 2: *START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER NOW*

Write a response, in whatever form seems appropriate, to ONE of the following.
It is recommended that you write no more than 700 words.

EITHER

- (a) ‘Despite its shortcomings, the world we currently live in is the best possible world.’
Discuss.

OR

- (b) Is it meaningful to claim that addressing inequality is a more pressing concern for governments than addressing climate change?

OR

- (c) As a leader, is it better to be loved or feared?

[Total mark for Question 2: 25]

END OF PAPER