



OUNDLE

School

EXAMINATION PAPER
Non Common Entrance 2022
Third Form entry

English

Time allowed: 1 hour

Name: _____

Instructions

- Dictionaries are not allowed.
- Answer on lined paper. Write your name clearly at the top of each sheet of paper that you use.
- Answer **ALL** the questions in **Section A**. Choose **ONE** question from **Section B**. You should divide your time equally between both sections.
- You are expected to write clearly and accurately throughout each of your answers. You should leave some time towards the end of the examination to check your work carefully.
- The maximum number of marks for this paper is 50.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

You should spend 30 minutes on this section

Waris is a young girl, living with her family in the desert in Somalia, in Africa. She decides to run away because her father arranges a marriage for her with a very old man. Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow. Leave yourself enough time to answer the last question in full detail.

A slight sound awoke me, and when I opened my eyes, I was staring into the face of a lion. Riveted awake, my eyes stretched wide – very wide – as if to expand enough to contain the animal in front of me. I tried to stand up, but I hadn't eaten for several days, so my weak legs wobbled and folded beneath me. Collapsing, I slumped back against the tree where I had been resting, sheltered from the African desert sun that becomes so merciless at noon. I quietly leaned my head back, closed my eyes, and felt the rough bark of the tree pressing into my skull. The lion was so near I could smell his musty scent in the hot air. I spoke to God: 'It's the end for me, my God. Please take me now.'

My long journey across the desert had come to an end. I had no protection, no weapon. Nor the strength to run. I knew I couldn't beat the lion up the tree, because with their strong claws, lions are excellent climbers. By the time I got half way up – BOOM – one swipe and I'd be gone. Without any fear, I opened my eyes again and said to the lion, 'Come and get me. I'm ready for you.'

He was a beautiful male with a mane of golden hair and a long tail switching back and forth to flick the flies away. He was five or six years old, young and healthy. I knew he could crush me instantly; he was the king. All my life I'd watched those paws take down wildebeest and zebras weighing hundreds of pounds more than me.

The lion stared at me and slowly blinked his honey-coloured eyes. My brown eyes stared back, locked on his. 'Go on. Take me now.' He looked at me again, then looked away. He licked his lips and sat down on his haunches. Then the lion rose and paced back and forth in front of me elegantly. Finally, he turned ...

.....

This nightmare journey began because I was running away from my father. I was about thirteen at the time and living with my family in the Somalian desert, when my father announced that he had arranged my marriage to an old man. While my father and the rest of the family were still sleeping, my mother woke me and said, 'Go now.' Immediately I was jolted awake, then flooded with the sick sensation of what I had to do.

I shivered and walked away from our hut with my mother. In the gloomy light I struggled to see her face, trying to memorise its features, because I wouldn't see that face again for a long time. I had planned to be strong, but instead choked on my tears and hugged her hard. 'Go – go before he wakes up,' she said softly into my ear. I felt her arms tighten around me. 'You just be very careful. Careful!' I ran off into the black desert night.

By midday I'd travelled deep into the red sand, and deep into my own thoughts. Where on earth was I going? The landscape stretched on to eternity,

the sand broken only by a thorn tree. I could see for miles and miles. Hungry, thirsty and tired, I slowed down and walked. What was going to happen next?

As I pondered this question, I thought I heard a voice: 'W-A-R-I-S ... W-A-R-I-S ...' My father was calling me! I was not hearing things; it was my father, and he was getting closer. He'd tracked me down by following my footprints through the sand. Suddenly I looked back and saw him coming over the hill behind me. He'd spotted me too. Terrified I ran faster. And faster. It was as if we were surfing waves of sand; I flew up one hill and he glided down the one behind me. On and on we continued for hours. 40 45

My heart pounding, finally I stopped, hiding behind a bush, and looked around. Nothing. I listened closely. No sound. Papa, I reasoned, had turned around to try and make it back home, because now the sun was setting. He'd have to run back through the darkness, listening for the night-time sounds of our family, tracing his path by the voices of children screaming, laughing, the animal noises of herds mooing, bleating. The wind carries sounds great distances across the desert, so these noises acted as a lighthouse when we were lost in the night. 50

I kept running until the sun set, the light was gone, and the night was so black I couldn't see. In the morning, the sun burning my face woke me. I got up and continued to run; for days I managed to keep it up. How many days? I'm not sure. All I know is that for me, there was no time; there was only hunger, thirst, fear, pain. At midday when the sun was at its hottest, I would sit under a tree and rest. 55

It was during one of these rests that I fell asleep and the lion woke me ... By this point I no longer cared about my freedom; I just wanted to go back home to Mama. 60

1. Look again at lines 1-23. How does the writer show how dangerous the lion could be in these lines? Use quotations to support your answer. [4 marks]
2. Using your own words, what do we learn about the writer's mother? [3 marks]
3. Look again at lines 40-53. How does the writer create a vivid impression of what happens here? [4 marks]
4. Looking at the passage as a whole, what do we learn about the character of the writer? [4 marks]
5. How does the writer create tension in the passage? Refer closely to the text to support your answer. [10 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

TURN OVER

SECTION B: COMPREHENSION

You should spend 30 minutes on this section

Answer ONE of the following questions. You are reminded of the importance of clear and accurate written English and of careful presentation in your answer. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Describe an occasion in your life when you felt afraid. Write in a way that creates a clear picture in the reader's mind of what happened and how you felt. [25 marks]

OR

2. 'I listened closely. No sound.' Write a story that begins with these words. [25 marks]

OR

3. 'Wild animals are majestic and deserve our respect.' Use this title as the basis for EITHER:

(a) an article in a wildlife magazine

OR

(b) a letter to a newspaper where you argue for more protection for the natural world.

[25 marks]